



Victorian Infection & Immunity Network

Policy on Social Media

The Victorian Infection and Immunity Network (VIIN) has accounts on social media platforms, including Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook. The VIIN acknowledges that delegates at VIIN's events also have accounts on different social media platforms. Social media can be used in a positive way to network, to support the dissemination of information, and to amplify important topics related to science and to being a scientist. Social media can also cause harm, by posting sensitive data, amplifying false information or by disrespecting an individual's wish for privacy.

In using social media, VIIN will:

- Communicate with respect and consideration for others
- Seek the consent and respect the wishes of speakers about whether they wish to be posted about on social media
- Welcome feedback from attendees about topics of interest and ideas for future events.

In using social media, VIIN will not post, like or amplify any other post that:

- Captures research data. Note that capturing, transmitting, or re-distributing data presented at a VIIN event may preclude subsequent publication of the data in a scientific journal. Please be respectful of journal embargo policies and do not jeopardize the work of your colleagues.
- Captures personal information about the presenter or any individual. This might include information about an individual's private life, including career disruptions or health data.
- Engages in rudeness, slander, or personal attacks.

VIIN takes the approach of shared responsibility for safe use of social media:

1. Organisers of VIIN events will:
 - a. Seek consent from speakers explicitly, in writing, ahead of the event about:
 - i. Recording presentations (if relevant)
 - ii. Sharing slide decks after the event (if relevant) and
 - iii. Sharing material on social media
 - b. Inform the audience of the speakers' wishes at the start of the event
 - c. Monitor the VIIN Twitter on the event and engage online / by email with anyone not complying with the policy and speaker wishes
2. Speakers at VIIN events are requested to:
 - a. Verbally remind audience members about their wishes at the start of their own presentation
 - b. Put a symbol on slide to indicate it shouldn't be shared
3. Registrants at VIIN events must:
 - a. Read the VIIN's Social Media Policy before participating in a VIIN event
 - b. Comply with the Social Media Policy
 - c. Acknowledge that continued participation at the event and at future VIIN events are contingent on compliance with the policy.