

In this video we will take you through a step by step process of how to complete and submit the forms required by all experts participating in EMA activities...



What the legislation says

Extract from Article 63(2) of Regulation (EC) No 726/2004

Members of [...] the committees, rapporteurs and experts **shall not have** financial or other **interests in the pharmaceutical industry which could affect their impartiality**.

They shall undertake to act in the public interest and in an independent manner, and shall make an **annual declaration of their financial interests**. All indirect interests which could relate to this industry shall be entered into a register held by the Agency which is accessible to the public, on request, at the Agency's offices ...

1 Handling declarations of interests

The EMA has a policy on the handling of declarations of interests, which is a requirement of the Regulation that is shown here.



EMA Policy on the handling of declarations of interests of committees' members and experts

Right balance between access to leading experts and guaranteeing experts have no ties to industry affecting their independence and impartiality

Applicable to

- Scientific committee and working party members and alternates
- · Experts involved in EMA activities
 - In the context of authorisation and surveillance of medicinal products for human and veterinary use
 - Meeting attendance
 - Involvement in scientific assessment and guidance development
 - Participation in inspections
- 2 Handling declarations of interests



The spirit of the policy is to strike the right balance for involving experts in EMA activities.

All experts need to demonstrate their independence and impartiality.

This applies to members and alternates of scientific committees and working parties as well as other experts involved in any Agency activities.



Requirements for involvement in EMA activities

Experts must be included in the Experts database prior to first appointment in a committee or working party or first involvement in an EMA activity.

Experts must have completed the following documents:

- Up-to-date Declaration of Interests (DoI)/ Confidentiality undertaking form
- 2. Up-to-date **curriculum vitae** (**CV**) (required to validate the DoI)
- 3. Up-to-date Expert Nomination form

3 Handling declarations of interests

To participate in EMA activities, an expert must first be included in the Experts database.

They must complete

A Declaration of interests and confidentiality form,
a curriculum vitae
and an expert nomination form.



In the next few minutes we will take you through the process of completing and submitting these 3 documents.



Declaration of Interests / Confidentiality undertaking form

SECTION 1: PERSONAL DETAILS

SECTION 2: PUBLIC DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

- 2.1 Employment
- 2.2 Consultancy
- 2.3 Strategic advisory role
- 2.4 Financial interests
- 2.5 Principal investigator
- 2.6 Investigator
- 2.7 Grant / Funding to organisation/institution
- 2.8 Close family member interest
- 2.9 Any other interests or facts

SECTION 3: CONFIDENTIALITY UNDERTAKING

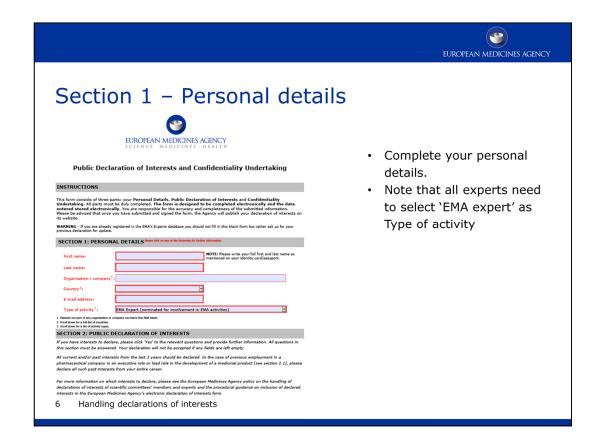
5 Handling declarations of interests

Let's begin with the Declaration of Interests and Confidentiality form. This document consists of 3 sections:

Personal details.

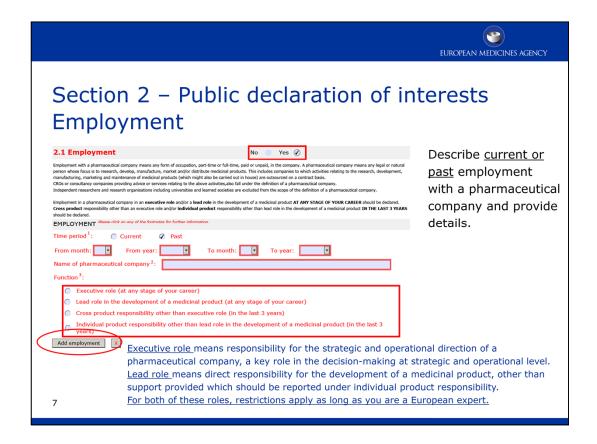
Declaration of Interests

and the Confidentiality undertaking.



