

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Conflict of Interest Policy

The Conflict of Interest (COI) policy of the Royal College of Ophthalmologists has been developed for the College to be and to be seen as open, honest and transparent in all its dealings within the organisation, the profession and with the public.

The policy will help safeguard the reputation of the College and the independence of its members in exercising their professional judgement and conducting their clinical practice. The principle underpinning the policy is the acceptance that many of the members of the College will have a COI. A COI is not a stigma but the COI has to be managed and be subject to full disclosure.

Full disclosure should be made using the 'Declaration of Interest (Conflict of Interest) form' [Annex 1].

All College officers and individuals sitting on, or contributing to, committees should make an annual declaration of interest covering both the present and the preceding three years.

Any sum of money received in excess of £10,000 from any single source should be declared.

Members who have an interest to declare in relation to a subject under discussion would be allowed to contribute to discussions and sit on committees though not as chairman/chairperson and their conflict of interest must be recorded in any documents produced by the committee for internal or external circulation such as College guidelines.

It would be the responsibility of the committee chairman to ensure that there was a satisfactory balance of individuals with and without COI on the committee.

All presentations made at College meetings or meetings approved for CPD points should state the declared interests on the first slide and opening statement and also on any published programme booklet related to the event. Poster presentations should also carry a detailed declaration of Interest statement. When no COI exists the following statement should be included: 'Declaration of Interest: None'

The completed 'Declaration of Interest Form' will be kept confidential and maintained in the College or its approved storage facilities. Only the College Executive and CEO will have access to the forms. Council members and Heads of Departments may request permission to see the forms from the President or CEO. Any other disclosures will be made only with the permission of the individual concerned.

Summarised declarations will be displayed on the College website under the title 'Declaration of Interests' and accessible to both members and the public. The format* of this disclosure will as indicated below:

Summarised Declaration of Interests

Name of individual	Clinical Interest	Professional Associations	Academic and Research activity	Commercial Interests	Other
Example	Consultant Ophthalmologist	Editor of 'Ocular Journal' Vice President of European Eye Society	Educational Supervisor	Consultant to 'Eye Drugs' producing topical antibiotics and steroids Hold patent for 'Eye device'	Member of anti-vivisection society

Format* adapted from the DVLA Declaration of Interest web site.

The COI Policy will be included in the Curriculum Study Guide as it is important for trainees to understand the importance and relevance of conflict of interests.

The COI Policy will become effective following the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the College in May 2012.

December 2011

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF OPHTHALMOLOGISTS
DECLARATION OF INTEREST (COI) FORM 2012

(to be completed with reference to the College COI Policy Document and the notes below)

Name	Address*	Telephone Number	
		Fax	
		Email	

* Please use the address at which you receive official personal documents

1. Expenses (e.g. travel, accommodation, registration fee) covered by industry for an event.
 Yes: Self/institution/Both No Amount if applicable_____

2. Honorarium received from industry for any event or service.
 Yes: Self/institution/Both No Amount if applicable_____

3. Collaboration with industry researcher or research groups whether remunerated or not.
 Yes: Self/institution/Both No Amount if applicable_____

4. Assistance from industry in analysis of data or writing of manuscript. Provision of slides or other material for presentation. Support received from industry towards colour publication or supply of reprints of author's published papers.
 Yes: Self/institution/Both No Amount if applicable_____

5. Grants: restricted or unrestricted, for clinical or research activity or for administrative support or studentships.
 Yes: Self/institution/Both No Amount if applicable_____

6. Membership on advisory committee, board, review panel of industry with or without remuneration (Remuneration can be ad hoc, pro-rata or regular).

Yes: Self/institution/Both No Amount if applicable_____

7. Service as Consultant to an organisation with or without remuneration (Remuneration can be ad hoc, pro-rata or regular).

Yes: Self/institution/Both No Amount if applicable_____

8. Investigator in a clinical trial on a device, instrument or product whether or not funded by industry.

Yes: Self/institution/Both No Amount if applicable_____

9. Official position (e.g. Director) or Employment (primary or secondary job) with regular salary or stipend.

Yes: Self/institution/Both No Amount if applicable_____

10. Shares held by self or family in industry related to device, instrument or pharmaceutical.

Yes: Self/institution/Both No Amount if applicable_____

11. Holder of a Licence/patent or can derive benefit from a patent for a device, instrument or pharmaceutical or for something that is a component part of a DIP.

Yes: Self/institution/Both No Amount if applicable_____

12. Inventor of a DIP or a procedure or protocol which may generate a financial or professional reward.

Yes: Self/institution/Both No Amount if applicable_____

individual or a family member (parent, sibling, spouse or child) collectively referred to as 'Self' stands to gain financially or professionally.

Financial: Includes money, shares and gifts i.e. anything with a monetary value. Financial gain can be direct – receiving money, or indirect by exemption from payment for an item or service. The money may have been received or expected at a future date.

Professional: Anything that enhances professional standing for example - brings recognition and kudos, improves opportunities for promotion or provides a competitive edge.

Other: Judging, interviewing or examining a candidate/applicant/examinee who may be well known to or a relative or spouse of the member.

Please circle the answer that is applicable, within 3 years inclusive of and preceding the current year, for each statement below, regardless of the amount. Please also indicate the amount if it exceeds 10,000 pounds or equivalent. Examples under each subheading are common and important but not all inclusive.