

Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada

Conflict of Interest Policy, Disclosure Form and Acknowledgment

Purpose

The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada (SOGC) is committed to conducting its governance, scientific, educational, clinical, research, and operational activities with integrity, transparency, and independence.

Individuals participating in SOGC activities are required to disclose interests and relationships that may give rise to an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest. Disclosure enables the SOGC to assess these interests and implement appropriate management measures to protect the integrity of its decision-making and activities.

Disclosure of an interest does not imply bias or wrongdoing, nor does it automatically preclude participation in SOGC activities.

Who Must Complete this Form

This disclosure applies to any individual participating in SOGC activities or acting on behalf of the SOGC, including but not limited to:

- Board Directors
- Committee members
- Working Group members
- Guideline authors
- Peer reviewers
- Scientific reviewers
- Clinical Expert reviewers
- External advisors
- Consultants
- Volunteers
- Contractors
- Company representatives participating in SOGC programs
- Individuals participating in research, publications, accreditation, or brand recognition activities
- Any other individual designated by the SOGC

Definition of a Conflict of Interest

A conflict of interest exists when an individual's external interests or relationships could reasonably influence, or be perceived to influence, their objectivity, independence, professional judgement, or responsibilities while performing work for the SOGC. Conflicts may be financial or non-financial.

Conflicts may be:

- **Actual:** a current conflict exists.
- **Potential:** circumstances could reasonably develop into a conflict.
- **Perceived:** a reasonable person could perceive that a conflict exists, regardless of whether it actually influences decision-making.

Interests Requiring Disclosure

You must disclose all relevant current interests and any interests held within the previous three (3) years that could reasonably relate to your SOGC role. These include, but are not limited to:

Financial and Commercial Interests

- Employment
- Consulting or advisory services
- Honoraria or speaker fees
- Research funding or grants
- Contracts
- Gifts or in-kind support
- Royalties
- Intellectual property interests
- Stock ownership or investments
- Profit-sharing arrangements
- Referral fees
- Ownership, partnership, directorship, or management of a business or organization
- Any financial interest in a health care organization, clinic, laboratory, pharmacy, virtual care service, or other commercial enterprise

Professional and Institutional Interests

- Leadership positions
- Board or committee appointments
- Advisory roles
- Fiduciary responsibilities
- Professional society positions

- Editorial appointments
- Clinical Practice Guidance development activities
- Relationships with government agencies or regulatory organizations

Personal or Other Interests

- Close personal or family relationships that may be relevant
- Advocacy activities
- Public positions related to the subject matter
- Any other interest or relationship that could reasonably be perceived as affecting impartiality

If you are uncertain whether an interest should be disclosed, you should disclose it.

Ongoing Disclosure Obligation

This disclosure remains in effect throughout your participation with the SOGC. You agree to:

- ☐ complete this disclosure upon appointment or engagement;
- ☐ update your disclosure annually, where applicable;
- ☐ promptly disclose any material changes that arise during your participation with the SOGC; and
- ☐ verbally declare any relevant conflict at the beginning of meetings or discussions where the subject matter relates to a disclosed interest.

Management of Conflicts of Interest

All disclosures will be reviewed by the SOGC. The SOGC will determine whether an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest exists and whether management measures are required. The SOGC's determination regarding conflict management is final. Management strategies may include:

- documenting the disclosure;
- disclosure to committee or project participants;
- limiting participation in specific discussions or activities;
- recusal from particular decisions or votes;
- reassignment of responsibilities;
- independent review or oversight; or
- removal from a committee, project, review activity, or other SOGC role where the conflict cannot be appropriately managed.

Disclosure

1. Do you have any financial, commercial, professional, institutional, or personal interests or relationships that could reasonably relate to your participation with the SOGC?

☐ No

☐ Yes

If yes, please describe (include Organization, Nature of Interest or Relationship, Dates, and Relationship to Your SOGC Role):

2. Are there any additional circumstances that could reasonably be perceived as affecting your objectivity or independence while participating in SOGC activities?

☐ No

☐ Yes

If yes, please describe (include Organization, Nature of Interest or Relationship, Dates, and Relationship to Your SOGC Role):

Acknowledgement

I certify that the information provided in this disclosure is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

I understand that:

- ☐ disclosure does not necessarily prevent my participation in SOGC activities;
- ☐ the SOGC will determine whether a disclosed interest constitutes an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest;
- ☐ I am responsible for promptly updating my disclosure if my circumstances change; and
- ☐ I will comply with any conflict management measures established by the SOGC.

Full Name

Role / Position

Committee, Program, Project or Activity (if applicable)

Signature

Date

If you have questions regarding this policy or disclosure form, please contact the SOGC at research@sogc.com.