In Section 1 of the DoI form, complete the details requested.

Please ensure that you use your first and last name as they appear on any official identification papers such as a passport or identity card.



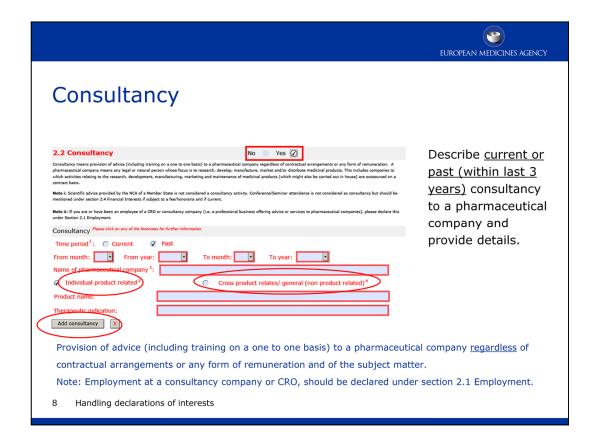
In section 2.1, you must provide information on any employment with a pharmaceutical company.

Employment in an executive role or lead role in the development of a medicine <u>at any stage</u> of your career should be declared.

All other employment should be declared if it us current or within the last 3 years.

This information should correspond with what you show in your CV.

You can add more information by clicking on 'add employment'.



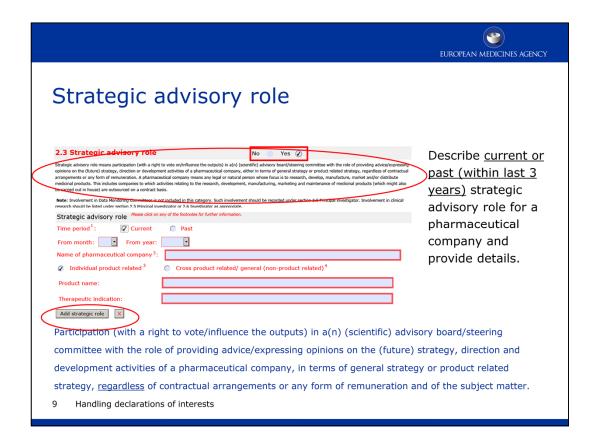
In section 2.2, you must describe any consultancy activities with a pharmaceutical company that are current or within the past 3 years.

Consultancy is considered any occasion that you engage with a pharmaceutical company regardless of the subject.

This does not include participation in public meetings such as conferences

Select whether your involvement was related to an individual medicinal product or if it was cross product or non-product related.

Additional activities can be added.



Any strategic advisory role for a pharmaceutical company needs to be declared regardless of the topic or whether you were paid for this activity.

A strategic advisory role is where you have a voting right or can influence company decisions – please refer to the definition for full details

More than one activity can be added as required.



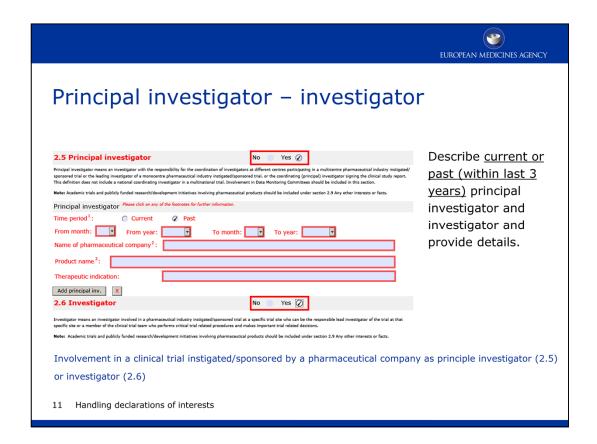
Declare any <u>current</u> financial interests in a pharmaceutical company in section 2.4.

