



Governing Board Elected Member Candidate Statement

The Candidate Statement, your photograph and names of your nominators will be published on the Cochrane websites during the elections process, and the Candidate Statement and photograph will remain on the websites 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):	Sharifan
First name(s):	Amin
Today's date:	23/10/2021
Are you a current member of the Governing Board standing for re-election?	No
Will you be 30 years old or younger on 29 November 2021?	Yes

Questions 1-4: General experience and motivation

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 started cooperating with Cochrane as a translator for Cochrane Iran and I have been involved with Cochrane from August 2021. Since that time, I have worked with several teams of Cochrane through TaskExchange and Cochrane Crowd. I had the opportunity to categorize more than 8700 studies for Cochrane Crowd. I have translated several manuscripts from Farsi to English and peer reviewed a few articles through TaskExchange. I have also cooperated with Cochrane Iran by translating several Cochrane documents from English to Farsi. My membership status has already been extended to 5 years.
2. What experience do you have serving as a member of a governing board, board of directors, management group or similar? This might be within a non-for-profit or charitable organization, or a hospital or university. Please include the roles you played and other relevant information (maximum 200 words).

I am currently working as a PharmD pharmacist at the Department of Pharmaceutical Care, Sina Hospital, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran. I work with a team of experts in a medical reconciliation group. This requires evidence-based approach to optimize the administration of medicine and minimize errors of not getting the required agents. There are several meetings each week to discuss most important issues in this process and finding a solution for potential problems. Moreover, I am also conducting a systematic review and meta-analysis with a group of talented individuals on immunotherapies for melanoma. As the corresponding author, I have organized a protocol for this upcoming research which is currently submitted to PROSPERO.

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 organization as a whole. Please describe how you would fulfil this obligation, using examples from previous committee or other work (maximum 200 words).

Teamwork is my utmost desire. It is the sum of various ideas, solutions, opinions, knowledge, and talents of different individuals that ultimately shapes the notion of a remarkable, significant, and long-lasting work. I do not recall reading a pioneering article on the Cochrane, Lancet, New England Journal of Medicine, or Nature that had less than 5 authors. Therefore, I crave for a group of multidisciplinary experts and being a member of such groups is my goal on carrying out different tasks.

While conducting my PharmD thesis project, I was privileged to work with three professors, two from the toxicology department and one from the pharmacognosy department. This outstanding experience taught me how to manage meetings, obtain required materials to continue the work, and finally publish the results on the Toxicology Research periodical. Furthermore, designing the systematic review and meta-analysis on different immunotherapies for melanoma required finding suitable researchers, distributing appropriate tasks to each one of them based on their expertise, and combining the findings from everyone to form the final version of the protocol.

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

I am a hardworking, talented, punctual, and self-motivated person. Working as a governing member and as a team, we are determined to enhance health care and help those in need of medical care. As a pharmacist, I believe that evidence-based medical approach should be disseminated, and I am keen to promote this task. I crave for equal distribution of the most suitable healthcare services around the world, and I believe I can help this derive through contributing as a governing board at the Cochrane Collaboration. Cochrane is the leading force behind evidence-based approach to healthcare and I am eager to optimize this process as a governing

board member of this organisation. Furthermore, Cochrane is an international multi-cultural organisation with so many talented experts from around the globe and that is what I have conceived through working with several members, editors, and attending the Cochrane Conveners on 14/10/2021. Nevertheless, there are certain flaws and gaps regarding the evidence-based approach, and I think I will be a good candidate as a governing board member to fill these gaps and optimize this process by bridging the evidence-based findings to clinical practice already conducted in hospital settings.

Questions 5-11: Specific Skills

The Governing Board needs a range of experiences, knowledge and expertise amongst its membership. We do not 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 the questions below.

If you do answer “yes”, please provide at least one example which best demonstrates your skills or experience.

Desired skills and experience for this election:	Which means to you can:	Do you have skills and experience in this area? [YES/NO]	If YES, please provide an example:
5. Publishing and Open Access	Guide others through the complexities and opportunities for organizations in achieving Open Access to content and data	NO	
6. Fundraising and business development	Develop and implement opportunities for income generation, build organizational relationships and connections, access donor and partner networks	NO	
7. Digital product development	Guide user-centred design, development and delivery of new digital products, understand informatics and structured data	NO	
8. Financial management	Oversee an organization’s fiduciary, risk and audit duties, lead financial and investment planning	NO	
9. Advocacy	Act as an ambassador for an organization, influence and strengthen the commitment of public leaders or decision-makers to a cause, secure community support	NO	
10. Science communications or public relations	Build organizational brand and profile online and in person, lead crisis management, design	YES	Through passing a course from The John Hopkins University, I learned about crisis management and how

	<p>effective external and internal communications processes; OR</p> <p>Educate and raise awareness of science-related topics, design strategies for effectively communicating complex ideas to different audiences, or lead the transfer of knowledge into action</p>		<p>different tasks should be controlled in order to make through the crisis. While working as a Cochrane volunteer, I have introduced Cochrane to almost all my colleagues and they are curious to find more about this organization and how they can contribute. Moreover, I have worked with the eCOVID19 Plain Language Recommendations (PLR) team through Guidelines International Network (GIN) in which different guidelines were studied and the simplest interpretation of the guideline was adopted for the public and I had the role of “English Language Checker” and the Farsi translator to extend the readers of the PLRs to the Farsi language speakers. I also have talked with several board members of hospitals around Tehran (my hometown) in order to raise public awareness through providing the eCOVID19 PLRs in each hospital.</p>
11. Making organizations more diverse and equitable	<p>Guide equity, diversity and inclusion assessments and target-setting or provide lived experience of addressing issues of inequality</p>	NO	

12. Anything else you’d like to say in support of your nomination (maximum 200 words)?

The Cochrane Collaboration is leading the evidence-based approach in the health care settings. I know that as a governing board, I will represent the organization itself and if the majority of the opinions are against mine, I should go with the flow, respect others’ decisions, and accept what the best interest of Cochrane is. Moreover, participating in each meeting is vital and I am ready to appropriately attend them and share constructive thoughts with others. I believe that as a young and highly self-motivated individual, I can lead this organization as a governing member through science communications or public relations. I also support diversity through the working environment and what extends my motivation is the fact that Cochrane has leaders all around the globe, which is both inspiring and encouraging. Through this task, while working as a team, we will be able to spread the evidence-based approach and make the public, decision makers, and health care workers aware of this fact.

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 Terms and Conditions of Cochrane Membership 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 National Council for Voluntary Organisations in the UK: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is a charity• What is a charity trustee?• What trustees must do• How trustees look after the charity	✓
3. Accept the Governing Board Charter	✓
4. Accept and will adhere to the Code of Conduct for Trustees	✓
5. Have completed the Cochrane 'Declaration of Interest' Statement (Annex 1 of this document)	✓
6. Have completed the 'Trustee Eligibility Declaration' required by the UK Charity Commission for all Trustees (Annex 2 of this document)	✓
NAME: Amin Sharifan	
DATE: 23.10.2021	

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](#) (for Cochrane Groups) and the [declarations of existing members of the Board](#).

Please answer the following questions:

1. Financial interests	YES/NO (If YES, please provide details)
In the last three years, have you:	
a) Received 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?	YES. I received a grant from my university (i.e., Isfahan University of Medical Sciences, Isfahan, Iran) in order to carry out my PharmD thesis project.
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 shareholdings, 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
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?	I declare no conflict of interests.

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