

AMIA Inclusive Language Context and Style Guidelines

Executive Summary

Purpose

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.

Intended Use

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**.

- **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.



Plurality

- **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.

Precision



Four Principles



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

Provided by

AMIA DEI Communications Subcommittee