



The Australasian Virology Society is committed to providing and maintaining a respectful, positive and engaging environment at its conferences and its associated events. We expect participants in our events to participate in constructive and professional discussion, that values scientific contributions and ideas. We value diversity and inclusion, and desire that no participant should be subjected to harassment while involved in our events.

For purposes of this policy, harassment means unwelcome and offensive comments made directly, indirectly or via social media or behaviour pertaining to the participant's sex, race, colour, national origin, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity, disability, or other status protected under applicable law. Harassment can include, for example, unwelcome attention, comments or jokes that focus on gender differences or sexual topics and that distract from the professional topics under discussion, unwelcome advances or requests for dates or sexual activities, and the use of language or images that demean or degrade persons of particular gender, racial, ethnic, religious or national identity.

To this end, we expect all participants to support these values and to avoid harassment of others participating at our conference and its associated events. We expect all attendees to assist in ensuring that our events are free from harassment of any kind, including reporting any instances of harassment directly to the President, Prof Gilda Tachedjian at gilda.tachedjian@burnet.edu.au and Prof Heidi Drummer at Heidi.drummer@burnet.edu.au. Anyone who has experienced harassment, or who has witnessed such behaviour, should notify one of the above persons as soon as possible.

Persons who act contrary to these values and expectations may be warned or asked to leave the event in which the behaviour occurred, and may be excluded from access to future meetings. The AVS have a zero tolerance policy towards harassment of any kind.

In the event that a registrant has made a formal complaint involving another registrant (outside the AVS forum) and this complaint is active or proven, we ask that this is brought to the attention of Prof Gilda Tachedjian at gilda.tachedjian@burnet.edu.au and Prof Heidi Drummer at Heidi.drummer@burnet.edu.au with a request for recommended action. Such action may include that the complainees is excluded from participating at AVS meetings.

Executive Committee:

Prof Gilda Tachedjian, President AVS
Burnet Institute

Prof Jason Mackenzie, Treasurer AVS
The University of Melbourne

Dr Natalie Prow, Membership AVS
QIMR Berghofer Medical Res Inst.

A/Prof Heidi Drummer, Vice President AVS
Burnet Institute

A/Prof Peter Speck, Secretary AVS
Flinders University

A/Prof Marilyn Hibma, AVS LOC Chair
University of Otago