



## **UK Dermatology Clinical Trials Network**

### **Conflict of Interest Policy for Trustees**

#### **Scope:**

The purpose of this policy is to protect the integrity of the UK DCTN's decision-making process, to enable its members to have confidence in its integrity and to protect the integrity and reputation of its Trustees.

All trustees, employees and volunteers of the UK Dermatology Clinical Trials Network (UK DCTN) will strive to avoid any conflict of interest (COI) between the interests of the UK DCTN on the one hand, and personal, professional, and business interests on the other. This includes avoiding actual conflicts of interest as well as the perception of conflicts of interest.

It is important that all decisions of the Trustees (Executive Committee) are clearly seen to be taken in the interests of the UK DCTN, and not to further the interests of individual trustees, employees or other organisations.

#### **Policy:**

Trustees (and those Executive Committee members who are not Trustees) will be expected, on appointment, (and annually thereafter) to record on a register any interest that they believe could be construed as a conflict of interest, with regard to their position within the UK DCTN. They will also be asked to declare current paid and unpaid work (and any such work undertaken in the past 5 years) along with other charity trusteeships. This will be held by the UK DCTN for a period of at least 5 years.

Two broad categories of COI should be declared:

- a. Personal interests refer to those which may result in a personal benefit, or financial gain as the result of the issue under discussion (this includes any close personal relationships in addition to direct personal interest e.g. spouse/partner/close family relative).
- b. Non-personal interests refer to those which might benefit the person's employer or colleagues. Interests to be declared will include: business interest, financial interests, employment, membership, administrative or board positions in other charities or organisations with a mission overlapping with those of the UK DCTN as well as research grants to the individual's employer.

Trustees should consider whether the general public, given the facts of a situation, would reasonably think that the interest might influence the decision.

Date Approved: 14th November 2023

Date for review: 14th November 2026 (with individual COIs reviewed on an annual basis)



