



Medicines & Healthcare products
Regulatory Agency

Patient & Public Community – Working Together Agreement

About the community

The MHRA patient and public community brings together people who want to influence our work.

By sharing real-life experiences and views, you can make a difference and inform and shape our work. We aim to provide ways in which you can do this in a way that is flexible and convenient for you.

The community is used to seek broad perspectives on activities across the agency. It is not a forum for raising single topic issues. To raise an issue please email the Customer Experience Centre team at info@mhra.gov.uk or call 020 3080 6000.

Who can join the community?

It is important that the community provides a wide range of viewpoints and experiences. There are two types of membership – individual or voluntary and community sector.

To help us improve the quality of our work, it is important that the community includes a wide range of viewpoints and experiences.

As part of the process of applying to join the community we ask that everyone to agree to our **working together agreement** as part of joining the community.

Individual members

We are looking for people who:

- are interested in medicines and medical devices and the role they play in improving health and increasing quality of life
- are interested in the regulation of medicines and medical devices
- can draw on their own experiences as a patient or as a consumer of medicines and medical devices and translate this into a population level perspective
- Understand that others may not agree with their views and are willing to listen to what others have to say

We do not accept applications from those living overseas.

You will be required to express your interest to remain part of the Patient and Public Community every three years. You will be contacted to re-submit your details.

The community is used to seek broad perspectives on Agency activities as a whole. It is not a forum for raising single topic issues. To raise an issue please email the Customer Experience Centre team at info@mhra.gov.uk or call 020 3080 6000.

Voluntary and community sector members

We want to hear from any organisation which supports people, their families and carers, and the public who may use or benefit from medicines and medical devices. This includes:

- Local, regional, or national charities
- Formal or informal patient, user or carer groups

All organisations are welcome to join regardless of size. **We ask that a maximum of 2 people join from each organisation join.**

We do not accept applications from overseas organisations where the interest of your organisation is not relevant to the UK population.

You will be required to express your interest to remain part of the Patient and Public Community every three years.

Conflicts-of-interest

Due to the nature of our work, there may be occasions where we need to ask members to declare their conflicts-of-interests. Having a conflict-of-interest does not prohibit you from becoming a member of the community, but it may exclude you from certain activities.

What do community members do?

As a member of the community, you can:

- Influence and inform our work by sharing your insights and perspectives
- Help us to improve how we involve patients, carers and the public in our work
- Stay informed of our key developments
- Use your lived experience, or that of the community you represent, to help others to be engaged with our work

We will host events focused on specific areas of the agency's work. This will provide community members to learn more about our activities and meet agency staff.

MHRA payment policy for public participation

We value the time, knowledge and lived experience that patients and members of the public bring to our work. The PPC is a voluntary community, we do not offer reimbursement for membership of the PPC and attendance at PPC meetings. The [MHRA payment policy](#) explains when payments and expenses may be offered to people who take part in MHRA involvement and engagement activities.

Working together agreement

We ask all our community members to agree to:

- respect confidentiality of information
- not sharing more widely any meeting invitations received from us.
- contribute constructively to discussions
- communicate effectively
- respect that individuals may have differing views to yourself, and allow them opportunity to express these views

- draw on their own experiences and translate this into a population level perspective.
- stay focused on the topic being discussed.