


SPPH 552: Elevator Pitch, 

*“Imagine you are diagnosed with a chronic illness that causes painful daily migraines. Let’s say – a Friday afternoon, you get off from work going to the bus, can’t wait to get home. But the bus is almost full, people are standing, and you know there is no way you can stand the 40-minute ride home with that painful migraine. The only available seat you see is on priority seating; you take it. In your mind, your chronic disability should allow you to take priority seating. You see those standing staring at you. You don’t have a walking stick, not a wheelchair, not carrying a young baby; you look young, energetic with fashionable clothing – how do you deserve that priority seat? You ignore the stares. But now, a new passenger comes in, and they have a walking stick. Should you stand for that passenger? Everybody expects you to do so.*

*This is the dilemma for many people with conditions that significantly impair their daily living including their physical movement, but those conditions are not visible to others. We need to support them! A simple sign or phrase that can recognize these people on priority seating can go a long way, because we should know, not all disabilities are visible.”*