These includes

- shares in a pharmaceutical company,
- fees or honoraria paid by a company directly to you in a personal capacity
- patents relating to a medicine for which you are the patent owner or a direct beneficiary.

Fill in the name of the pharmaceutical company and the type of financial interest.

Use the add button to declare more interests.



In sections 2.5 and 2.6, you must declare if you have been a principle investigator or an investigator in a clinical trial sponsored by a pharmaceutical company.



If the organisation or institution to which you belong, currently receives grants or funding from a pharmaceutical company and you and your activities at your organisation or institution benefit directly from these grants or funding, then this needs to be described uncer section 2.7.



If your close family members, being your spouse or partner, children or parents, have current interests in a pharmaceutical company, you must declare it in section 2.8.

This includes employment, consultancy, strategic advisory role and financial interests.



Any other interests or facts

2.9 Any other interests or facts

For transparency purposes, please also provide information on the following activities in this section:

- Academic trials and publicly funded research/development initiatives involving pharmaceutical products.
- Membership of an Ethics Committee (you do not need to state a list of trials you were involved in)
- If you work in an organisation/institution where your colleagues provide onsultancy advice to pharmaceutical
 companies, but you are not directly involved in the provision of such advice. Examples include employees of Official
 Medicines Control Laboratories, staff members of academic departments, etc.
- Participation in European societies/research foundations/strategy boards/treatment groups/focus groups, which may be funded in full or in part from unrestricted grants from pharmaceutical companies (not from one single company), with or without involvement of industry participants and which may provide general advice (on development programmes, clinical study design, strategy, etc.) to several pharmaceutical companies (not one particular company) in a specific therapeutic area.

Provide information on:

- Involvement in academic trials
- Involvement in publicly funded research/ development initiatives
- Membership of ethics committees

Not to be declared: attendance at courses and conferences funded by a pharmaceutical company if limited to reimbursement of reasonable expenses for travel and accommodation.

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Other information for transparency purposes can be provided in section 2.9

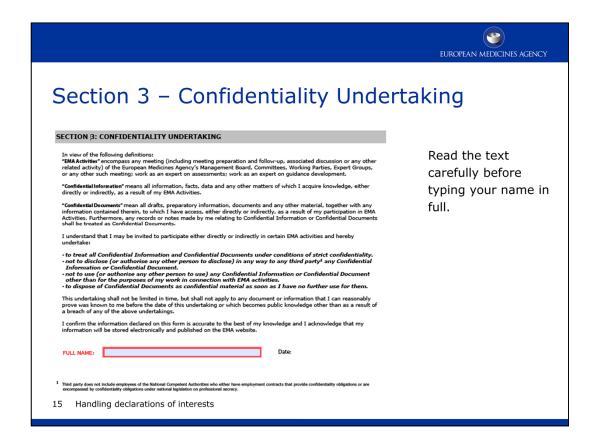
These include

- Involvement in academic trials
- Involvement in publicly funded research/development initiatives
- Membership of ethics committees

No restrictions in participation in EMA activities apply to this information .

Attendance at courses and conferences funded by a pharmaceutical company do not need to be declared if the funding is limited to reimbursement of reasonable expenses for travel and accommodation.

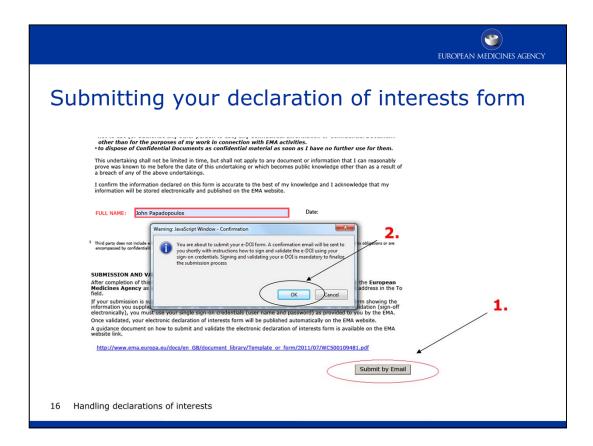
Any payment beyond these reasonable expenses, e.g. a speaker's fee, is considered a financial interest and should be declared in section 2.4.



