

CODE OF CONDUCT

1st Swiss Enterovirus Symposium

Disentis Monastery | 5-8 October 2026

1. Purpose and Scope

This Code of Conduct sets out the standards of behaviour expected of all participants at the 1st Swiss Enterovirus Symposium (the “Symposium”), including attendees, speakers, session chairs, poster presenters, and organising committee members. It applies to all official symposium venues and events, including any social programme, and to interactions on symposium-related communication channels.

Our goal is to foster an environment that is welcoming, respectful, and productive for everyone, regardless of gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, race, ethnicity, nationality, age, religion, or career stage. Free and open scientific exchange is at the heart of our community, and this Code is designed to protect and promote it.

2. Expected Behaviour

All participants are expected to:

- Treat everyone with respect, courtesy, and consideration, both in person and in all written communications.
- Engage in constructive scientific debate; critique ideas and methods, not individuals.
- Be mindful of the power dynamics inherent in academic settings, and ensure that all critical feedback - whether on a talk, poster, or idea - is constructive and professional in tone, regardless of seniority or position.
- Respect the privacy of others, including refraining from recording, photographing, or sharing others' presentations or unpublished data without explicit consent.
- Comply with venue rules and any applicable local regulations.
- Alert an organiser if they witness a dangerous situation or someone in distress.
- Abide by standards of scientific integrity and professional ethics, including disclosing relevant conflicts of interest.

3. Unacceptable Behaviour

The following behaviours are strictly prohibited:

3.1 Harassment and Discrimination

- Verbal, written, or physical harassment of any kind, including offensive comments related to gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, race, ethnicity, religion, or any other personal characteristic.
- Unwelcome sexual attention, advances, or physical contact.
- Deliberate intimidation, stalking, or following (in person or online).
- Discriminatory jokes, slurs, or language that demeans or excludes others.
- Sustained disruption of talks, poster sessions, or other programme elements.

3.2 Professional Misconduct

- Misrepresentation of research findings, data fabrication or falsification, or plagiarism.
- Presenting or reproducing another person's work or ideas without proper attribution.
- Sharing unpublished data or results presented at the symposium without the explicit consent of the presenter.

3.3 Other Prohibited Conduct

- Theft or deliberate damage to property belonging to participants or the venue.
- Being under the influence of alcohol or other substances to a degree that impairs behaviour or endangers others.
- Any other conduct that a reasonable person would consider inappropriate in a professional scientific setting.

4. Reporting an Incident

If you experience or witness behaviour that violates this Code of Conduct, we encourage you to report it. All reports will be taken seriously and handled with discretion and confidentiality to the greatest extent possible.

You can report an incident in the following ways:

- In person: Approach any member of the organising committee. Organisers will be present throughout all symposium activities and are identifiable by [e.g., their name badge/lanyard].
- By email: Send a report to any organiser directly (see contact details in Section 9). You may contact whichever organiser you feel most comfortable approaching.

You are not required to report to a specific person. If you are uncomfortable approaching the organising team directly — for any reason — you may contact a trusted colleague or a representative of your own institution.

When making a report, please share as much detail as you are comfortable providing: a description of the incident, when and where it occurred, the person(s) involved, and any witnesses. This information helps us respond appropriately, but incomplete reports are still welcome.

5. Response and Consequences

The organising committee will review all reports promptly and take appropriate action. Given the size and nature of this symposium, responses will be handled directly by the organising committee. Possible actions include, but are not limited to:

- A private conversation and warning to the individual(s) concerned.
- A requirement to apologise to the affected party.
- Removal from one or more symposium sessions or activities.
- Expulsion from the symposium entirely.
- Notification of the individual's home institution or supervisor where warranted.
- Referral to law enforcement where applicable.

Participants asked to stop any prohibited behaviour are expected to comply immediately. The organising committee will use its judgement to determine the most appropriate course of action in each situation. We recognise that our team is small and that there may be limitations to what

we can do; we are nonetheless committed to acting in good faith and in the best interest of all participants.

6. Confidentiality and Good Faith

The identity of anyone reporting an incident will be kept confidential to the extent possible and consistent with a fair response. We ask all parties involved to maintain confidentiality throughout the process.

Reports made in good faith will not result in negative consequences for the reporting party, even if the situation cannot be fully resolved. Deliberately false or malicious reports are themselves a violation of this Code.

7. Photography and Sharing of Content

- Do not photograph, record, or film other participants without their explicit consent.
- Speakers may indicate whether their slides or data may be shared or discussed outside the symposium. Please respect these wishes. Content marked “Do Not Share” must not be reproduced or posted publicly.
- Do not share unpublished data or preliminary results presented at the symposium without the explicit permission of the presenter.

8. Accessibility and Inclusion

We are committed to making this symposium accessible and inclusive. If you have any accessibility requirements or need accommodations, please contact us at eve-group@swisstph.ch before the event. We will do our best to meet all reasonable requests.

9. Contact Information

The organising committee can be reached as follows:

Emma Hodcroft (Principal Investigator) — emmahodcroft@gmail.com

Keno Strotjohann — kenostrotjohann@gmail.com

Nadia Neuner-Jehle — nadia.neunerjehle@gmail.com

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You are welcome to contact whichever organiser you feel most comfortable approaching.

*This Code of Conduct was adopted by the Swiss Enterovirus Symposium Organising Committee.
Version 1.0 — 29 April 2026*

By registering for this symposium, all participants agree to abide by this Code of Conduct.