**National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health Conference 2023: Abstract preparation support**

**What should the abstract contain?**

An abstract is a short (up to 200 words) text which describes the topic and content of a suggested presentation. We are not requiring abstracts to fit a specific format, but in general, we suggest that it is written in a way that is accessible for the wide variety of stakeholders that will attend the Conference.

Common elements that may be included in the abstract are: short background/ context; reason for presenting; outlining a problem or challenge; mentioning any methods that may have been used to collect information to inform this suggested presentation; and, if relevant, outcomes.

**What type of presentations can I submit an abstract for?**

You may submit an abstract for any of the five presentation methods and session types: Oral presentation (with or without slides); tabletop presentations (short presentations repeated to small, rotating groups of delegates); workshop (longer sessions that should include a teaching and interactive element); Quick Yarn (short yarning presentation spots for First Nations presenters) and poster presentations.

**Are there any further resources available?**

* The University of Melbourne has a helpful and detailed resource that can further help you write your abstract: <https://students.unimelb.edu.au/academic-skills/explore-our-resources/research-techniques/writing-an-abstract>
* A shorter info-sheet is available here: <https://services.unimelb.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0007/471274/Writing_an_Abstract_Update_051112.pdf>
* IEHU staff are also here to support you. Please email guy.gillor@unimelb.edu.au for any questions and assistance with your abstract. We are happy to help!

**What is this year’s Conference theme?**

This year’s theme is Our Vision in Our Hands: Finding Our Voice. This theme allows for a wide variety of presentations relating to efforts and approaches to end avoidable vision loss and blindness for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. More information about this year’s Conference theme can be found on our website here:<https://mspgh.unimelb.edu.au/centres-institutes/centre-for-health-equity/research-group/ieh/roadmap/conference/2023-NATSIEHC#abstracts>

**How do I submit an abstract?**

Just use the Abstracts Submissions Form, available on the Conference website at the bottom of the page: <https://mspgh.unimelb.edu.au/centres-institutes/centre-for-health-equity/research-group/ieh/roadmap/conference/2023-NATSIEHC#abstracts>

**What are some examples of topics of relevance?**

Topics should generally be relevant to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye health, and to the 2023 Conference theme. Topics for abstracts could include:

1. **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership of eye care or community-led approaches to improving eye health outcomes:** Initiatives demonstrating effective leadership from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, communities, and their organisations, and how this has contributed to improving eye health outcomes.
2. **Effective commitment, communication, and advocacy in eye care:** Activities targeted at advancing efforts to end avoidable vision loss and blindness  amongst Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and the influencing techniques used to achieve this goal.
3. **Working collaboratively and interculturally to improve eye health:** Initiatives that demonstrate strong collaboration between service providers and/or the sector and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, communities and their organisations, and the activities undertaken to ensure effective and culturally safe collaboration.
4. **Cultural safety in eye care and in the eye health and vision sector:** Activities undertaken to increase cultural safety within eye care and in promoting culturally safe collaboration across the eye health and vision care sector.
5. **Eye care in the primary health care setting:** Efforts to successfully embed eye care in Primary Health Care (PHC) and the collaboration that supports this to occur.
6. **Community and/or cultural engagement initiatives:** Activities that promote greater community and cultural engagement in the design, delivery and evaluation of eye care services.
7. **Workforce development:** Efforts that support and strengthen  eye care through the development of workforce capacity and capability.
8. **Overcoming challenges in coordination and case management**: Initiatives successful in overcoming the challenges with ensuring coordination and case management of the eye care needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
9. **Improving outcomes and access to services:** Efforts to improve access to eye care services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and how this has improved eye health outcomes for communities.
10. **Health system changes and reform:** Activities that contribute to effecting changes in the health system that facilitate greater access to eye care and outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

For more information about NATSIEHC23, please see: <https://mspgh.unimelb.edu.au/centres-institutes/centre-for-health-equity/research-group/ieh/roadmap/conference/2023-NATSIEHC>