



Patron
The Archbishop of York

CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JOB DESCRIPTION

Antibiotic Research UK is the world's first charity dedicated to tackle the increasing problem of bacterial antibiotic resistance – a problem that could reach epidemic proportions unless we act now. Our vision is to save millions of lives through integrating our various activities which are focussed on researching new antibiotic treatments, informed by patients affected by a drug resistant infection.

Estimates of the global scale of deaths from resistance suggest that 700,000 people die each year. The UK death toll from antibiotic resistance is reported to be 5,000 people per annum but this is likely to be an underestimate. Antibiotics underpin much of modern medicine; there is a danger that with the rise in resistance many common treatment procedures will become more risky or impossible. Certain patient groups are critically dependent on effective antibiotics including patients with cystic fibrosis, cancer, asthma, and diabetes and those undergoing organ transplantation.

The Role:

The Chair of the Board of Trustees is critically important to the success of the Charity. We are looking for an enthusiastic individual with an interest in the future of medicine to take on this important role as we take the next steps in our mission to save lives.

The role of Chair is unremunerated and is estimated to require approximately two days per month of a person's time. S/he will chair the Board of Trustees meetings; ensure these are held at least three times every year, at regular intervals, and liaise regularly with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to provide a sounding board, advice and support.

In addition to their role as Chair of the Board of Trustees the person appointed will;

- be expected to spend time externally acting as a spokesperson and figurehead
- be willing to utilise, where appropriate, their network to assist the charity to meet its objectives

This position arises as the current Chair retired at the Charity's AGM in October 2019 after having served in this position since the charity was formed in 2014.

Experience and attributes:

The Charity is seeking an individual who is will:

- have good knowledge of the problem of drug-resistant infection and be well connected with those leading the field nationally and internationally
- be able to show evidence of campaigning skills and be passionate about the charity





- be able to demonstrate evidence of team building and people skills
- have senior management/leadership experience with emphasis on strategy, governance, finance, HR, or fundraising
- have previous experience as a Chair, Non-Executive Director or Trustee.



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Further details

Further details of the role are provided below.

The Chair:

The Chair will:

- Provide leadership and direction to the Board of Trustees enabling the Board to fulfil their responsibilities for the overall governance and strategic direction of the Charity to enable it to fulfil its purpose.
- Work with the CEO and Trustees to agree the Charity's strategic objectives, ensuring that all work programmes tie into the strategic direction of the charity
- Undertake the annual review of the CEO, in consultation with other Trustees.
- Ensure that the Charity pursues its objects as defined in its governing document, and charity law, and complies with other relevant legislation/regulations.
- Ensure that an effective relationship is in place between:
 - the Board of Trustees, and any sub-committees and staff
 - the Board of Trustees and the external stakeholders/community including volunteers
- Lead the Board of Trustees in fostering relations with existing and potential partners, professional bodies and associations, donors and supporters.
- Ensure the Board of Trustees demonstrates the highest standards of corporate governance
- Ensure the expertise of individual Trustees is used appropriately for the benefit of the charity
- Review the performance of individual Trustees and ensure all Trustees are fully briefed on the terms of their appointment and on their rights, duties and responsibilities
- Ensure that Trustees understand their responsibility by being prepared for meetings by having considered all papers in advance
- Review membership of the Board of Trustees every year
- Ensure that the Board of Trustees maintains an appropriate range of complementary skills and experience
- Agree the Charity's strategic objectives

The Chair ensures that the Board of Trustees functions effectively by:

- Chairing Board of |Trustee meetings effectively, seeking consensus, balancing the need for full debate on key questions with the despatch of business, and reaching clear and agreed decisions
- Liaising with the Board of Trustees, and encouraging participation from all Trustees.
- Taking an active role in the creation and maintenance of a long-term plan to develop the Board of Trustees
- Encouraging Trustees to constructively challenge the strategy and direction of the Charity

S/he will ensure that the Charity plans strategically by:

- Leading the Trustees to develop, appraise and update strategic plans and monitor performance against such plans
- Ensuring, through the Chief Executive, that management effort is effectively directed within a framework of clearly stated corporate strategies and key tasks

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Applicant's background

We are looking for a Chair to add to the talented team that makes up our Board of Trustees. We are particularly interested in people with a background in one or more of the following; law, finance, commerce, healthcare, pharmaceuticals, policy and public affairs. The candidate should understand the role that technology is playing in transforming everything that we do. Above all we want people with the credibility and passion to make a difference. We are a national Charity and our current Trustees reflect this through their geographic spread. Details of our current Trustees can be found here - <https://www.antibioticresearch.org.uk/who-we-are/board-of-trustees/>

Suggested personal attributes:

The successful applicant will:

- Be willing to lead the Charity,
- Have an active interest and commitment to the work of the Charity and a desire to effect positive change in the treatment of drug resistant infections.
- Be willing to devote time to carry out responsibilities.
- Understand and accept the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of Trusteeship with adherence to Nolan's seven principles of public life: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.
- Have persuasive skills and use tact and diplomacy to challenge and constructively criticise others.
- Possess relevant knowledge and commit to regular training and development to support the role as needed.
- Have the relevant skills to run a meeting well, ensuring decisions are taken in a timely fashion with all stakeholders fully involved.
- Commit to supporting all Trustees to ensure they are operating effectively individually and as a Board.
- Have good communication and interpersonal skills and the ability to respect the confidences of colleagues.

If you would like to apply for this role please email the following documents to colin.garner@antibioticresearch.org.uk marking the subject as CHAIR OF TRUSTEES APPLICATION:

- An up-to-date CV; and
- A covering letter outlining, with examples, how you meet the role and person specification criteria

If you would like to have an informal discussion about the role, please do contact Colin Garner, Antibiotic Research UK CEO, at colin.garner@antibioticresearch.org.uk to arrange a convenient time to discuss.

Closing date for applications: Friday 3 April 2020

Interviews for shortlisted candidates will be held in central London. The interview will be an opportunity to meet some current Trustees and the CEO.