



Volunteer Role: Grants Advisory Panel Member

Managed by: Simon Grieveson
Team: Research
Location: Meeting to be held in London
(venue of subsequent meetings may vary)

About us

We fight to help more men to survive prostate cancer and enjoy a better quality of life. We support men and provide vital information. We find answers by funding research. And we lead change, raising awareness and improving care.

Background information

The purpose of the Grants Advisory Panel is to ensure that the voice of people living with prostate cancer is central to discussion and influential in decision-making when determining which research grants should be recommended for funding.

It is important that this group represents the diversity of people living with prostate cancer. We would therefore welcome applications from anyone with personal experience of prostate cancer, as someone who has been diagnosed or as a partner, family member or friend. However, it must be at least **12 months** since diagnosis or bereavement before you can apply for this role.

To further the diversity of this panel we are particularly looking for applicants who live in the North West, North East or South West of England, Wales or Northern Ireland. We would also welcome applications from people within the Black community who have a personal experience of prostate cancer.

What will I be doing?

The main responsibilities of the Grants Advisory Panel includes (but is not limited to) the following activities:

- Prepare in advance for the Grants Advisory Panel meeting by reading the associated documentation, including lay summaries of research grant applications.
- Attend meetings of the Grants Advisory Panel to prioritise and discuss the importance of the research grant applications. The panel will meet once a year and the meeting is likely to last a full day.
- Complete a brief online assessment form for assigned research grant applications, capturing the views of the panel (paper copies can be made available).
- Where required, attend and contribute at meetings of the Prostate Cancer UK Research Advisory Committee as a representative for the Grants Advisory Panel. The Research Advisory Committee assesses and prioritises research grant applications and recommends applications for funding to the Prostate Cancer UK Board of Trustees.
- Help ensure that Prostate Cancer UK funded research is relevant and important to people with prostate cancer.
- Unless otherwise stated, treat all proceedings of GAP meetings as confidential.

What skills and personal qualities do I need?

- personal experience of prostate cancer, as someone who has been diagnosed or as a partner, family member or friend
- an interest in science and research (or are willing to learn)
- the ability to communicate with a range of people, and the confidence to discuss issues in a committee environment
- a commitment to representing the views of the wide range of people living with prostate cancer in the UK
- a willingness to engage positively, and to challenge where necessary
- a willingness to learn and develop, and to seek help if you come across issues you don't understand
- respect for opinions that differ or conflict with personal viewpoint
- a commitment to confidentiality
- an understanding of the use of animals and stem cells in research where necessary
- the role will require using our online grant management system, and so a reasonable level of computer literacy would be desirable

What skills and experiences will I gain from this role?

Through the Grants Advisory Panel you will develop a strong understanding about prostate cancer and what Prostate Cancer UK is doing to further our knowledge of the disease. You will learn about the research currently being carried out into prostate cancer and develop an appreciation for the importance of confidentiality in research. You will lead and contribute to group discussions and may also be asked to present the views of the group to the Research Advisory Committee.

Where will I be volunteering?

The venue and date of the next Grants Advisory Panel meeting is yet to be confirmed, but is likely to be held in London. The location of any subsequent meetings may vary.

What time commitments are involved?

Volunteers will need to be able to commit to:

- An induction and training day (supplemented with training documents)
- Preparation for meetings by reading and assessing research grant applications
- Attendance at meetings of the Grants Advisory Panel (currently one meeting per year)
- Attendance at the Research Advisory Committee where required

What training will be provided?

Training will be provided to all members of the Grants Advisory Panel in July 2014. The date of the training will be selected based on the availability of GAP members. The precise nature of this training is to be confirmed, but will be appropriate for this role.

Will expenses be covered?

We pay reasonable out-of-pocket expenses including travel and refreshments while volunteering and attending training or other events in line with our expenses policy.

How do I apply?

- If you believe you are eligible, please contact us for an application pack via email volunteer@prostatecanceruk.org or call 0203 3107 294.
- Fill in the Application Form and return to volunteer@prostatecanceruk.org or Volunteer Management, Prostate Cancer UK, FREEPOST, RTGC-BASH-USLX, London SE1 2QN
- If shortlisted, we will contact you to arrange an interview

Please note, the closing date for applications is 5pm Monday 28 April 2014.

Further information:

For further information about the Grants Advisory Panel, please contact us by emailing volunteer@prostatecanceruk.org or calling 0203 3107 294.

January 2014
