

Each guideline Working Group member must read and sign this document and forward it to the Chair of the CARI Steering Committee before commencing work on a CARI guideline.

Guidelines for Declaring Conflict of Interest

The aim of this disclosure is to ensure that the clinical practice guidelines endorsed by the ANZSN and Kidney Health Australia under the CARI mantle are free from real or perceived Conflict of Interest. This involves a two-step process to make financial conflicts explicit – the first is in selecting guideline Working Group members and the second step is at the point of publication. This document has been developed to avoid the situation whereby someone with a Conflict of Interest becomes a member of the Working Party for a guideline on a topic with which they have a financial affiliation. As occurs with journals such as JAMA, any funding or support sources will need to be disclosed by participants.

To whom do these guidelines apply?

1. The CARI Steering Committee members, and
2. The Chairs and members of Guideline Working Groups.

Principle

It is the responsibility of the individual to identify and disclose any real or potential for Conflict of Interest in relation to their involvement with the CARI process.

To whom is the declaration made?

The Chair of the CARI Steering Committee, who will be responsible for holding this information in confidence.

When is the declaration made?

The declaration of Conflict of Interest will need to be made on joining the Steering Committee or a Working Group, and then:

- annually, or
- whenever there is a significant change in your financial affiliation or status.

Specificity of conflict

Conflicts are regarded as being specific for the major pharmaceutical agent and its competitors active in the area under consideration. This means for example that a serious conflict (Level I, see below) with regard to any one of the statins would preclude participation in a guideline on hyperlipidemia. However, this same financial affiliation or conflict would not preclude participating in the CARI process in an unrelated area.

Involvement with industry-sponsored clinical trials, as an investigator, safety tester, or adviser, where there is no direct pecuniary reward to the individual, is not in itself, considered a conflict.

What constitutes a conflict?

The declaration applies only to financial affiliations that have existed in the past 3 calendar years. This means that a conflict becomes void when 3 full calendar years have elapsed since the circumstances relating to the conflict concluded.

1. Level I Conflict – (precludes participation in the CARI process)
 - a. Shareholdings (by you or your immediate family) in a Pharmaceutical Company active in the clinical area under consideration
 - b. Paid employment, including paid consultancy for a Pharmaceutical Company active in the area under consideration
 - c. Paid work (speakers fee/advisors fee) for a Pharmaceutical Company active in the same area as the CARI guideline (>A\$10,000/yr)
 - d. Any other direct or pecuniary interest considered serious in the view of the declarer.

The CARI Guidelines – Caring for Australians with Renal Impairment

2. Level II Conflict – (participation allowed but conflict will be identified to Chair and members of the working group and to the CARI Steering Committee and in publications)
- a. Paid membership of a Pharmaceutical Company Advisory Board specifically established to work on the same area as the CARI Guideline
 - b. Paid work (speakers fee/advisors fee) for a Pharmaceutical Company active in the same area as the CARI Guideline (<A\$10,000/yr)
 - c. Receipt of a travel grant, conference expenses, or hospitality, totalling >A\$10,000/yr from a Pharmaceutical Company active in the same area as the CARI Guideline
 - d. Any other direct or pecuniary interest considered significant in the view of the declarer.

Financial disclosure

Please tick the appropriate box below:

- I have a level I Conflict
- I have a level II Conflict
- I certify that my affiliations with or financial involvement with any organisation or entity with a financial interest in or financial conflict with the subject matter discussed in CARI guidelines have been disclosed in full to the Chair of the CARI Steering Committee.
- I have no relevant financial interests that need to be declared.

Your Signature

Date Signed

Name (please print)

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO:

Dr Martin Gallagher
Chair, CARI Steering Committee
CARI Guidelines Office
Centre for Kidney Research
The Children's Hospital at Westmead
Locked Bag 4001
WESTMEAD NSW 2145

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