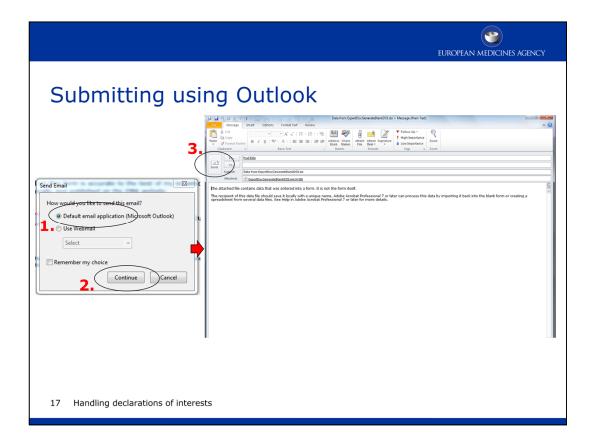
In this final section of the DoI form, it is important to carefully read the information regarding confidential information and documents.

By including your full name in the red box in this section, you confirm the interests declared and your undertaking regarding confidentiality.

The date will be filled in automatically once you submit the form.



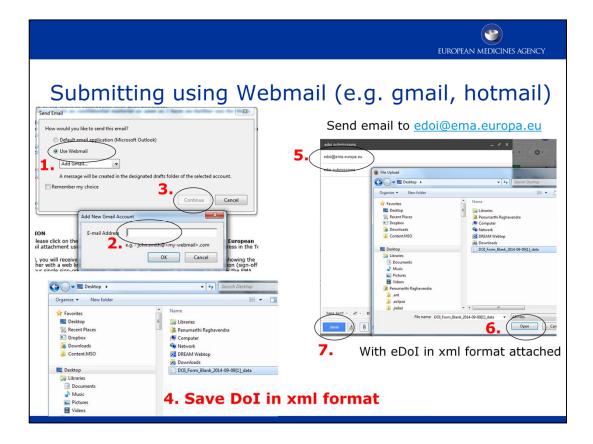
When the DoI form is completed and you are ready to submit it to EMA, click on the 'submit by email' button at the end of the form and click 'OK' on the window that will appear.



If you use Outlook for your emails, select this as your method for sending and then click 'Continue'.

An xml version of your Dol is automatically generated and added as an attachment to an email message addressed to the EMA.

Do not change anything in this email message. Simply click on the 'send' button.



If you do not use outlook, you can select a web based mail such as gmail, hotmail etc.

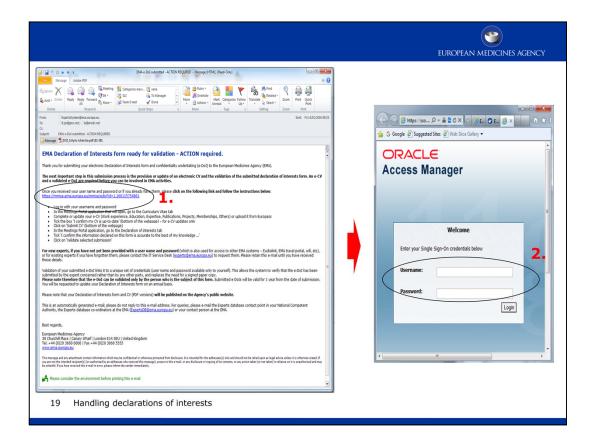
Select the Use Webmail option and select an existing email address from the drop-down list or add a new address by typing your email address in the window that appears when you select add mail.

Click on 'continue'.

You will need to manually save your DoI which will have the extension .xml. You can save this file where you like on your computer.

You will then need to open your webmail account, go to your normal email box and 'compose' an email to the email address shown here edoi@ema.europa.eu

You will need to make sure you attach the xml file from wherever you saved it and click on send.



