

Conflict of Interest Policy

for

Scientific Advisory Committee
External Peer Reviewers
Research Committee

Code of Practice

Conflicts of Interest

The purpose of this document is to minimise the potential for conflicts of interest arising and to protect the charity and those who work for it from any perception, real or otherwise, that the external interests and affiliations of its committee members and external reviewers might interfere with their ability to work towards the advancement of the charity's objectives.

The individual should adhere, to the spirit of this document and in doing so, should declare any other interests which the individual feels may be a source of conflict, or which might be perceived to conflict, with the interests of the charity.

Discussion of Proposals

- Details of applications, meeting papers and related correspondence and the names of external referees are strictly confidential and should not be discussed with persons outside of the review process.

- Discussions between members of the committee which occur outside of a committee meeting, and pertain to a proposal, should be declared to the chair of the committee.

- If a committee member is approached by an applicant for technical advice on an application then he or she may provide advice, but must inform this to the committee chair and secretariat. They may subsequently be asked by the Chair to absent themselves from a discussion of the application concerned.

- If the advice sought by an applicant is on administrative grounds or to seek information on the status of their proposal, the committee member should refer the applicant to the research manager of the charity.

- When committee members are associated with an application or policy decision in any way that presents a conflict of interest, they should absent themselves from the room when the application/policy is being discussed.

- In rare instances, major conflicts of interest may arise which could compromise an individual's ability to continue with their position within the charity. Where such a situation relates to a member of the committee, the matter will be discussed by the chair of the committee together with a committee staff member or secretariat. In cases where agreement cannot be reached through this means, the case will be referred to the committee, whose decision should be taken as final.
- If the chair of the committee has reason to believe that a member has breached this code of conduct, then he or she may be asked to step down from the committee.

Signature

Date

Investing in our future movement

Orthopaedic Research UK

Furlong House
10a Chandos Street
London W1G 9DQ

T +44 (0)20 7637 5789

research@oruk.org

UK Registered Charity No. 1111657



www.oruk.org