

Job Description



Co-Chair for Patients, Relatives and Public Engagement

The opportunity

[The Intensive Care Society \(ICS\)](#) is the heart of the UK's intensive care community, bringing together doctors, nurses, psychologists, pharmacists, and allied health professionals who dedicate themselves to saving and transforming lives. Our mission is to foster groundbreaking research, elevate care standards, and deliver the best outcomes for patients and their families.

We are seeking a member of the Intensive Care Society to take on the role of Co-Chair for Patients, Relatives and Public Engagement. This is a critical time for the Society with our core principle to embed public and patient involvement across all our activities, championing lived experiences and bringing together patients and professionals to improve care. As Co-Chair, you will be shaping and developing a new era of engagement that embeds lived experience into all of our activities.

The role

The Co-Chair provides strategic leadership ensuring the perspectives of patients and their loved ones are a driver for Society's activities. Working alongside a Lay Co-Chair with lived experience, you will help steer a diverse group of lay members and clinicians to shape the Society's future initiatives. You will refine how the Society embeds public and patient involvement across all workstreams, bridging professional expertise with lived experience to transform the landscape of intensive care.

Key responsibilities

1. Strategic Leadership

- Shape our Patient, Relatives and Public Engagement Advisory Group and its activities, helping to define its goals and influence within the Society.
- Act as a senior voice for ICS ensuring that we are the voice for our multi-professional community, patients and their loved ones.
- Help us develop new strategies to reach underserved communities, ensuring we identify and address barriers to equitable care.

2. Advocacy and Engagement

- You will work with the Senior Management Team to shape ICS advocacy, standards, clinical guidelines, educational content and SOA congress to ensure they are accessible and relevant to the public.
- You will contribute to the Society's communication strategy, ensuring that patients and their loved ones are actively involved in producing content that is relevant to and engaging for patients and their families.
- You will lead the effort to develop compelling and human-centred narratives that can be used for public awareness, fundraising or policy campaigns.

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3. Governance and Facilitation

- You will help guide a review of the effectiveness of the Patient, Relatives and Public Engagement Advisory Group shaping any recommendations on how its structure and operations may evolve.
- You will chair quarterly virtual meetings, ensuring that patients and their families feel empowered to contribute as equal partners.
- You will act as a key liaison between the Group and the Council, ensuring that the Group's insights directly influence the activities of ICS.

Person specification

- Current member of the Intensive Care Society in good standing.
- Experience in a leadership or advisory role, with the ability to look beyond individual experiences to consider systemic changes and future service provision.
- Proven experience of using the patient voice to drive change. You understand how to take personal experiences and translate them into evidence that influences policy and professional practice.
- Demonstrated ability to identify, recruit, meaningfully engage with a diverse range of patient and relative voices, proactively reaching beyond the most easily accessible or highly engaged groups.
- A strong understanding of safeguarding principles and trauma-informed care, with proven experience in supporting vulnerable individuals to safely share their lived experiences without risk of re-traumatisation.
- Collaborative leader who can facilitate complex discussions with empathy, balancing clinical expertise with lived experience.
- A demonstrable commitment to health equity and an understanding of the challenges faced by marginalised groups within the healthcare system.

We are committed to an inclusive recruitment process and actively encourage applications from individuals whose backgrounds, identities, and perspectives are currently under-represented in healthcare leadership.

Terms of appointment

- **Term of Office:** Two years, with the eligibility for re-election for one further two-year term.
- **Time Commitment:** Attendance at four virtual meetings per year, plus occasional preparation time for Council briefings or specific project reviews (approximately 2–4 hours per month).
- **Remuneration:** This is a voluntary role. All reasonable expenses (travel, etc.) will be reimbursed in accordance with the ICS Expenses Policy.

Please fill the nomination form, outlining why you would like to take on this important role and how you meet the role criteria by 29 May, 9am

[Co-Chair Nomination Form: Patients, Relatives and Public Engagement – Fill out form](#)

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