After you have sent the email to EMA, you will receive a confirmation e-mail. If you do not receive this <u>email</u> immediately, contact the IT service desk or your EMA contact person.

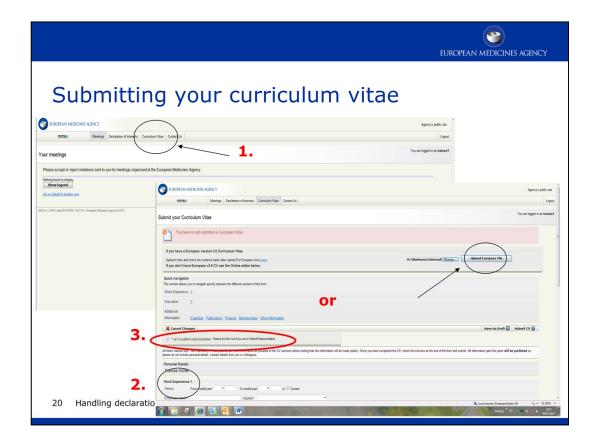
Do not delete this email, as you will need the link to access the EMA system for validation of your Dol.

You should receive a second email with single-sign-on credentials (a username and password)

If you already have your username and password from other EMA tools such as MMD or Eudralink, you can use them.

If you did not receive any credentials, please contact the IT Service Desk – the details are provided at the end of this video.

Click on the link in the email and login to the EMA system with your username and password.



In order to validate your DoI you will first need to submit a curriculum vitae.

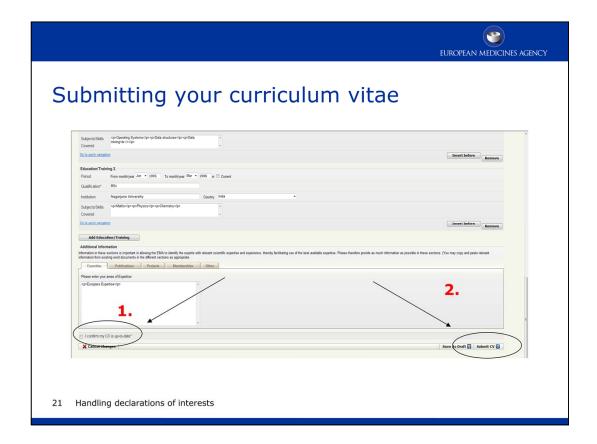
To do this - Go to the Curriculum vitae tab.

There is the option of using the online editor in the system directly or uploading your own Europass CV as shown here.

If you are a patient, you can use the Tick box option for 'Patient representative' as shown here.

In this case, further completion of the CV is not mandatory, but still required if you have relevant experience.

In all cases, please make sure that your CV matches with your Dol.

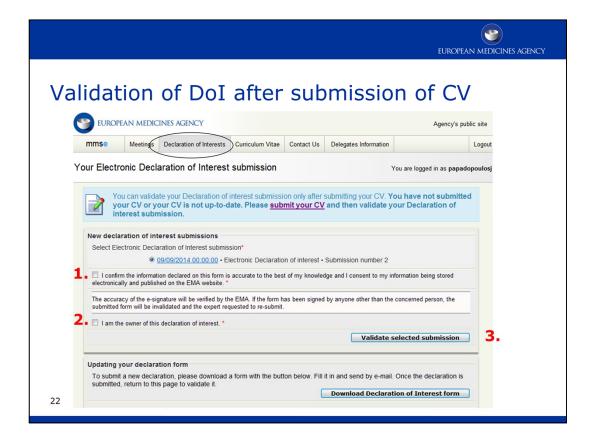


Further information on expertise, publications, projects and memberships can also be provided.

Confirm that your CV is up-to-date and ready for submission by ticking the box 'I confirm my CV is up-to-date' at the very bottom of the screen.

Then click on 'Submit CV'.

Scroll back up to the top of the page and go to the Declaration of interests tab.



Select the submitted DoI that you want to validate.

Tick the box 'I confirm the information on this form is accurate to the best of my knowledge and I acknowledge that my information will be stored electronically and published on the EMA website'.

