

Person-Centred Language Commitment Statements

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See the person first

I will focus on the person's wholistic well-being by respecting the role of culture and other influences such as personal experiences and the environment.

Build trusting relationships

I will be open and compassionate about each person's unique experiences and establish a trusting relationship by honouring what matters to them and their care partners.

Consider all forms of communication

I will develop a strong understanding of the person's health condition(s) and consider verbal and non-verbal means of communication (e.g. responsive behaviours/personal expressions, body language) to be forms of meaningful communications.

Advocate for person-centred language

I will continuously reflect on and advocate for person-centred language and its potential impacts. I will be open to discussions regarding language choices for myself and others, respectfully challenge those that are not person-centred and celebrate positive language choices.

A most heartfelt thanks to the Person-Centred Language Initiative Expert Panel for their thoughtful contributions.