

## Governing Board Elected Member Candidate Statement

The Candidate Statement, your photograph and names of your nominators will be published on the Cochrane Community website during the elections process, and the Candidate Statement and photograph will remain on the website against the names of new members for the duration of their terms on the Board. For this reason, this Candidate Statement document template must be used; and full addresses, email addresses and/or unencrypted e-signatures excluded.

Please submit this Elected Member Candidate Statement in Word format by the stated deadline. It should be shared beforehand with your two nominators.

Family name (surname):	<b>Ray</b>
First name(s):	<b>Sujoy</b>
Today's date:	<b>2-11-2018</b>

### 1. How and when did you first become involved in Cochrane and what has been your subsequent contribution to Cochrane's work (maximum 200 words)?

I first got involved with Cochrane in 2010 after attending the winter symposium at the South Asian Cochrane Network and Centre at Vellore, India .My age was 20 yrs then and I was pursuing my basic medical degree.

Following which my thirst for evidence in medicine increased and I attended several Cochrane workshops all over India .I started a Cochrane Club at my medical school and we searched for evidence for clinical scenarios which came our way or was asked for by practising clinicians

Subsequently, I tried my hand at generating evidence and authored/co-authored six Cochrane reviews with various Cochrane Groups as all the topics were of interest to me while pursuing my basic medical degree. While doing these I developed several skills ,enjoyed myself and made many friends as my co authors were from countries all over the world

Currently I am lead author for a review with the Schizophrenia Group . Having completed my basic medical degree I opted for Psychiatry as my specialization and wanted to generate evidence for my subject.

I have also been engaged in citation screening and full text assessment for the Modifiable Risk Factors in Dementia project under the *Cochrane Dementia* and Cognitive Improvement Group.

I have also authored Cochrane clinical answers for Wiley.

I have attended two Cochrane Colloquia and I am also translating Cochrane plain language summaries into Hindi.

2. What experience do you have serving as a member of a governing board, board of directors or similar? This might be within a non-for-profit or charitable organization, or a hospital or University. Please include the name(s) of the organization(s), the roles you played and other relevant information (maximum 200 words).

Not as a governing board member but I have worked as a member of the following charitable organizations in Bangalore India

1-Muktha foundation

2-Laughter Yoga International University

3. Acting as a Board member requires a collaborative approach to decision-making, setting aside personal opinions and group affiliations and acting in the best interests of the charity. Please describe how you would fulfil this obligation, using examples from previous committee or other work (maximum 200 words).

I have been and continue to be involved in clinical care and research work in teaching institutions. Although these are not charitable organizations both patient care and research require a collaborative team approach.

In my speciality of Psychiatry, I am now working at NIMHANS (National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences) which is the premier Institute of India as regards to Mental Health.

We have a team approach to patient care. The team consists of clinicians, nurses, psychologists and social worker I have been a leader as well as a team member.

In certain of our Units particularly those responsible for Adolescent and Geriatric Mental health we have a Problem based approach. A team having a psychiatrist, a psychiatric nurse, psychologist, a social worker and an occupational therapist work together to solve the problem I am working in several teams in various capacities such as leader, team member, scribe, time keeper etc. I have also worked as translator which has greatly enhanced my listening skills.

Our Institute does a lot of research in mental health. Here again I work with a team of statisticians, Lab technicians, radiologists, and undergraduates. Every paper \article that gets accepted for publication the result of team work.

4. What do you think would make you an effective member of the Board (maximum 200 words)?

Although I have not worked as a member of any Board or Governing body I believe that I have the capability of working as a team member in any such team

It would mean working as a member in a team which strongly believes in and is passionate about what the Cochrane Collaboration stands for. I believe I have the passion and the commitment to make me

an effective member

Together with the passion I believe as a result of my working with various teams I have the capability to fulfil my role as a team member. Listening, analysing and adapting are my strong points.

India has the second largest population in the world and an equally large medical fraternity who need to be made aware of evidence-based practice and those who are aware need the evidence made available to them easily, quickly and in a way that they understand. India being a developing nation many clinicians do not have access to the best evidenced intervention for their patients. In such cases “which among the available interventions” is best is what they need to know. Cochrane could focus on reviews needed for developing countries like India. This is another area where I could be effective as a team member.

