**Youth cybersafety, relationships and sexuality: piloting a whole school approach to educate young adolescents.**

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**Background/Purpose:**
Early adolescence is a time when young people become more interested in their developing sexuality and becoming increasingly independent in their online engagement and social relationships. The online world is rich with opportunities learning and personal development; but also poses significant risks. Many families and schools feel ill-equipped to broach these topics, resulting in avoidance and missed opportunities to support young people's understanding of positive, safe and consensual online socialising, sexuality and relationships.

**Approach:**
The *Youth Cybersafety, Relationships and Sexuality* project addresses this gap through the co-design, piloting and evaluation of an integrated educational program for Victorian schools, families and young people aged 10-14 years. The program includes professional development and resources for school teachers and leaders; a podcast series, videos and workshop for parents/carers; and (3) student education sessions.

**Outcomes/Impact:**
This program has been developed in consultation with key stakeholders to ensure relevancy, relatability and meaningful impact. The program evaluation will draw on feedback gathered via online surveys and focus groups from teachers, students and parents after participating in the program.

This presentation will provide educators with insights about the development of a comprehensive whole school approach to promoting young people's safe and positive engagement with the online world. We will reflect on the challenges, learnings and successes encountered during development and piloting, present initial findings from the program evaluation, and explore implications for broader implementation of whole schools approaches to cybersafety and sexuality education.

**Innovation and Significance:**
This program addresses a recognised gap in online safety and comprehensive sexuality education for young adolescents, to equip them with the skills, knowledge and mindset to interact online safely and positively. The impact of this program is strengthened through the provision of education for teachers and parents, to facilitate conversations with, and increase young people's understanding of online safety.

**Disclosure of Interest Statement:**