

Declaration of interests form

Instructions: You should declare and describe any financial interest relevant to your Cochrane advisory board role falling into one or more of the below categories that you have held within the time period beginning 36 months prior to submission of this declaration.

An interest is relevant for this role if you have received payment from a commercial organization with an interest in the topic of the review(s) you advise on. This means that the organization has developed (or is known to be developing), or distributes (anywhere in the world), an intervention or potential comparator related to the topic of the review(s). This applies even if the payment was made for work or advice that did not relate to the topic of the review(s).

Further details can be found in Cochrane's policy on [Conflict of Interest for Cochrane Library Content](#)

Name:

1. Financial interests

a) Received research funding: any grant, contract or gift, commissioned research, or fellowship from any organisation related to health care or medical research (for example Cochrane, a non-governmental organisation, a pharmaceutical or medical device company, a healthcare charity or a patient advocacy group) to conduct research?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details:

My doctoral research (2019-ongoing) is funded by the Wellcome Trust (grant number RT280066).

b) Had paid consultancies: any paid work, consulting fees (in cash or kind) from an organisation related to health care or medical research?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details:

**Trusted evidence.
Informed decisions.**

Better health

c) Received honoraria: one-time payments (in cash or kind such as travel expenses) from an organisation related to health care or medical research?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details:

I received £350 from the Wellcome Trust for a presentation I gave at their (virtual) 'Master's Event' in February 2021. I also attended Wellcome's Discovery Research Regional Event in March 2023, for which my travel expenses were covered.

I was invited to give a keynote presentation at a workshop, *Medical Humanities and Covid/Post-Covid Challenges*, at Linköping University (September 2022). My travel expenses were covered.

d) Served as a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee or held a position of management with an organisation related to health care or medical research?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details:

e) Possessed share-holdings, stock, stock options, equity with an organisation related to health care or medical research (excludes mutual funds or similar arrangements where the individual has no control over the selection of the shares)?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details:

f) Received personal gifts from an organisation related to health care or medical research?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details:

g) Had an outstanding loan with an organisation related to health care or medical research?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details:

h) Received royalty payments from an organisation related to health care or medical research?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details:

2. Non-financial interests

Do you have any other interests that would reasonably appear to be related to the primary interest? Such interests could include, but are not limited to, publicly declaring any strong opinions about this health area, unpaid membership of committees, advisory boards or patient advocacy groups in this health area, and being a named author of a study that might be included in this review.

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details:

**Trusted evidence.
Informed decisions.**

Better health

I lived with ME for a number of years (2008-2016); I presently consider myself recovered. I have discussed my experiences publicly, including on social media (such as X/Twitter, @kacheston), and in blog posts (although these are, I believe, no longer in the public domain).

I do not currently undertake any kind of work for patient advocacy groups and charities, but in the past I have: worked as a volunteer for both Action for ME and the ME Association; and I have fundraised and been an ambassador for ME Research UK. I also led a 'Millions Missing' demonstration, in Bristol in September 2016, as part of a global event organised by #MEAction; I spoke on BBC Radio Bristol and did interviews with local print media as part of this event.