# Mental Wellbeing and Suicide Prevention in Autism – Content Pack

This Australian-first conference is presented by the Australian Society for Autism Research in association with the Olga Tennison Autism Research Centre at La Trobe University. While research has shown that autistic people are at greater risk of suicide and suicidal ideation, knowledge-sharing between mental health professionals and autism researchers, and even less input from autistic people into the kinds of treatments that would best help them.

Key Details

**Date:** 9 December 2021

**Time:** 8.30am to 5pm

**Venue:** Online – immersive conference environment designed by Collectivibe.com

**Intended audience:**Researchers with an interest in autism and/or mental health

Clinicians, psychologists and allied health professionals working in autism and/or mental health

Students of psychology

People with lived experience of autism and/or mental health issues

Carers and family members.

**Tickets:**

FREE for attendees with lived experience

$25-$50 for other attendees

**Registrations Open Now:**

[Bit.ly/MentalWBAutism](http://bit.ly/MentalWBAutism)

Call for Abstracts:

<https://redcap.link/asfarabstract>

Closing date: 15 October

Conference convenor

Dr Darren Hedley, Suicide Prevention Australia fellow at OTARC

[d.hedley@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:d.hedley@latrobe.edu.au)

Sponsors

* Auticon

https://auticon.com.au/

* Untapped

https://www.untapped-group.com/

* Autism CRC

Facebook: @AutismCRC

* Amaze

Facebook: @amaze

* Aspect

Facebook: @AutismSpectrumAustralia

* Different Journeys

Facebook: @differentjourneys 

How to use this content pack

* The resources in this pack are for your use. They can be posted on websites, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and shared via email (PDF flyer).
* Call to action is: Register Now at bit.ly/MentalWBAutism
* You can use your own text in social media posts, or incorporate key points from suggestions below
* Please link back to Olga Tennison Autism Research Centre, and the Australian Society for Autism Research, using the handles and hashtags below.
* For questions, comments or further information about promotion, please contact Melinda Denham [m.denham@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:m.denham@latrobe.edu.au)

Included Files

1. ASFAR 9 Dec Conf Promo Flyer  
   A one-page PDF suitable for email distribution
2. FaceBookTile\_ASfAR  
   Tile sized suitably for Facebook
3. LinkedIN-ASfAR  
   Tile sized suitably for LinkedIN
4. Twitter\_ASfAR  
   Tile sized suitably for Twitter

Essentials

Suggested hashtags: **#mentalhealth #autism #actuallyautistic #suicideprevention**

Twitter: @ASfAR\_autism @OlgaTennison @SuicidePrevAU

**Facebook.com/OlgaTennisonAutismResearchCentre** and **Facebook.com/Asfarautism**

Key Points for social media messaging

* Australian-first conference connecting mental health practitioners, autism researchers and autistic people
* Keynote speakers include:  
    
  1. Lisa Morgan, author of “Living Through Suicide Loss with an ASD”, board-certified autism specialist (USA)  
    
  LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/lisa-m-63459314/>  
    
  2. Prof Phil Batterham, Centre for Mental Health Research, ANU   
    
  Twitter: @pbatterham  
    
  3. Assoc ProfJo Robinson, University of Melbourne, Head of Suicide Prevention Research at youth mental health service Orygen.  
    
  Twitter: @\_orygen\_  
    
  4. Dr Brenna Maddox (USA): Deputy editor for the journal Autism in Adulthood.  
    
  Twitter: @AutismAdulthood
* With a lived experience panel discussion moderated by Dr Jac den Houting, and FREE tickets for attendees with lived experience, the Mental Wellbeing and Suicide Prevention in Autism conference recognises #actuallyautistic people as experts.   
    
  Twitter: @JacdenHouting
* Australian autistic adults have a high rate of suicidal ideation, yet have great difficulty accessing appropriate mental health supports for suicide prevention. Learn more about why this is, and how we can improve supports, at the Mental Wellbeing and Suicide Prevention in Autism conference.

here is a stigma and lack of knowledge about suicide