



## DRAFT 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 Social media can also cause harm, by posting sensitive data (including unpublished data), amplifying false information or by disrespecting an individual's wish for privacy.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 of and respect the wishes of speakers and poster presenters about whether they wish their slides / poster to be posted about on social media
- Welcome constructive feedback from VIIN Members and registrants at VIIN events.

In using social media, VIIN will not post, like or amplify any other post recorded by a variety of means including photography, video and audio 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 account on the event and engage online / by email or direct message with anyone not complying with the policy and speaker wishes.
- d. Encourage presenters to consider allowing recording and dissemination of their "title slide" to help promote the meeting by including the symbol below.
- e. Adopt the default position that all recording and dissemination of presentations or posters at VIIN events is prohibited without prior permission from the presenter and/or unless the presentation clearly indicates that this is allowed (for example, by inclusion of a symbol like the one provided below).

2. Session chairs of VIIN events will:
  - a. Remind the audience not to record (audio, video or photography) presentations and posters unless the presenter has provided permission.
3. Speakers / presenters at VIIN events are requested to:
  - a. Put a symbol on their presentation to indicate it can or can't be shared. As above, in the absence of a symbol, VIIN takes the default position that the presentation cannot be shared.
  - b. Verbally remind audience members about their wishes at the start of their own presentation.
  - c. Consider allowing their title slides to be Tweeted to assist in promoting VIIN events.
4. 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.

Example symbols for use on title slides:

