



## 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.

Please submit this Elected Member Candidate Statement in Word format by **Friday 24 November 2023**. It should be shared beforehand with your two nominators.

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Family name (surname):  | <b>Raina</b>    |
| First name(s):  | <b>Rupesh</b>   |
| Today's date:   | <b>11/23/23</b> |
| Are you a current member of the Governing Board standing for re-election? | <b>[Yes/No]</b> |

### Questions 1-4: General experience and motivation

1. What experience do you have of serving as a trustee, member of a governing board, board of directors, management group or similar? (maximum 200 words).

I bring a wealth of experience from my diverse professional backgrounds, which have allowed me to serve in various key roles on national and international governing boards, board of directors, and as a trustee. As a Fellow of the NKF since 2017 and a member since 2009, I have actively participated in my local NKF chapter serving Northern Ohio. I have developed the qualities of a creative and innovative leader while serving on the National Board of Directors and Medical Advisory Board. I currently serve on the Board of Directors for AIPNO (All Indian Physicians of North Ohio), where I contributed to promoting excellence in the practice of medicine and supporting efforts to improve the accessibility of high-quality health care to under-served populations in our local community and in India. I also am on the Board of Trustees for FICA (Federation of India Community Associations of Northeast Ohio). Other notable experiences include serving on the IPRO Board of Directors, End Stage Renal Disease Divisional Board member, and Chairing the Medical Review Board and Network Council.

**2. How have you contributed to Cochrane's work?**  
(maximum 200 words)

I have contributed to Cochrane's work by publishing several peer-reviewed articles to inform healthcare decision-making in pediatric and adult kidney diseases and acute kidney injury. Most recently, I have published a systematic review and meta-analysis through the Cochrane review, studying the benefits and harms of all pharmacological interventions except dialysis for the prevention and treatment of AKI.

Bhatt GC, Esezobor CI, **Raina R**, Hodson EM, Das RR. Interventions for preventing and treating acute kidney injury in children. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2022, Issue 11. Art. No.: CD015296. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD015296. Accessed 25 November 2023.

**3. Trustees are required to act only in the best interest of the charity and make decision collectively. Members of the Governing Board take a collaborative approach to decision-making and must set aside personal opinions and group affiliations. Please describe how you would fulfil this obligation, using examples.**  
(maximum 200 words).

As an experienced adult and pediatric nephrologist who has served on multiple governing boards, I have consistently prioritized organizational goals over personal opinions or committee affiliations. In my medical practice, patient-centric decision-making ensures that the patient's best interest drives every action. I plan to continue to utilize this philosophy to guide my approach while serving as a Cochrane Governing Board trustee. This theme has translated seamlessly to my responsibilities in various governing boards, where the charity's mission and goals always took precedence. For instance, while serving on the National Kidney Foundation's board of directors, I encountered situations where my professional insights as a nephrologist were invaluable. However, I always ensured that my contributions were aligned with the foundation's objectives rather than personal biases from practice. Similarly, I worked alongside professionals from varied backgrounds as Chair of the Medical Advisory Council. Our collaborative approach ensured that decisions were made collectively, reflecting the board's shared vision rather than individual viewpoints. I would continue to adhere to these principles in the Cochrane Governing Board. My decisions would be informed by a collective understanding of the charity's best interests, creating a collaborative environment that respects

and integrates diverse perspectives for the greater good.

- 4. What skills, experience and qualities do you have to enable you to serve as an effective member of the Cochrane Governing Board?  
(maximum 200 words)**

As an experienced adult and pediatric nephrologist with a substantial history of serving on various governing boards, I possess a unique blend of clinical expertise, strategic oversight, and collaborative leadership skills that align closely with the objectives of the Cochrane Governing Board. I am committed to expanding accessibility and education toward high-quality, evidence-based medicine. My clinical expertise and experience in research and developing clinical practice guidelines directly support Cochrane’s mission of providing high-quality evidence for advancing clinical decision-making. Furthermore, my strong interpersonal skills and ability to work effectively in multidisciplinary teams make me an ideal candidate for the Cochrane Governing Board. I excel at collaborating with diverse groups and creating a culture of collective learning and decision-making to improve patient outcomes. I am deeply committed to Cochrane’s vision of better health for all, informed by high-quality evidence. My dedication to research and clinical practice and open-minded approach equip me to contribute and actively lead Cochrane’s collaborative initiatives to shape the future of health care.

## Specific Skills

These are the essential skills, knowledge and experience that the Board needs from its members collectively. We do not expect any single Governing Board member to have all the skills and experience listed below.

The Governing Board is committed to improving the organizations' approach to equity, diversity and inclusion. It recognises that having members with a broad mix of skills and knowledge as well as a range of perspectives and lived experiences will help the Board to be innovative, flexible, better able to adapt to a changing environment and address future challenges.

| 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: |
|--|---|--|------------------------------------|
| <b>Leadership of global and/or complex organizations</b> | Develop and evaluate organizational strategy, lead multicultural teams and engage diverse groups of stakeholders  | Yes  |                                    |
| <b>Making organizations more diverse and equitable</b>   | Guide equity, diversity and inclusion assessments and target-setting or provide lived experience of addressing issues of inequality                         | Yes  |                                    |
| <b>Organizational change management</b>                  | Articulate and guide organizational change, and motivate people to support change   | Yes  |                                    |
| <b>Fundraising and business development</b>              | Develop and implement opportunities for income generation, build organizational relationships and connections, access donor and partner networks            | Yes  |                                    |
| <b>Advocacy</b>  | Act as an ambassador for an organization, influence and strengthen the commitment of public leaders or decision-makers to a cause, secure community support | Yes  |                                    |
| <b>Public relations and communications</b>               | Build organizational brand and profile online and in person, lead crisis management, design effective external and internal communications processes        |  |                                    |
| <b>Financial management and accounting</b>               | Oversee an organization's fiduciary, risk and audit duties, lead financial and investment planning  |  |                                    |

|  |   |     |  |
|--|---|-----|--|
| <b>Digital product development</b>                           | Guide user-centred design, development and delivery of new digital products, understand informatics and structured data | Yes |  |
| <b>Publishing and Open Access</b>                            | Guide others through the complexities and opportunities for organizations in achieving Open Access to content and data  | Yes |  |
| <b>Evidence synthesis and evidence-based decision-making</b> | Understand Cochrane's core business holistically  | Yes |  |

**5. Any other information you would like to add to support your nomination (maximum 200 words)?**

## 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 | RR |
| 2. Have read the following guidance from the Charity Commission <a href="#">The essential trustee: what you need to know, what you need to do</a>                                   | RR |
| 3. Accept the <a href="#">Governing Board Charter</a>   | RR |
| 4. Accept and will adhere to the <a href="#">Code of Conduct for Trustees</a>   | RR |
| 5. Have completed the Cochrane 'Declaration of Interest' Statement (Annex 1 of this document)   | RR |
| 6. Have completed the 'Trustee Eligibility Declaration' required by the <a href="#">UK Charity Commission for all Trustees</a> (Annex 2 of this document)                           | RR |
| <b>NAME: Rupesh Raina</b>   |    |
| <b>DATE: 11/23/23</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](#) (for Cochrane Groups) and the [declarations of existing members of the Board](#).

Please answer the following questions:

| <b>1. Financial interests</b><br><br><b>In the last three years, have you:</b>  | <b>YES/NO (If YES, please provide details)</b> |
|---|--|
| 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? | 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 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   |
| <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   | RR |
| Understand Cochrane’s purposes (objects) and rules set out in its <a href="#">Articles of Association</a>  | RR |
| Am not prevented from acting as a trustee because I: <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> | RR |
| Will provide true, complete and correct information to the Charity Commission if elected as a Board member   | RR |
| 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   | RR |
| Comply with my responsibilities as a trustee that are set out in the <a href="#">Charity Commission guidance ‘The essential trustee (CC3)’</a>   | RR |



