

Renal Association Clinical Practice Guidelines – Conflict of Interest Policy

All authors should declare all commercial interests and remuneration from the biomedical industry when approached to be on the committee. The time period for relevant interests is 12 months before starting work on a guideline, and those anticipated for the duration of the guideline development.

Declarations of interest will be reviewed by the Chair of the Clinical Practice Guidelines Committee to ensure that there are no grounds to expect a conflict of interest.

Copies of Declaration of Interest forms for group members will be kept on file by the Renal Association for the duration of the work of the Guideline Group (and then for the subsequent period of time that the Guideline remains valid).

The Chairs of guideline authors should not have shares in a biomedical company or be retained as a consultant with a company.

‘Shares’ refers to any shares in the biomedical industry, excluding Unit Trusts, and it refers to shares held by a member or a close family member. A consultancy refers to a paid retainer or agreement between a Renal Association member and a company with respect of one drug or device, or more generally, usually with a contract for a specific period of time. Consultancy will include ongoing attendance at Advisory Board meetings but would not normally include a situation where an individual is paid for a specific item or for attending or speaking at an occasional meeting. If there is doubt, interests should be declared.

Interests should include shares and consultancies, commercial sponsorship for the member and for the people for whom they are responsible, e.g. Research Fellows, and support for research within their Department. In the case of uncertainty the interest should be declared.

Authors who have shares or a general consultancy agreement with a biomedical company should not normally take part in discussions about any product from that company, or a main competitor, and should leave the room when such discussions occur. Members receiving a consultancy retainer for a specific product should leave the room when that product or a direct competitor is being discussed.

A statement should be included in each Guideline when published to confirm that the authors adhered to this policy for the Declaration of Interests. An example of such a statement is as follows: **“All authors made declarations of interest in line with the policy in the Clinical Practice Guideline Development Manual. Further details can be obtained on request from the Renal Association.”**

Conflict of Interest Declaration Form

The time period for relevant interests is 12 months before starting work on a guideline, and for the duration of the guideline development.

If in doubt declare all interests.

I confirm that I have read the Conflicts of Interest Policy contained in the current Renal Association Guideline Development Manual and declare the following interests.

I will update this form if new interests arise.

Name:	Guideline Committee:
RA Member: Yes/No	If yes, RA Membership Number:
BAPN Member: Yes/No	If yes, BAPN Membership Number:
Interests to be declared:	
Signature	Date: