

Instruction and Facilitation Guide

Learning Objectives and Desired Outcomes

By the end of the session, participants should be able to:

- Explain why older adults are disproportionately targeted by misinformation and scams
- Recognize common misinformation and scam techniques
- Apply prebunking and debunking strategies
- Use the SMELL Test to evaluate information
- Identify common scam warning signs
- Communicate with empathy using evidence-based risk communication principles
- Feel more confident discussing mis/disinformation with others

Target Audience

This presentation has been designed for two primary audiences:

- Healthcare professionals and trainees
- Older adults and community members

Depending on the audience, examples and discussion should be adjusted accordingly while maintaining the stipulated learning objectives.

Session Length

Although the presentation contains material for approximately 60-90 minutes, experience suggests that sessions longer than 60 minutes may result in decreased engagement and discussion quality. If additional time is available, expand discussion rather than adding more content.

If there are time constraints, focus on the following:

- Mis/disinformation, scams, prebunking/debunking, and risk communication sections
- Reduce or omit the more detailed AI background section
- Limit discussion activities to one or two key exercises

Teaching Style, Facilitation, and Layout

The presentation is intended to be highly interactive, and emphasis should be placed on conversation rather than a traditional lecture. Whenever possible, consider the following:

- Ask participants questions before providing answers
- Encourage sharing of personal experiences
- Validate participant perspectives
- Build discussion around participants' responses
- Avoid long periods of uninterrupted lecture

Remember to keep language accessible and practice language humility. For example:

- Avoid medical jargon whenever possible
- Define unfamiliar terminology
- Speak conversationally
- Avoid patronizing language
- Use person-first language.
- Avoid ageist terminology
- Recognize that participants bring valuable lived experience

To ensure we are accomplishing the above, we designed this presentation to include “Stop Sign” Slides. These are slides marked with a stop sign to indicate intentional pauses for discussion. Simply put, they are opportunities to engage participants before introducing the next concept. Here, aim to have discussions last 3 to 5 minutes unless participants are particularly engaged on a topic.

Tips and Tricks

- Do not feel obligated to cover every bullet point
- Encourage participants to think critically rather than memorize facts presented
- Reinforce throughout the session that mis/disinformation affects everyone and that developing media literacy is a learnable skill!
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