

Quick guide to competing interests for EMA experts

To be involved as an expert in EMA activities, you need to complete a declaration of interest and curriculum vitae.

This guide provides an overview of what is expected to be declared and what EMA considers to be a competing interest.

Who is this for?

It has been developed for **patients, consumers or healthcare professionals** who may be involved as experts in EMA activities such as scientific advice, review of product information or who may participate in a scientific advisory group (SAG).

What is the aim?

It will help you **identify** whether you hold interests that would prevent you from working with EMA altogether or on a specific activity.

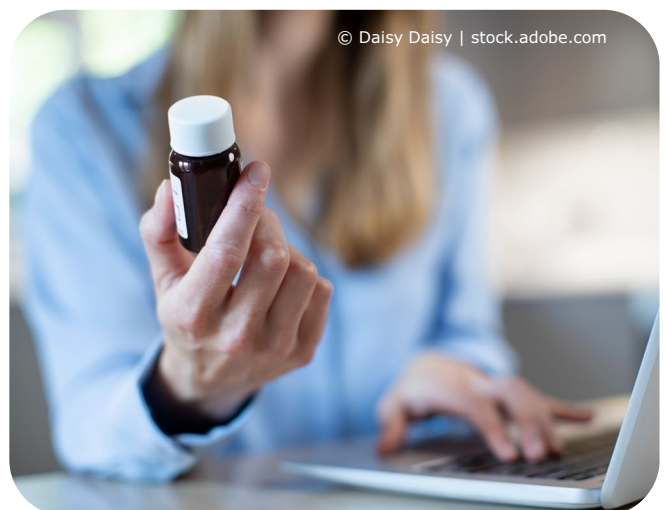


If you are currently employed by a **pharmaceutical company or a medical device company**, you cannot participate in EMA activities.

For other interests, please refer to the tables in this factsheet and the policy to see how it may impact your participation.

Where can you find more information?

The factsheet is not comprehensive and should be read in conjunction with [EMA's policy on handling competing interests](#) and the related [procedural guidance](#).



If you have questions about your involvement in a specific activity, please reach out to your contact at EMA.

Participation as an expert in EMA activities

It is important that you consult the definitions in the [policy](#) prior to completing your declaration of interest. You may find helpful examples in the [procedural guidance](#).

TABLE LEGEND:

- ✓ You can participate without any restrictions
- ! You can participate **except** in the following **cases**:
 - a. for products and applications from the company(ies) or research organisation(s) which you declared
 - b. for the product(s) which you declared and products in the same condition(s) as declared
 - c. for the product(s) which you declared
- ✗ You cannot participate

Table 1. Experts with interests in pharmaceutical companies

INTERESTS IN PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES	CURRENT	IN THE LAST 3 YEARS
Employment (general matters or product-specific)	No participation ✗	Participation with restrictions (see case a.) !
Consultancy/strategic advisory role (general matters)	No participation ✗	Participation with restrictions (see case a.) !
Consultancy/strategic advisory role (product-specific)	No participation OR participation with restrictions (see case b.) ✗ !	Participation with restrictions (see case c.) !
Financial interests	No participation ✗	Participation without restrictions ✓
(Principal) investigator	Participation with restrictions (see case b.) !	Participation with restrictions (see case c.) !
Grant/funding from a company to the organisation/institution to which you belong	Participation without restrictions ✓	Participation without restrictions ✓
Close family member interest	Participation with restrictions (see case a.) !	Participation without restrictions ✓

Table 2. Experts with interests in medical device companies

INTERESTS IN MEDICAL DEVICE COMPANIES	CURRENT	IN THE LAST 3 YEARS
Employment (general matters or product-specific)	No participation ✗	Participation without restrictions ✓
Consultancy/strategic advisory role (general matters)	No participation ✗	Participation without restrictions ✓

INTERESTS IN MEDICAL DEVICE COMPANIES	CURRENT	IN THE LAST 3 YEARS
Consultancy/strategic advisory role (product-specific)	No participation OR participation with restrictions (see case b.)	Participation without restrictions
Financial interests	No participation	Participation without restrictions
(Principal) investigator	Participation with restrictions (see case b.)	Participation without restrictions
Grant/funding from a company to the organisation/institution to which you belong	Participation without restrictions	Participation without restrictions
Close family member interest	Participation with restrictions (see case a.)	Participation without restrictions

Table 3. Experts with interests in research organisations

INTERESTS IN RESEARCH ORGANISATIONS	CURRENT	IN THE LAST 3 YEARS
Involvement in a unit that manufactures medicinal products or medical devices	No participation	Participation with restrictions (see case a.)
Involvement in a unit that acts as a marketing authorisation applicant or holder for a medicinal product	No participation	Participation with restrictions (see case a.)
Involvement in the conduct of research and development activities subject to an agreement with a company	No participation OR participation with restrictions (see case b.)	Participation with restrictions (see case c.)
Regulatory engagement on academic research	Participation with restrictions (see case b.)	Participation with restrictions (see case c.)
Affiliation to a research organisation	Participation with restrictions (see case a.)	Participation without restrictions

More information

- [Handling competing interests at EMA](#)
- [EMA's policy on the handling of competing interests of scientific committees' members and experts](#)
- [Procedural guidance to scientific committees' members and experts on completing EMA's declaration of interests in the Experts Management Tool](#)