

ESHRE PGD CONSORTIUM STATUTES

1. NAME AND CONSTITUTION

The PGD Consortium of the European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology comprises a group of expert members in Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis and Screening whose activities take place under the auspices of the Reproductive Genetics Special Interest Group (SIG). In this document, the term PGD will include also PGS.

2. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Specific aims of the PGD Consortium are:

- 2.1. To collect prospectively and retrospectively data on the accuracy, reliability, effectiveness and safety of PGD.
- 2.2. To survey the availability of PGD for different conditions facilitating cross referral of patients.
- 2.3. To establish minimal standards and to promote best practice.
- 2.4. To ensure the exchange of views/ideas and to network with other members of the PGD Consortium.

3. MEMBERSHIP

3.1. Full members

- 3.1.1. Full members are centres that actively report anonymous but otherwise full information on all aspects of PGD including stimulation and oocyte retrieval information, full embryology information, as well as all data on PGD testing, embryo transfer, pregnancy and long-term follow-up data.
- 3.1.2. All full members shall have access to the anonymised database via their data managers, who are appointed as such by their centre and should be paid-up members of ESHRE.
- 3.1.3. All correspondence between the PGD Consortium and the centres will be via the data-managers.
- 3.1.4. Each full member centre shall have one vote in any PGD Consortium ballot.

3.2. Affiliate members

Affiliate members are either the centres (laboratories) that perform the genetic/chromosomal analysis, or the assisted reproductive centres performing the cycles and embryo biopsy; they do not have direct access to all aspects of the PGD cycles that they perform.

- 3.2.1** Affiliate members report data on the aspect to the PGD cycles they have performed; centres involved in collaborations for PGD cycles will ensure (to the best of their ability) that data submitted to the PGD consortium will not be duplicated.
- 3.2.2** All Affiliate members shall have access to the anonymised database via their data-managers, who are appointed as such by their centre and should be paid up members of ESHRE.
- 3.2.3** All correspondence between the PGD Consortium and the centres will be via the data-managers.
- 3.2.4** Each Affiliate member centre shall have half a vote in any PGD Consortium ballot.

3.3. Observers (Non-voting)

Observers include centres involved in PGD that do not submit data (full or partial). They include PGD centres and IVF centres that do not send in full-data or partial-data to the consortium.

- 3.3.1.** Observers shall not have the right to vote in any PGD Consortium ballot.

3.4. Restriction of membership types

Each Full Member centre receives one vote and Affiliate member half a vote in all PGD Consortium matters.

4. OFFICERS

- 4.1.** The PGD Consortium shall have the following elected officers, who shall form the Steering Committee: a Chair, a Chair-elect and 3 members, whereby three of these five members shall be from full member centres. In addition the Steering Committee will include the Past Chair, the ESHRE Science Manager, the Coordinator of the Reproductive Genetics SIG, and an ESHRE Executive Committee Liaison Officer.
- 4.2.** As far as practicable the Steering Committee shall maintain a representation of specialists involved in all aspects of PGD and coming from different European countries.
- 4.3.** The Past Chair, the ESHRE Science Manager, the Coordinator of the Reproductive Genetics SIG and the ESHRE Executive Committee Liaison Officer shall not have Steering Committee voting rights or be entitled to be elected as Chair or Chair-elect.
- 4.4.** The names of the Chair, the Chair-elect and the members of the Steering Committee will be proposed by the Steering Committee and ratified by the Executive Committee of ESHRE.

4.5. The Chair

- 4.5.1.** The Steering Committee shall propose the name of the Chair, who will be ratified by the Executive Committee. At the end of his/her mandate, the Chair is automatically succeeded by the Chair-elect.
- 4.5.2.** The Chair shall hold office for two years and stay on for two years in the advisory position of Past Chair without the right to vote.

4.6. The Chair-elect

The Steering Committee shall propose the name of the Chair-elect, who will be ratified by the Executive Committee.

4.7. The Executive Committee Liaison Officer

The Executive Committee Liaison Officer will be appointed by the Executive Committee of ESHRE and will ensure that all decisions taken by the Steering Committee are reported back to the Executive Committee of ESHRE.

4.8. The Steering Committee

- 4.8.1.** Every candidate for the Steering Committee shall be an individual paid-up member of ESHRE and from a centre with full or affiliated PGD membership of the Consortium **that has submitted data for at least two consecutive** years.
- 4.8.2.** There shall not be more than one Steering Committee member from any PGD Consortium full or affiliated member centre.
- 4.8.3.** Candidates for the Steering Committee shall be nominated in writing to the Chair and elected by a secret “yes/no” ballot via e-mail to the ESHRE central office, of PGD centres with full or affiliated PGD membership. All candidates will be ratified by the Executive Committee of ESHRE. Steering committee members representing full and Affiliate member centres will stay in post for two years and can be eligible for a second mandate.
- 4.8.4.** Candidates for the Steering Committee must declare any financial or other potential conflicts of interest at the time of nomination, or at any subsequent time if their circumstances change.
- 4.8.5. Activities reporting**
 - 4.8.5.1.** Each member of the Steering Committee will report to the Chair of the PGD Consortium and to the chair of the SIG Reproductive Genetics, who in turn will report back to the Chair of ESHRE.
 - 4.8.5.2.** The reporting of activities will be used to determine whether each member of the Steering Committee is meeting their individual responsibilities.

4.9. Other Representatives

The Steering Committee and the Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt additional members to help the Steering Committee or to represent the PGD Consortium to other bodies with whom the PGD Consortium may have common interests or for the discussion of special issues.

5. STEERING COMMITTEE MANAGEMENT

- 5.1.** The Steering Committee shall meet on such days and hours as may be agreed from time to time.
- 5.2.** The Chair, or if not present, the Chair-elect, or if neither is present a deputy agreed by the Steering Committee for the occasion, shall preside.
- 5.3.** Fifty-one per cent of the members of the Steering Committee shall form a quorum.
- 5.4.** The Steering Committee shall have full power to supervise and conduct the activities of the PGD Consortium according to the rules, and shall in all things act for and in the name of the PGD Consortium and in the name of ESHRE.
- 5.5.** A majority of the votes is decisive for each proposal. Upon equality of the votes the Chair has the decisive vote.

6. BUDGET AND PUBLICATIONS

Budget and publication proposals have to be submitted to the Executive Committee for approval (6 months in advance)

7. AMENDMENT OF RULES

No new rules shall be made, nor shall any of the rules be amended or rescinded unless with the consent of the Executive Committee of ESHRE.