You must also tick the 'I am the own of this declaration of interest box'.

Finally click on the 'Validate selected submission' button.

This concludes the submission and validation of your DoI and CV.

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Nomination	form EUROPEAN SCIENCE MEDIC	N MEDICI CINES HEALTH	NES AC	GEN	CY				
	Nomination for			comp	leted by the expert				
				-	Business phone no. (incl. int. code)				
	1. • Family name			6.	Business fax no. (incl. int. code)	+			
	2. • First name			7.	Business e-mail address (block capitals)				
	3. • Nationality			8.	 Qualifications - degrees, diplomas and professional affiliations 				
	 Organisation/ company name and professional address 			9.	 Present position and time spent in current assignment 				
	10. « General category of activit Medicines evaluation Biological/biotechnological products Chemicals Herbal/vradicional products Inspections Pharmacoviglance Regulatory affairs - Are you a member of staff of the competent authority?		" v"		11. • Specific functic Quality Biotechnology prod Immunologicals/bio Vaccines Blood products Chemicals Safety Immunologicals/bio Chemicals Environmental risk ass Genetically modifie	ucts logicals logicals essment d organisms	H ^{ell} V ^{vil} scals		
1.	Are you an external experi (e.g. university, hospital, me staff of another organisation pharmaceutical company, etc Are you a member of a Pai Organisation / Interest group	ember of or a c.) ^v tient			Immunologicasy on Chemicals Pharmacovigilance management Inspections Laboratory procedu GMP GCP GLP	and risk	00 0 0000	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	
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The final document to complete is what is the nomination form for European experts. All experts need to complete this form to indicate one or more areas of expertise.

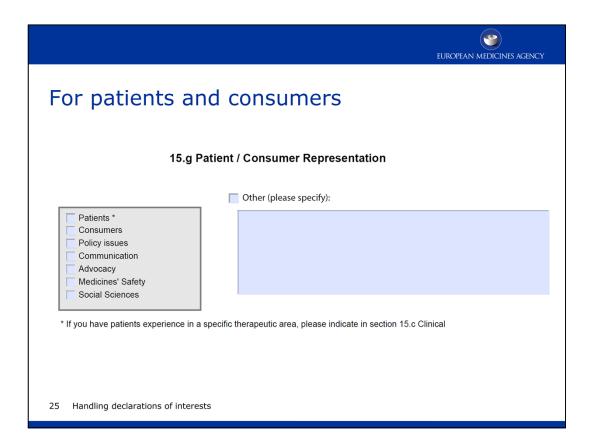
On the first page, please complete your details and indicate the general categories of activities and specific functional expertise applicable to you.

If you are a patient representative, you can select the 'I am a member of a patient organisation/interest group or charity' box.

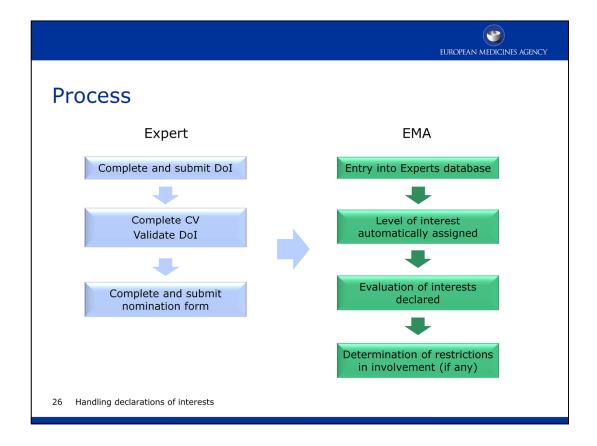
There is no need to sign this form.

			EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY						
15. Detailed Areas of Expertise (Please select main areas only)									
Chemicals:	15.a Quality	Bick Assessment of	15.b Pre-Clinical						
Analytical chemistry Synthetic chemistry Development pharmaceutics Stability Phytochemistry Radiopharmaceuticals Premixes for medicated feed production Drug/Device combinations Packaging Manufacture of medicines Peptide chemistry Medicinal gasses Structural similarity	Biotechnology products: Development genetics Genetic engineering: expression factor Cell culture - Fermentation Protein purification Protein analysis - characterisation; purity testing; biological assay Virology: validation of inactivation/removal steps, cell blarik qualification; choice of viruses Microbiological testing Monoclonal antibodies Blood products Allergens Vaccines Gene therapy Cell therapy Tissue engineering Plant biotechnology Nanobiotechnology	Risk Assessment of GMOs: Vaccines Gene therapy/ biotechnology Transgenic plant Manufacturing Process, Development and Validations: Biological products Biological products Piotechnology products Vaccines Cell therapy	Toxicology: Acute/chronic toxicity, etc Special toxicology: In vitro toxicology Immunotoxicity Reproduction toxicity Genetic toxicity Carcinogenicity Toxicokinetics Pharmacology in laboratory and target animals Pharmacodynamics Pharmacodynamics Pharmacokinetics Pathology Environmental Risk Assessment Residue safety assessment Residue safety assessment Behavioural toxicology Occupational toxicology Microbiology: Bacteriology Parasitology Parasitology Nycology Safety Pharmacology						
15.c Clinical (Please select 2-3 areas only)									
AIDS Anaesthesiology	Intensive care	Ophthalmology Organ transplantation	☐ Plastic Surgery ☐ Pneumology / Respiratory						
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If you have any specific areas of expertise, please indicate them here. Otherwise please leave them blank



For patient and consumer representatives, please select the appropriate boxes in section 15g



If you are an expert nominated by the EMA, return the completed form to your contact person at EMA.

For experts nominated by an EU member state, you should return this form to your contact point in the national agency.

Once EMA has received the three documents, we will progress with your inclusion into the Experts database.

An interest level will be assigned based on your declared interests. Your interests are evaluated to determine if you can be involved in EMA activities and if any restrictions apply.



Interest level and restrictions

Interest declared	Interest level	Involvement in EMA activities		
Direct interest (current or within last 3 years) Employment, Consultancy, Strategic advisory role, Financial interests	3	No involvement or Severely restricted involvement		
Indirect interest (current or within last 3 years) Principle Investigator, Investigator, Grant or funding to institution/organisation, Close family member interests	2	Involvement permitted but restrictions apply		
No interest or interests over 3 years (except executive role or lead role)	1	Full, unrestricted involvement		

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The type of interests declared determine the interest level.

Interest level 3 applies to direct interests in a pharmaceutical company such as employment,

Interest level 2 for indirect interests such as principal investigator and interest level 1 is where no interests are declared or if interests are older than 3 years, except for employment in an executive or lead role.

Interest level 1 experts have no restrictions in EMA activities.

For interest level 2 or 3 experts, restrictions on involvement apply depending on the interest declared and on the EMA activity.

Some interests such as current employment in a pharmaceutical company results in no involvement in any EMA activity.

For more details please go to the policy document.



Declaration of Interests

- Valid for 1 year
- Experts database sends automated e-mail to expert, 1 month before expiry, requesting to update e-DoI
- (up-to-date) e-CV required before validation of e-DoI
- Important: If anything changes in profile of interests (e.g. organisation gets additional grants/funding from pharma industry, new consultancy, clinical trial), expert must update and resubmit e-DoI

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Finally,

Your Dol is valid for one year.

One month before it expires, you will receive an email requesting you to update it.

You can only validate your updated DoI if you update your CV or confirm that it is still up-to-date.

Please note that if your circumstances change during the year, it is important to inform the Agency by submitting an updated Dol.



Reference documents

Declaration of Interest (DoI) policy

Procedural guidance on inclusion of interests in e-DoI

Guidance on submission and validation of e-DoI and e-CV

Guidance on handling DoIs in case of intention to become an employee in a company

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More information on delarations of interests can be found in the policy and its guidance documents.

Please click on the links available in the pdf version of this talk.



Please also visit our dedicated webpage or consult our Frequently Asked Questions section.

For any technical issues, please contact the IT service desk at https://servicedesk.ema.europa.eu