### 5. What do you believe are the most important strategic challenges for Cochrane in 2019 (maximum 200 words)?

I believe the challenges for Cochrane in 2019 would be: first, the reaching out to people as not everyone has access to the internet. Next, keeping up with the rapidly expanding knowledge in the medical world and updating the information as soon as possible. Third would be to encourage more people to be a part of writing and updating evidence, especially consumers and patients.

### Questions 6-12: Specific Skills

To function optimally the Governing Board requires a range of experiences, knowledge and expertise amongst its membership. We cannot expect any single Governing Board member to have all the necessary skills and experience. We are looking for diversity.

**We do not expect you to answer “yes” to more than one or two of these questions.**

If you do answer “yes”, please provide at least one example which best demonstrates your experience or expertise. You may wish to include:

- A description of the situation and the context
- What you did
- What skills and knowledge you deployed
- The outcome and your personal contribution

### 6. Do you have experience of Charity Governance (in any charitable organization around the world)?

Yes or No? If Yes, please provide details and examples below (maximum 200 words).

No, I have no experience of governance but I have worked with charitable institutions in Bangalore.

**7. Do you have experience of Organizational Finance and Resource Management?**

Yes or No? If Yes, please provide details and examples below (maximum 200 words).

No

**8. Do you have experience of People Management (often called 'Human Resources' in English) and Organizational Development?**

Yes or No? If Yes, please provide details and examples below (maximum 200 words).

I have not worked as a human resource manager but as a team leader, I have coordinated work in medical and research teams which includes planning, organisation, staffing, leading, delegation and controlling of tasks. These I believe are the basic jobs of a human resource manager.

**9. Do you have experience of Consumer and Patient involvement in Evidence Production and Health Policy?**

Yes or No? If Yes, please provide details and examples below (maximum 200 words).

No, but I have interacted with patients taking their perspective as regards Cochrane. Several of my literate patients have now started looking up the Cochrane Library for many answers for themselves and their family members.

**10. Do you have experience of Advocating for Evidence?**

Yes or No? If Yes, please provide details and examples below (maximum 200 words).

I began by forming a Cochrane Club in my medical school KMC (Kasturba Medical College) Manipal and on Fridays we took up certain patient problems and searched for evidence. The club is still ongoing and medical undergraduates regularly search for evidence

I have organised several Cochrane workshops in medical colleges around my home institute

By writing clinical answers, I have helped translate Cochrane evidence into answers to specific queries that are often asked by practicing clinicians.

I am also involved in translations. Hindi is the language spoken in India and at my Institute level I help by translating evidence into Hindi

Earlier I had translated the findings of a Skin Group Review into Hindi and this was included as a podcast in the Cochrane Library.

**11. Do you have experience of Widening Access, Participation, Reach and Impact of Research?**

Yes or No? If Yes, please provide details and examples below (maximum 200 words).

I have helped to disseminate research as a member of various student journals during my undergraduate days.

I have also edited Wikipedia using research references so that the latest in the field of medicine is easily accessible to all users.

I have written Cochrane clinical answers to summarise evidence from Cochrane.

**12. Do you have experience of Fundraising & Development?**

Yes or No? If Yes, please provide details and examples below (maximum 200 words).

No

**13. Is there anything else you would like to say in support of your nomination (maximum 200 words)?**

My passion for Cochrane is my greatest strength. I have enjoyed writing and updating reviews. I am generating evidence as well as using it for patients as a clinician. I believe in bringing evidence generated through Cochrane to every person in my country and the world. I can persevere and continue to work whether it is reviews, clinical answers or other parts of Cochrane. I have been an enthusiastic participant in colloquia, conferences and workshops related to Cochrane for a long time and have made many friends and contacts through them.

During the Hyderabad Colloquium I was the youngest Cochrane member. I was asked to come on the dias and light a lamp. In India light and brightness represent the positive and the good. Light by its brightness dispels the dark and evidence in medicine dispels the uncertainties of health care. This is what the Cochrane Collaboration does and this is what I intend to carry forward through my association with the Collaboration.

