

Volunteer Role Description

JDRF UK Scientific Advisory Council Researcher Members

The Scientific Advisory Council consists of 15 members and includes researchers, healthcare professionals and non-scientific members with a personal connection to type 1 in equal numbers.

We want the Council to include five scientists working in the type 1 diabetes field, in the capacity of researchers and research-active clinicians.

What will I be doing?

The role of the Council is to:

- provide advice and critical opinion to JDRF to assure and guide JDRF's research decisions,
- advise on responses to relevant government policies,
- act as ambassadors and spokespeople to increase JDRF's profile, understand JDRF's wider strategic goals and support JDRF in working to attain them,
- encourage scientists to apply for JDRF funding and encourage younger researchers into the type 1 field,
- review and award small grants received under JDRF UK-specific funding schemes.

How will this benefit me?

You will engage with a diverse range of individuals and develop your skills and networks by building upon JDRF's current work. You will also work closely with JDRF staff, people with a personal connection to type 1 diabetes and healthcare professionals – gaining swift access to cutting edge information about type 1 research and treatment.

When do you need me?

Members are expected to stay in post for a minimum of three years. The Council meets twice a year, once in person and once via video conference (Zoom, Meet). The Council may hold 4 hours of additional video conferences per year as and when necessary with other business conducted by email. Preparation related to these activities will average 1-2 hours reading per month through the year, although we expect some months will take more time, for example when preparing for grant awarding decision-making meetings, while others there will be very little activity at all. The next SAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday 5 May 2022.

How will this benefit JDRF?

This role helps us ensure that the research and public affairs strategies and policies are reviewed independently and that JDRF is aware of the UK-specific scientific and clinical research environment - and potential gaps and issues experienced by the UK type 1 diabetes research community.

Where is this role based?

The in-person meetings will likely take place in London. Travel expenses will be covered in line with JDRF's travel policy. The other meetings will take place by video conference (Zoom, Meet).

What training will I receive?

We will arrange an induction with the Scientific Advisory Council Vice-Chair before the first meeting. We will discuss with you if any specific training would help you fulfil your role.

What skills and attributes do I need?

- Research expertise in any research field from clinical and translational research through to molecular biology and data science.
- A knowledge of the academic or medical research environment,
- Experience with or understanding of the workings of committees,
- A willingness to listen to different views with respect and encourage open debate,
- Confidence to share your opinions in a committee setting with mixed membership and potentially differing opinions,
- You must be willing to sign a confidentiality agreement and conflict of interest declaration.

We welcome members from all backgrounds, religions and gender identities as we aspire to have a council that reflects the diversity of the UK population. We will do our best to mitigate any barriers to joining the Scientific Advisory Council.

What support is available to me?

You will be able to contact the Research Partnerships team for any questions. We will also provide inductions with key members of the JDRF staff team as necessary. The role of the Vice Chair also includes ensuring Council members feel comfortable with the SAC and is an additional source of support.

Sounds great! How do I get involved?

If you're interested in applying, please email your CV and a covering letter explaining how you believe your experience and knowledge is relevant to the role to Caroline Schmutz at researchcommunications@jdrf.org.uk. Once we receive this, those shortlisted for the role will be invited for a phone/Meet interview, which gives us the opportunity to ask you a couple of questions and gives you the opportunity to ask us questions too. We want to make sure that this is the right role for you and that you'll be happy providing this support to JDRF UK.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss the role in more detail, please send an email to Caroline at the address above.

The deadline is **5pm on Monday 10 January 2022**.