

# Real Life™

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**CIRM**  
CALIFORNIA'S STEM CELL AGENCY

## CIRM Medical and Ethical Standards Working Group (SWG)

- Brief overview of SWG bylaws
- Brief overview of Non-ICOC Conflict of Interest

The duties of the SWG shall include the following:

- (a)** Recommend to the ICOC scientific, medical and ethical standards and modifications to existing standards;
- (b)** Recommend to the ICOC standards for all medical, socioeconomic, diversity, and financial aspects of clinical trials and therapy development and delivery to patients, including among others, standards for equitable access to therapies and safe and ethical procedures for obtaining materials and cells for research and clinical efforts for the appropriate treatment of human subjects in medical research consistent with paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 125290.35, and to ensure compliance with patient privacy laws.
- (c)** Make recommendations to the ICOC on the oversight of funded research to ensure compliance with the standards above;
- (d)** Regularly advise the ICOC, the Scientific and Medical Research Funding Working Group, and the Scientific and Medical Research Facilities Working Group on relevant ethical and regulatory issues.

## SWG bylaws specifies Co-Chair requirement:

The ICOC shall appoint a Patient Advocate Member of the SWG to serve as Co-Chair of the SWG. In addition, the ICOC shall appoint a Scientist/Clinician Member or an Ethicist Member of the SWG to serve as Co- Chair.

The SWG shall meet in public session except for discussions related to matters involving patient privacy or the review of a complaint regarding an investigator's or institution's compliance with medical or ethical standards adopted by the ICOC, and discussion of other matters that may be considered in closed session under the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act or under Health & Safety Code section 125290.30.

Sixty-five percent of the SWG members who are eligible to vote shall constitute a quorum of the SWG. All actions of the SWG shall be taken by a majority vote of a quorum of members.

Non-ICOC Members of the Standards Working Group are precluded from deriving direct financial benefit from the CIRM through grants, loans or contracts and from acting as a Principal Investigator on any CIRM-funded grant.

A conflict of interest exists when there is a financial or other interest that significantly impairs the individual's objectivity or that creates an unfair advantage for any person, institution or company. A non-ICOC member has a conflict of interest when any financial interest identified in subdivision (b) of this regulation is the subject of a decision before the working group

b) Disclosure: A non-ICOC working group member has a financial interest in and must disclose confidentially and under penalty of perjury the following:

(1) All California-based academic or non-profit research institutions from which Standard Working Group members, their spouses, or others with whom a member has a common financial interest, receive current income of \$5,000 or more;

(2) All biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies from which members, their spouses, or others with whom a member has a common financial interest, receive current income or other benefit or investments of \$5,000 or more; and

(3) All real property interests in California of \$5,000 or more (including real estate interests and interests in intellectual property such as patents and copyrights) held by members, their spouses, or others with whom a member has a common financial interest