



WA ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG CONFERENCE 2025

PATHWAYS • SYSTEMS • STRATEGIES

ABSTRACT GUIDELINES

5-7 MARCH 2025, ESPLANADE HOTEL FREMANTLE BY RYDGES



Abstract Guidelines

About WANADA

The Western Australian Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies (WANADA) is the peak body for the specialist alcohol and other drug education, prevention, treatment and support sector in Western Australia. WANADA is an independent, membership-driven, not-for-profit association, currently representing approximately 65 member organisations (over 100 alcohol and other drug specific services across the state).

WANADA is driven by the passion and hard work of its member organisations, which include community alcohol and other drug counselling; therapeutic communities; residential rehabilitation; intoxication management; harm reduction; peer based; prevention; and community development services.

About the WA Alcohol and Other Drug Conference

WANADA is pleased to invite submissions for abstracts for the WA Alcohol and Other Drug Conference, which will take place from 5 to 7 March 2025 at Esplanade Hotel Fremantle by Rydges, Fremantle. This year's theme is "Pathways, Systems, Strategies", and we are looking for contributions that address the topics of:

- engaging with lived and living experience,
- fostering inclusive practice,
- identifying and responding to complexity,
- strengthening partnerships for systemic response,
- being future focussed.

Conference themes and possible streams are:

	Pathways	Systems	Strategies
Conference streams	A- Engaging Lived/Living Experience	C- Identifying and Responding to Complexity	E- Being Future Focussed
	B- Fostering Inclusive Practice	D- Strengthening Partnerships for a Systemic Response	

Key dates:

- Abstracts open on Friday **20 September 2024**
- Submission due Friday **29 November 2024** at 5pm WST (Western Standard time).
- Acceptance notifications will go out in January 2024.





What is an abstract?

An abstract is a concise summary of a proposed oral presentation, poster or workshop that is based on research, a project/program, or policy.

- The proposed **oral presentation may be during a breakout session for 20 minutes.**
- A **workshop would be for either 40 or 60 minutes.**
- A proposed **poster would be on display in A1 size.**

What is the purpose of an abstract?

An abstract provides reviewers with an outline of your proposed presentation or poster in enough detail (within word limits) to allow reviewers to understand what the intended audience can gain from attending your presentation or viewing your poster. The abstract would be included in the conference program, providing conference participants enough information about your presentation, poster or workshop to inspire them to attend or view.

How to submit your abstract

[Submit abstracts here](#)

For further information or assistance with the abstract submission process, please contact WANADA by phone (08) 6557 9400 or email drugpeak@wanada.org.au.

Tips for writing a good abstract:

1. Follow the abstract submission guidelines carefully. Abstract submissions that do not follow to the guidelines may not be accepted.
2. Abstracts should align with the conference themes: Pathways, Systems, Strategies. The WA Alcohol and Other Drug Conference 2025 seeks to explore collaborations, and reflection on the unique and complex workings of alcohol and other drug systems.
3. Think about your intended audience. The intended audience for the 2025 conference will be diverse, however, most delegates are expected to be from the WA alcohol and other drug service sector. Consider what they would find interesting.
4. Identify the key messages you want your audience to take away.
5. Use plain language and avoid jargon, abbreviations, and acronyms.
6. Do not include references, diagrams, graphs, or tables in your abstract.
7. Ensure your abstract scope considers the length of time allocated.
8. Review your abstract several times and get feedback from colleagues on both the content and the writing style of your abstract.

NB: Multiple abstracts may be submitted by or on behalf of one presenter. We cannot guarantee that your submission will be selected.



Abstract Guidelines

Requirements for an abstract for the *WA Alcohol and Other Drug Conference: Pathways, Systems, Strategies* conference include:

Title: Titles must be concise and informative. Use simple language that describes your intended presentation. Titles are limited to a maximum of 10 words.

Introduction: Include a statement of the purpose of the project/policy, or research question and the significance of the study, you are describing in the paper, poster or workshop.

Body of abstract: Describe the following:

- Project/policy/research or other that will be presented.
 - How the project/policy/research or other was implemented.
 - Reflections/how the project/policy/research or other was evaluated.
- OR
- Methods - The study design, including both independent and dependent variables and use of statistics. Describe how data was collected and analysed.
 - Results - Describe the results obtained based on the research or study question and the methods applied.

Conclusion:

- Describe any conclusions you have drawn from implementation of the project/policy or the research undertaken, commenting on the significance of the outcomes, including and any implications for practice.

Do not include references, diagrams, graphs, or tables in your abstract.

If you would like to propose a **workshop**, please provide an abstract as above and contact the conference organisers at drugpeak@wanada.org.au with details of other requirements. We cannot guarantee additional AV equipment or alternative seating arrangements

Presentation tips

1. Given the diversity of people attending the conference, please consider the language you use in your presentation and the impact it may have.
2. If using presentation slides allow no more than 1 slide per 40 seconds.
3. If delivering an oral presentation allow for 5 to 10 minutes of questions and/or audience engagement.
4. Rehearse your presentation to ensure it meets the time allocation requirements.
5. Consider some questions that you may receive from the audience – to be prepared.
6. Consider ways to engage the audience when relevant.





We would welcome you sharing new insights and contributing to informing the sector development.

Conference Theme: Pathways

A - Engaging Lived/Living Experience

Presentations in this stream might include but are not limited to: consumer informed service design; service user outcome measurements; lived/living experience engagement – including at a systems level; peer worker support including peer career development and pathways; and peer leadership development.

B - Fostering Inclusive Practice

Presentations might include but are not limited to: specific service, program and/or organisational approaches aimed at being responsive to diverse population groups; inclusive and informed workforce development; strategies for improving service access; research or evaluations on inclusive practice.

Conference Theme: Systems

C - Identifying and Responding to Complexity

WANADA has heard members of the challenges of 'complexity' of concerns that people are presenting with.

Presentations in this stream might include but are not limited to: trends/changes in 'complexity' and/or service, program and/or organisation approaches as a response; research and/or practice focused on achieving sustainable outcomes in light of intersecting needs; workforce considerations to enable responsiveness to multiple needs.

D - Strengthening Partnerships for a Systemic Response

Presentations might include but are not limited to: working effectively to support streamlined pathways within the alcohol and other drug sector; working effectively across sectors and developing partnership successes; the identification of significant partnerships based on service user needs; supporting the capability of services from other sectors to respond to people impacted by alcohol and other drugs.

Conference Theme: Strategies

E – Being Future Focussed

Presentations in this stream might include but are not limited to: the identification of systemic change or reform needs; addressing stigma and discrimination; emerging service model considerations; enabling community-led solutions; emerging trends; considerations for alcohol and other drug policy and planning; emerging approaches and/or technologies to enhance access or outcomes.