



Royal
Osteoporosis
Society

Better bone health for everybody

Apply now to become a lay member (volunteer) of the ROS Research and Innovation Grants Assessment Panel

Join our Research and Innovation Grants Assessment Panel to help the charity fund the most impactful research and innovation projects for people affected by osteoporosis.

The ROS (formerly the National Osteoporosis Society) has invested over £6 million in more than 140 research projects. The charity is a proud member of the [Association of Medical Research Charities \(AMRC\)](#). Our grants programme and RIGAP are governed in line with AMRC principles and in the [2020 AMRC Peer Review Audit](#) we were awarded a certificate in 'best practice in medical and health research peer review'.

"I have been inspired and enthused by the dedication of the scientists who are involved in osteoporosis research. It's been a privilege to be invited to share our views as patients on issues that are important to people who are living with the condition"

RIGAP lay member

Responsible for overseeing the charity's [Research Grants Programme](#), the Research and Innovation Grants Assessment Panel (RIGAP) makes recommendations to the Board of Trustees on the allocation of research and innovation funding in line with the charity's four-year strategy [Breaking the Silence](#), which is focused on helping to close the osteoporosis care gap and reduce health inequalities.

Alongside clinical members, the RIGAP includes lay members (volunteers), who represent people affected by osteoporosis through their personal knowledge and experience of the condition. With this unique and valuable perspective, lay members play a vital role in the review process, answering questions not often addressed by researchers and clinicians. These include:

- Is the research question important and beneficial to people affected by osteoporosis?
- Does the proposal include a clear public and patient involvement plan? Did the researchers seek the advice of people affected by osteoporosis when they planned their research?
- Would participants be willing to take part in the project?
- Is the project lay summary clear and easy to understand?

We are currently looking to recruit two additional lay members to complement the current panel.

If you're looking for an opportunity to use your personal experience to make a difference and help change lives through breakthroughs in osteoporosis research, we'd love to hear from you.

To find out more about the role please refer to the *RIGAP Terms of Reference*, *RIGAP Code of Conduct*, *ROS Grants Assessment Process* and *RIGAP lay member role description* documents.

RIGAP members will be required to attend an average of four virtual meetings per year, and review and score research grant applications. The position of RIGAP member is offered on a voluntary and unpaid basis, but any travel and subsistence expenses will be reimbursed in line with ROS policy.

How to apply

Please send a completed application form to Dr Caroline Sangan, Research Manager, Royal Osteoporosis Society, caroline.sangan@theros.org.uk.

The application deadline is **Monday 30 January 2023**.