Executive Summary

The Inclusive Language and Context Style Guidelines (ILCSG) serve as an educational resource for creating a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive AMIA as we learn to enact these commitments to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in our professional and personal lives.

The guidelines are intended for the Scientific Program Committees (SPCs), authors, reviewers, and other researchers from the AMIA community to incorporate inclusive language practice into their AMIA submissions, reviews, and other scientific communications.

Four Principles

- **Plurality**
  - Acknowledge that there may not be one term that all people from a specific group agree on.
  - Inquire and honor the research participants' preferred terms.
  - Highlight the importance of context and personal preferences for language use.

- **Precision**
  - Acknowledge the importance of specificity and relevance of the language to define terms and describe insights in scientific communications.
  - Avoid generalizations and ambiguity by utilizing precise terms relevant to the context and the findings.
  - Provide relevant descriptions when using alternative terms to ensure the original intent.

- **Transparency**
  - Acknowledge biases and limitations of the research and responsibly interpret the findings and implications.
  - Provide sufficient details on data collection, measurements, and methodology and avoid misleading descriptions and ambiguity.
  - Promote open discussions in research

- **Destigmatization**
  - Acknowledge language evolves over time and the common stereotypic descriptions may induce implicit biases that lead to stigma and negative public health outcomes
  - Use non-judgmental language to minimize the risk of discrimination and stigmatization of the impacted population groups.

An official resource approved by the AMIA Board of Directors.

For more details, visit: AMIA.org/InclusiveLanguage

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