

Guidance on Conflicts of Interest for Members of the Accreditation Team

Approved by the Council of the PSI on 26 June 2014

A. Conflicts

Evidence of any of the conflicts listed below will warrant exclusion from an accreditation team.

1. Currently studying as a registered student at the institution¹.
2. Currently working at the institution, or having worked at the institution in the last five years.
3. Currently having a close relative studying on an accredited or recognised pharmacy degree programme at the institution.
4. Currently having, or having had, a close personal or intimate relationship with a member of staff or a student currently registered at the institution. In particular, but not exclusively:
 - a. marriage;
 - b. civil partnership;
 - c. cohabitation;
 - d. other close familial relationship;
 - e. a sexual relationship;
 - f. a mentoring or coaching relationship.
5. Having acted as a consultant or adviser to the programme being accredited or recognised in the last five years.
6. Currently being an external examiner on the programme being accredited or recognised.
7. Currently having another significant role at the institution, such as being a dean or member of a council/board

B. Borderline conflicts (advice to be sought from the PSI)

Evidence of any of the conflicts listed below will require the potential accreditation team member to inform the PSI. Advice should be sought from the PSI as to whether a conflict exists from the information provided.

1. Having studied as a student at the institution (these apply to all accredited or recognised pharmacy degree programmes).
2. Having been awarded a qualification, honorary or otherwise, by the institution.
3. Research links with staff at the institution.
4. Professional links with staff at the institution.

¹ Institution refers to the institution or organisation where the programme is being delivered and is seeking recognition, approval and accreditation

5. Studying or having studied at the institution with a course accredited or recognised by the PSI in a pharmacy-related or non-pharmacy-related field (but on an unaccredited programme).
6. Having a close relative or someone with whom one has a close relationship studying on a non-pharmacy programme at the institution.
7. Working at another institution with a perceived competitive relationship with the institution (that all schools could be seen as being in competition to a greater or lesser extent is too broad to count here).
8. Being an external examiner on a programme not accredited by the PSI at the institution.
9. Having worked at the institution more than five years ago.
10. Having made an application to work at the institution in the previous five years.
11. Having had another significant role at the institution, such as being a dean or member of council/board more than five years ago.

It should be noted that the declaration of a borderline conflict by an accreditation team member will be recorded in the final accreditation report.

C. No conflict

1. Having lectured occasionally at the institution.
2. Having accepted hospitality worth less than c. €50 occasionally at the institution.
3. Knowing a member of staff at the institution personally or professionally.
4. Having been a job referee for a member of staff at the institution.
5. Having been a job interview panel member for a member of staff at the institution.
6. Having made an application to work at the institution more than five years ago.

These lists are non-exhaustive and the PSI reserves the right to add to these lists if it feels necessary and as agreed by the Council.

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References

General Pharmaceutical Council (2012). *Guidance on Conflicts of interest for Members of the Accreditation Panel, 2012-2013*.