

DRSG Associate Member Role Description

About Diabetes UK

As the UK's leading charity for people living with diabetes, we strive to achieve a world where diabetes can do no harm. We're here to improve the lives of people living with and at risk of diabetes and seek to cure or prevent diabetes. One way in which Diabetes UK strives to achieve this goal is through the funding of high-quality of research, with the priorities of people living with diabetes at the heart of everything we do.

About the Diabetes Research Steering Groups

The Diabetes Research Steering Groups (DRSGs) are made up of researchers, healthcare professionals and people affected by diabetes. There are seven DRSGs, each focussing on a specific area of diabetes research. Together, members work collaboratively to identify priority areas of unmet clinical or research need and stimulate research in those areas to make the greatest possible difference to the lives of people affected by diabetes.

The Acute Care Diabetes Research Steering Group (DRSG4) is crucial for enhancing diabetes care in hospitals. Involving associate members —junior healthcare professionals and early career researchers— brings frontline insights and practical solutions. Your experiences will help to ensure research is patient-centred and applicable. This involvement fosters professional growth and shapes future leaders, ensuring innovative and sustainable diabetes care improvements.

Duties

Associate Members of the Diabetes Research Steering Groups will:

- Engage with the group to understand how the DRSGs influence research priorities within Diabetes UK and externally.
- Collaborate on specific projects with members of the DRSG acute care group, contributing to the development and execution of project proposals.
- Bring perspectives of frontline staff, early career researchers, and allied healthcare professionals, including nursing internships, to DRSG4 meetings.
- Support the group in identifying research gaps and priorities in acute diabetes care.

Qualities

Associate Members of the DRSGs should:

- Be junior healthcare professionals, allied healthcare professionals, or early career researchers involved in delivering acute diabetes care.
- Have enthusiasm for understanding and influencing the research landscape in acute diabetes care.
- Show commitment to the importance of patient and public involvement (PPI) in research processes.
- Respect differing opinions and contribute constructively to discussions.
- Demonstrate a commitment to confidentiality and a willingness to declare any conflicts of interest.

Benefits to Being Involved

By getting involved as an **Associate Member** of DRSG4, you will:

- Gain an understanding of research funding and the research landscape in acute diabetes care.
- Have the opportunity to be involved in discrete projects and working groups focusing on specific areas of inpatient diabetes care, such as technology implementation in acute care.
- Receive formal recognition of your role in the group, in the form of a headed letter from the chair and Diabetes UK staff upon completion of the 2-year associate membership.

Term Length

Associate members will remain on the group for a **maximum of 2 years**.

Meetings

Each DRSG will hold 4 meetings a year. Currently these will take place online, with the possibility of moving to face-to-face meetings in future. There will also be opportunities to be involved in additional subgroup meetings, to progress specific research priorities.

Remuneration

Members will undertake the role on a voluntary basis. Diabetes UK will pay reasonable travel, overnight and subsistence expenses where appropriate, in line with the Diabetes UK volunteer expenses policy.

Declaration of interests

Members will be required to declare, on the declaration of interests register, if they have any interests that might conflict with the work of the DRSG. A conflict of interest will not necessarily stop individuals from being a member of a group; however, it may mean that they cannot take part in some discussions or decisions made on projects/ issues.

Selection process

Applicants will be appointed through an open process of recruitment. Applications, will take place by this survey link, and should be submitted by 16th of September 2024. The supporting statement should specifically address the desired qualities outlined above. Applications will be reviewed in a blinded recruitment process, and outcomes will be announced by the end of September.