

# TELL US YOUR VIEWS!

**We want to give you a seat at the table, to make sure we fund research relevant to people affected by diabetes. If this sounds of interest, you may want to join our Diabetes Research Steering Groups or Grants Advisory Panel.**

## **Diabetes Research Steering Groups**

The [Diabetes Research Steering Groups \(DRSGs\)](#) aim to influence research making sure that it focuses on what's most important to people living with or at risk of diabetes. As part of the groups, you'll work with researchers and healthcare professionals to find where there are gaps in diabetes research and help decide what we should focus on. Your ideas will guide what research we fund, encourage others to focus on these key areas, and make sure the voices of people with diabetes are heard by the research community. With seven groups each focusing on different aspects of diabetes research, we welcome your input, no matter what your experience with diabetes is.

## **Grants Advisory Panel**

Our [Grants Advisory Panel](#) helps to improve the lives of people living with or at risk of diabetes by influencing the research funded by Diabetes UK. The Panel, completely made up of people living with diabetes or their parents/carers, reviews and scores all research grant applications. Their voices ensure that we're funding research that would make the biggest difference to people affected by diabetes.

## **Who we want to hear from**

We know that your ethnicity can have an impact on your risk of developing type 2 diabetes. People from Black African, African Caribbean and South Asian (Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi) backgrounds are at a higher risk of developing type 2 diabetes from a younger age.

There is a disproportionately higher number of people living with diabetes from ethnically diverse communities and those in deprivation. We know that due to long-standing inequalities, people from ethnic minority populations continue to experience poorer care and outcomes and suffer from inequalities that impact their quality of life.

It is important to us that our Groups and Panels represent the diversity of people living with or affected by diabetes. Currently we are looking to recruit people for our Groups/Panels to help us improve the representation of:

- people from Black, Black British, Caribbean or African backgrounds
- people from Asian or Asian British (for example Indian, Pakistani, Chinese) backgrounds
- people from Arab (for example Egyptian, Moroccan, Saudi Arabian) backgrounds

## What Diabetes UK can offer you

In return for volunteering your valuable time and sharing ideas, Diabetes UK will provide you with:

- An induction on your role and additional support, as required.
- An opportunity to develop your knowledge of diabetes, learn about the research funding process and contribute to important funding decisions
- An opportunity to be involved in other research activities, e.g. workshops and events
- Reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses incurred while carrying out activities for Diabetes UK, e.g. travel, lunch and accommodation if required.

## Additional information

Membership of GAP and the DRSGs is usually a 3-year term. However, we are open to a more flexible time commitment if requested.

If you are an existing member of one of our Groups or Panels, we would not expect you to apply for any other membership. However, if your membership is approaching the end of your term and you are interested in applying for another role, please let us know.

## Timeline for recruitment

The deadline for submitting an application is **31st October 2024**. The timeline may be extended if we do not receive enough applications. If shortlisted, applicants will be invited to have an informal conversation with a member of the Research Team in **November 2024**. Final decisions will be made in **December 2024**. All new volunteers will be invited to attend an Induction Day at the end of **January/beginning of February 2025**.

## How to apply

If you are interested in applying, please complete the application form [here](#).

You can find out more about volunteering for one of our groups on our “[Tell us your views](#)” page.

If you have any queries, please contact us at [research@diabetes.org.uk](mailto:research@diabetes.org.uk).