

GRANTS ADVISORY PANEL MEMBER

VOLUNTEER

Role description

Team: Research

Main contact: Chandrabala Shah (Chandrabala.Shah@diabetes.org.uk)

About Diabetes UK

As Diabetes UK's leading charity, 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.

About the role

Our Grants Advisory Panel help to improve the lives of people living with or at risk of diabetes by influencing the research funded by Diabetes UK. The Panel, completely comprised of people living with diabetes or parents/carers of children or someone with diabetes, review and score and make recommendations on the areas of research the Charity should focus its research spending.

Main tasks and activities:

- Prepare for Grants Advisory Panel meetings by reading the plain English summary and evidence on patient and public involvement component of research grant applications well in advance of the meetings and ask for help with any issues that are not clear

- Attend meetings of the Grants Advisory Panel for project grants, which will meet two times per year (four if held virtually)
- Attend as a Grants Advisory Panel member representative and contribute at the Diabetes UK Research Committee meetings, which assess and prioritise research grant applications for funding
- Have the opportunity to attend meetings of the Grants Advisory Panel for early-career small grants, strategic grants and fellowships
- Help ensure that Diabetes UK funded research is relevant and important to people with diabetes
- Participate in training and other research related activities
- Respect that some conversations will be confidential and cannot be shared with anyone outside of the group

About you

We are looking for people who are:

- Have experience of living with diabetes and an awareness of how diabetes may affect individuals, and their families and carers
- Have an interest in diabetes related research studies
- Have an ability to communicate with a range of people and the confidence to discuss issues in a committee environment online and face to face or the desire to develop such skills with support
- Have a commitment to represent the views of the wide range of people living with diabetes in the UK
- Be willing to engage positively and to challenge where necessary
- Be willing to learn, develop and to seek help if you come across issues you do not understand
- Have respect for opinions that differ or conflict with your personal viewpoint
- A commitment to confidentiality

Diversity of the group

It is important that the Grants Advisory Panel represents the diversity of people living with diabetes. Members of group will be recruited to ensure representation of:

- people with different types of diabetes
- parents or carers of children or people with diabetes
- people of all ages, including young people under 35
- people from Black, Black British, Caribbean or African backgrounds
- people from Asian or Asian British (for example Indian, Pakistani, Chinese) backgrounds
- people from Arab (for example Egyptian, Moroccan, Saudi Arabian) backgrounds
- people from different social economic backgrounds
- people from all four nations in the UK

What Diabetes UK can offer you

- Provide members with an induction and additional support, as required.
- An opportunity to develop your knowledge of diabetes, learn new skills and contribute to important funding decisions
- An opportunity to be involved in other research activities, e.g. workshops and events
- Reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses incurred while carrying out activities for Diabetes UK (e.g. travel, lunch and accommodation) if required.

Safer recruitment

We are committed to ensuring that our volunteer recruitment is fair, safe and consistent. The recruitment and selection process must therefore be appropriate to the nature of the role. Some roles may require a more in-depth selection process, for example those working with children or vulnerable adults. Your volunteering contact will be able to explain more about this.

This role will require two references. If shortlisted, these will be checked as a safeguarding measure. Please contact the Diabetes UK Research Team (research@diabetes.org.uk) if you require assistance when choosing your referees.

How to apply and next steps

You can find out more about volunteering for one of our groups on our

[“Tell us your views”](#) page.

To apply, please follow [this link](#) to the online application form.

Applicants will be shortlisted for an informal chat via telephone or Zoom.