

## **Linguistic Communication in Mental Healthcare Settings: Towards a Normative Framework**

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Individuals suffering from mental health issues and neurodivergent individuals are vulnerable to various forms of epistemic injustice. This may systematically prevent them from contributing their perspective and sharing their experiences in healthcare settings. In this talk I argue that we need a normative framework for linguistic communication in healthcare settings which specifies how mental healthcare professionals should treat clients as communicators. I will first justify the need for such a framework in addition to what is currently being done as part of the structural approach to epistemic injustice. Next, I will make progress on developing such a normative framework by focusing on two recent areas of research in ethics of communication: the acts of address and telling (Goldberg 2020) and critical work on the cooperative nature of linguistic communication (Kaiser 2023).