Call for ESCMID Ethics Advisory Committee members

2020

1. Background

ESCMID is happy to announce the establishing of a new committee meant to advise the Executive Committee (EC) and other ESCMID members on ethical issues that may arise.

The ESCMID Ethical Advisory Committee (EEAC) will be an independent body with the main duty of counselling on specific ethical, regulatory, social and philosophical issues related to ESCMID funded research projects and scientific behaviour of members or appointed persons in matters related to ESCMID activities.

2. Aim

The objective of this call is to invite applications from interested ESCMID Members wishing to be part of the new ESCMID Ethical Advisory Committee.

3. Function and responsibilities

Responsibilities of the EEAC members include:

- Review and maintain the ESCMID Code of Conduct
- Advise the EC upon request by the EC or other members of ESCMID about specific ethical issues arising from their ESCMID funded-research projects or by collaborators
- Revise the conflict of interest disclosure processes for ESCMID activities and collaborators, and mediate disputes concerning conflicts of interest
- Review and update the ESCMID Operating Procedure: guidance regarding conflicts of interest
- Oversee complaints concerning possible unethical conduct of ESCMID members or collaborators. Advise the EC on actions, policies to be implemented to resolve, mitigate or manage the situation
- Develop and maintain an appeals process
- Answer requests for interpretation of the principles of ethics, or the ESCMID Code of Conduct
- Issue general recommendations on ethical principles of professional and scientific conduct related to the research or management of clinical microbiology and infectious diseases
- Report annually to the EC on the previous year major ethical concerns and foreseeable future disputes
- Collaborate with the ESCMID Guidelines Committee in evaluating ethic issues.
- Promote high ethical standards in research in infectious diseases

Duration of term
Members shall serve terms of two-years that can be renewed for up to 4 terms under the decision of the ESCMID EC.

**Qualifications and requirements**

The call to join the EEAC is open to ESCMID members. Non-members with appropriate expertise such as ethics, law, philosophy and social sciences could be considered.

Applicants must be free of any conflict of interest.

The ideal candidate, other than a scientific or medical background, has experience in developing and evaluating conflict of interest policies and/or an expertise in code of ethics in the scientific and medical field as well as experience and sensitisation in ethical issues management. Applicants with a record of active engagement in such subjects will be preferred.

Qualified applicants are invited to send their Curriculum Vitae together with 2 supporting letters and their CoI statement (ESCMID CoI form can be found [here](#)) to chiara.speziale@escmid.org within **31 August 2020**. Applications will be then reviewed and voted by the ESCMID EC, ensuring that gender and geography balance is reflected in the composition of the committee.

For more information about the position and the committee, please review the ESCMID Ethics Advisory Committee SOP [here](#).