

AEA Discussion Forum code of conduct/terms of service

1. The Forum operates under the
 - a. wider AEA Privacy Policy
 - b. AEA website terms and conditions.
2. Respect other Forum members
 - a. Be courteous and professional
 - b. Share knowledge and provide sources when appropriate
 - c. Behaviour that abuses, threatens, harasses or misleads other Forum members is not tolerated.
3. Keep threads organised by
 - a. Using descriptive subject lines to make threads easy to follow and scan
 - b. Keeping thread on topic
 - c. Checking for open topics before posting a new topic.
4. Moderation—because this Forum is associated with a professional organisation it is lightly moderated. Forum members can help by
 - a. Notifying moderators of posts that violate the code of conduct
 - b. Not engaging with disruptive Forum members.
5. No advertising, spam, or links to advertising or spam are permitted.
 - a. Advertising or spam is defined as posting a link for the purpose of selling, soliciting or promoting something.
 - b. Members may use the [AEA Bulletin](#) to place paid advertisements for employment/grant/fellowship opportunities or other items that are relevant to the Australasian Epidemiology community.
 - c. Sharing of links to helpful and relevant web sites and resources is allowed if they are not used for a promotional purpose.
6. Privacy—protect your privacy and that of others. Do not post private communications such as emails, Private Messages (PM), chat logs from other sources without prior permission from all involved parties.
7. Intellectual property—participation in this Forum does not transfer intellectual property or property rights between AEA, Forum members or visitors, or any third parties. This includes all rights, titles copyrights and interest in and to such property.
8. Bandwidth—all images and signatures must be 500 x 500 pixels or smaller. Posts containing oversized images and signatures will be removed.
9. Illegal content—no posting or re-posting of adult or illegal content is allowed. Copyrighted materials may be posted provided posting does not violate the terms of the copyright.
10. Liability— AEA and the Forum disclaims any responsibility for
 - a. any harm resulting from the use by Forum members or visitors of the Forum, or from any downloading or use of posted content
 - b. any viruses or malware that may result from Forum use.
11. Consequences of unacceptable behaviour—at the discretion of the moderators
 - a. Posts that are off-topic may be moved to existing or new threads
 - b. Posts that violate the code of conduct will be deleted
 - c. Accounts of Forum members who violate the code of conduct may be deleted.
12. Grievances—grievances are managed by Forum administrators and moderators. If the grievance involves AEA policies or procedures, the relevant AEA Council member may be involved.

This AEA Form Code of Conduct version 1.0 took effect September 2019 and is subject to change without notice. It is the responsibility of Forum members to ensure they are aware of the latest version.

Forum Privacy Policy

This document describes how the Australasian Epidemiological Society (AEA) Forum collects, uses, and manages information for the Forum.

The Forum is hosted by AEA on the AEA website and operates under the wider AEA Terms and Conditions and Privacy Policy. This document provides additional information specific to the Forum.

Neither AEA nor the Forum buy, sell or otherwise receive data about Forum members or visitors to or from data brokers either independently or in combination with information you provide to the Forum.

The Forum collects data:

- when a Forum account is created or used
- when members or visitor browse the Forum
- when members post, send private messages, and otherwise participate in the Forum

Forum visits: When you visit the Forum, whether you have an account or not, cookies, server logs, and other methods may be used to collect data about what pages are visited and when. Information is collected whether Forums is accessed using a web browser on a personal computer or mobile devices.

Data about visits to the Forum is collected to:

- optimize the Forum
- diagnose and debug technical errors
- protect the Forum from abuse and technical attacks
- compile statistics on Forum and topic popularity.

Forum accounts: Your Forum account is based on your AEA membership details. You can see and modify your account data at any time by visiting your Forum profile settings. You may choose to include other personal information in your Forum profile. This information is stored as long as your account remains open.

Your e-mail address may be used to:

- notify you about posts and other activity on the forum (if feature is enabled)
- reset your password and help keep your account secure
- contact you in special circumstances related to your account.

Forum posts: Information is collected about members' posts and other activity on the Forum. This information is stored as long as your account remains open. This includes private messaging through the Forum (if used).

This information is collected to protect:

- Forum members from abuse or inappropriate behaviour
- The Forum from inappropriate use such as spam or advertising.

Aggregate statistics about Forum visits and use is retained for the duration that the Forum is operational. Forum administrators and some moderators have access to collected account and activity information in the course of managing the Forum. Posts may be reviewed manually by moderators or administrators or reviewed automatically using software or applications. If you think a post has been wrongly blocked or removed, contact the moderator who can review the decision. Posts and activity may also be used to set trust levels (optional Forum feature currently not activated).

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