

International Society of Organoid Research
Accreditation Board (ISoOR-AB)

Impartiality Policy

Approved by: ISoOR-AB Governing Board

Effective Date: September 10, 2025

Next Review Date: September 10, 2026

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1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all activities of the International Society of Organoid Research – Accreditation Board (ISoOR-AB) are conducted with impartiality, independence, and integrity, in compliance with ISO/IEC 17011 and industry best practices.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- ISoOR-AB Governing Board members
- Accreditation Decision Committee members
- Technical Advisory Committee members
- All ISoOR-AB staff and contractors involved in accreditation activities

3. Principles of Impartiality

ISoOR-AB commits to:

- Avoid conflicts of interest in all accreditation activities.
- Ensure independence from commercial, financial, or other pressures that could compromise decisions.
- Base all accreditation decisions solely on objective evidence of compliance with applicable standards.

4. Structural Independence

- ISoOR-AB operates as a separate functional unit within ISoOR.
- Governance, decision-making, and operational accreditation functions are independent from ISoOR's commercial activities (e.g., training, consulting, product sales).
- Accreditation decisions are not influenced by ISoOR membership status, financial contributions, or external relationships.

5. Conflict of Interest Management

5.1 Identification

All individuals involved in accreditation must declare any potential conflict of interest before appointment and annually thereafter. Conflicts may include:

- Employment with, or consultancy for, an organization being accredited.
- Financial interest in an applicant or accredited organization.
- Family or close personal relationships with personnel from the organization.

5.2 Mitigation

- Individuals with a conflict must recuse themselves from discussions, evaluations, or decisions related to the relevant organization.
- Recusals will be recorded in the official meeting minutes.

6. Committee Membership

- ISoOR members may serve on ISoOR-AB committees only if impartiality can be maintained and conflicts are managed.
- Committee composition will ensure balanced representation, avoiding dominance by any single interest group.
- Decisions are made by collective agreement, never by a single individual.

7. Accreditation Decision Process

- Evaluation reports are reviewed by the Accreditation Decision Committee.
- Decisions are made solely based on compliance evidence against applicable standards.
- Staff engaged in business development, marketing, or consulting are prohibited from participating in accreditation decisions.

8. Impartiality Oversight

The Governing Board will appoint an Impartiality Oversight Committee to:

- Monitor impartiality risks.
- Review conflict-of-interest declarations.
- Conduct annual impartiality audits.

9. Confidentiality

All personnel must maintain strict confidentiality regarding proprietary information obtained during the accreditation process, except where disclosure is required by law.

10. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Governing Board and updated to reflect changes in ISO/IEC 17011, regulatory requirements, or organizational structure.