

One Post available for the Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery Expert Advisory Group

The Interim Devices Working Group (IDWG) is looking to appoint one lay member to the Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery Expert Advisory Group (PRASEAG).

PRASEAG is formed of external experts (i.e. clinicians, scientists and lay representative/s) who provide clinical and scientific perspective on the regulation of medical devices used in Plastic Surgery, both for cosmetic and reconstructive procedures.

Inclusion of patient and charity representatives helps PRASEAG and The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) better understand the impact of the issues discussed, on patients and the public.

The remit of PRASEAG includes medical devices used in both surgical and non-surgical aesthetic or cosmetic procedures.

Members of PRASEAG are not employed by MHRA. They operate independently from MHRA and provide their time on a voluntary basis. PRASEAG also input into MHRA statements, advice, and recommendations.

PRASEAG assists MHRA to better understand the risks, benefits and complications that may be caused by devices used for both reconstructive and cosmetic Plastic Surgical purposes, such as Breast Implant Associated Anaplastic Large Cell Lymphoma (BIA-ALCL).

We are looking for patients who are interested in advising and providing a patient voice or breast cancer charity perspective to inform at key points of our regulatory decision-making process for medical devices.

We are looking for lay members who either have had experiences relating specifically to breast implants and/or other devices used in plastic, reconstructive and aesthetic procedures.

The lay expert has an essential role in PRASEAG. Many of the issues considered are of significant public and media interest. As a result, it is essential all members make informed decisions based on the evidence presented to PRASEAG and discussed at the meetings in complete confidence. An open mind is an essential prerequisite.

Expertise Required

- Lay member (x1)

Essential Criteria

The Member must be able to demonstrate the qualities, skills and experience to meet all the essential criteria for appointment.

- patient that has an interest in the device areas covered by PRASEAG;
- maintain strict confidentiality with respect to the work of the EAG;
- be able to assimilate and interpret complex scientific information and share individual expertise or experience on specific topics or items to complement the scientific information considered;
- be able and prepared to contribute actively to the work of the EAG by providing a non-specialist contribution to discussions about medical devices / research from patient and public perspectives;
- be a skilled communicator;

- be willing to develop a working knowledge and understanding of UK medical devices regulatory framework and procedures;
- be willing to declare conflicts of interest;
- be committed to the values of selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, professionalism, impartiality and consistency.
- have access to digital technology such as a smartphone, tablet or laptop that will allow you to access meetings virtually on MS Teams.

Desirable Criteria

- current or previous experience of committee membership(s) is important but not essential
- experience in undergoing, or a close relative undergoing reconstructive or cosmetic surgery with a breast implant/s and/or cosmetic treatments with dermal fillers, botulism toxin and/ skin treatments with external medical devices
- can commit to a 1 to 4-year term for this role
- have had breast implant surgery, or who have cared for a person who has had breast implant surgery.
- be willing to actively contribute to discussions about breast implants to ensure the patient voice is heard.
- be interested in the field of breast implants and how they are regulated in the UK
- works or worked for an organisation involved in breast implants or breast cancer

The phrase 'lay member' refers to a member of one of our advisory committees or groups who has personal experience of living with a condition and its current therapeutic environment. The phrase could also refer to someone from a community affected by the advice provided by the advisory committee or group.

Lay members fulfil an important committee role, by contributing a patient perspective to the work of the advisory committee or group, or by representing the broader community potentially affected by their advice. People with professional qualifications or professional experience of working in an area relevant to the work of the advisory committee or group are not eligible to apply for a lay member role.

Lay members have full rights to participate in the discussion, therefore must comply with the [Code of Practice](#).

People with healthcare professional qualifications or professional experience of working in an area relevant to the work of the advisory committee or group, are not eligible to apply for a lay member role. This role is not suitable for healthcare professionals or medical device industry professionals.

Remuneration

- You may claim travel and subsistence expenses, which are properly and necessarily incurred in carrying out your role and responsibilities as the member of the PRAS EAG, in line with travel and subsistence policy and rates for the MHRA. A copy of the policy and rates is available from the MHRA.

Time Commitment

- Two meetings per year, held virtually
- Occasionally take part in short life working groups on specific safety topics outside of the biannual meetings

- Ad hoc correspondence outside of the biannual meetings, including assessing monthly literature searches as required

Tenure of office

- 1 – 4 years

Patient/public Member Support

You will have a contact in the Agency who will be able to support you with any questions that you have.

You will be offered training and guidance ahead of any meetings that you attend, to ensure that you are confident to take on the role and carry it out well.

You can use the experience of being a patient representative to show that you have developed communication and teamwork skills in a professional setting.

How to Apply

If you are interested in joining the PRASEAG, please email your application form, CV, completed declaration of interests form and monitoring form to CSTrecruitment@mhra.gov.uk, quoting the position and reference **PRASEAG25-2b** in the subject field. Please ensure that you provide evidence to support how you meet all of the essential criteria.

If you require an alternative format, please call the Appointments Team on 020 3080 6060 quoting the reference **PRASEAG25-2b**.

The closing date for applications is Friday 5 September 2025. The MHRA value and promote diversity and encourage applications from all sections of the community.



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