## Declarations:

To be eligible to stand for election, candidates must confirm the following by putting a 'tick' (✓) or their initials in the boxes below:

### I hereby confirm that I:

1. Have accepted the <a href="#">Terms and Conditions of Cochrane Membership</a> and have been a Cochrane Member for at least 30 days prior to the close of voting in this election	✓
2. Have read the following guidance produced by the <a href="#">National Council for Voluntary Organisations</a> in the UK: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What is a charity</li><li>• What is a charity trustee</li><li>• What trustees must do</li><li>• How trustees look after the charity</li></ul>	✓
3. Accept the <a href="#">Governing Board Charter</a>	✓
4. Accept and will adhere to the <a href="#">Code of Conduct for Trustees</a>	✓
5. Have completed the Cochrane 'Declaration of Interest' Statement (Annex 1 of this document)	✓
6. Have completed the 'Trustee Eligibility Declaration' required by the <a href="#">UK Charity Commission for all Trustees</a> (Annex 2 of this document)	✓
<b>NAME: Sujoy Ray</b>	
<b>DATE: 12-11-2018</b>	

## Annex 1: Cochrane Declaration of Interest Statement

Candidates must make a declaration of conflict of interest, including financial or non-financial relationships with other organizations, professional relationships to other members of the Board, and other Boards she/he may sit on. In writing this statement, candidates should refer to Cochrane's [conflict of interest policy](#) and the [declarations of existing members of the Board](#).

Please answer the following questions:

<b>1. Financial interests</b>  <b>In the last three years, have you:</b>	<b>Yes/No (If yes, please provide details)</b>
a) Received research funding: any grant, contract or gift, commissioned research, or fellowship from Cochrane or a related organization (i.e. any organization related to health care or medical research) to conduct research?	No
b) Had paid consultancies: any paid work, consulting fees (in cash or kind) from a related organization?	No
c) Received honoraria: one-time payments (in cash or kind) from a related organization?	No
d) Served as a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee or held a position of management with a related organization?	No
e) Possessed share-holdings, stock, stock options, equity with a related organization (excludes mutual funds or similar arrangements where the individual has no control over the selection of the shares)?	No
f) Received personal gifts from a related organization?	No
g) Had an outstanding loan with a related organization?	No
h) Received royalty payments from a related organization?	No
<b>2. Do you have any other competing interests that could pose a conflict of interest that would reasonably appear to be related to the primary interest?</b>	No

## Annex 2: Trustee Eligibility Declaration

As required by the [UK Charity Commission](#)

Please tick or initial in the boxes below to confirm the following:

### I declare that I:

Am willing to act as a trustee of The Cochrane Collaboration	√
Understand Cochrane's purposes (objects) and rules set out in its <a href="#">Articles of Association</a>	√

<p>Am not prevented from acting as a trustee because I:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have an unspent conviction for one or more of the offences <a href="#">listed here</a></li> <li>• Have an Individual Voluntary Arrangement, debt relief order and/or a bankruptcy order</li> <li>• Have been removed as a trustee in England, Scotland or Wales (by the Charity Commission or Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator)</li> <li>• Have been removed from being in the management or control of any organization in Scotland (under relevant legislation)</li> <li>• Have been disqualified by the Charity Commission</li> <li>• Am a disqualified company director</li> <li>• Am a designated person for the purposes of anti-terrorism legislation</li> <li>• Am on the sex offenders register or equivalent in any country</li> <li>• Have been found in contempt of court for making (or causing to be made) a false statement</li> <li>• Have been found guilty of disobedience to an order or direction of the Charity Commission</li> </ul>	√
<p>Will provide true, complete and correct information to the Charity Commission if elected as a Board member</p>	√
<p>Understand that it's an offence under section 60(1)(b) of the Charities Act 2011 to knowingly or recklessly provide false or misleading information</p>	√
<p>Comply with my responsibilities as a trustee that are set out in the <a href="#">Charity Commission guidance 'The essential trustee (CC3)'</a></p>	√