

## MSI Reproductive Choices' (MSI) Ethics Review Committee is Seeking New Members!

### What is MSI's Independent Ethics Review Committee?

MSI Reproductive Choices (MSI) is a global provider of quality sexual and reproductive health (SRH) care, serving millions of the world's poorest and most marginalized people across thirty-six countries. As a learning organisation, MSI leverages client insight and rigorous evidence to improve the impact of our service delivery models, counselling approaches, and quality standards. Each year, we collect over 300 million client data points from more than 50,000 communities. This unparalleled, real-time data enables us to ensure that our programming is evidence-based and continuously responsive to the evolving needs of our clients—maximising our impact for women and girls.

Our goal is simple: to empower our clients to have children by choice, not by chance. [MSI's 2030 organisational strategy](#) commits to rapidly and sustainably scaling up access to SRH services and products, with the overarching ambition of enabling reproductive choice for all. To meet our targets—including reaching 120 million women and girls with SRHR information and services by 2030—evidence-driven decision-making must remain at the heart of everything we do.

In 2024, MSI launched a refreshed [2030 Research & Learning Strategy](#), which sets out how we generate and use evidence to advance our organisational goals and commitments.

To uphold the highest ethical standards in our research, MSI established an independent [Ethical Review Committee \(ERC\)](#) in 2011. The ERC, which includes experts in SRHR, is responsible for ensuring that all research conducted across the MSI partnership adheres to ethical best practices—safeguarding participants, researchers, and MSI's reputation. The Committee provides timely, thorough, and independent review of all research involving human subjects, including secondary data analysis and data use and storage. Much of this research aims to understand what works—and how we can do better—in delivering SRH care to diverse populations in varied contexts.

The ERC operates in accordance with the U.S. Common Rule, grounded in the principles of the Belmont Report. It also maintains a Federal-Wide Assurance with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP).

In 2024, MSI signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the [International Planned Parenthood Federation \(IPPF\)](#) to enhance coordination on research ethics review at global, regional, national, and sub-national levels. This includes the submission of research protocols to MSI's ERC to leverage the committee's expertise on research ethics. IPPF conducts research on a wide range of SRHR, reproductive justice, and social justice issues, including evaluating new interventions, monitoring anti-gender and anti-rights movements, and developing strategies to advance reproductive rights for all. These topics are aligned with [IPPF 2023-2028 Come Together strategy](#), which calls out the role of the Federation in ensuring that knowledge and evidence generation is co-led with the Member Associations to decolonise research.

The ERC comprises members based in the UK, Europe, and Africa and operates remotely. The Committee convenes monthly, on the second Wednesday, depending on the volume of protocol, and holds an annual meeting online.

## Who Are We Seeking?

The Committee is seeking several new members to replace those retiring and to fill emerging skill gaps. Applications are encouraged from individuals from a wide range of backgrounds who have a pro-choice and reproductive justice orientation and possess skills, experience, and/or qualifications in research, ethics, and sexual and reproductive health. We are particularly keen to hear from individuals with at least one of the following skills/experiences/qualifications:

- A person fluent in both Spanish and English, and willing to review studies in Spanish.
- Current healthcare practitioners with experience/knowledge/qualifications in sexual & reproductive health and rights
- Current or past residence in one of the non-Western countries [in which MSI operates](#) or [IPPF operates](#)
- A person with research or programmatic experience in one or more countries in the global south
- A person with statistical/quantitative data analysis and data science experience/knowledge/qualifications
- A person with expertise in ethical issues around AI
- A person with research or programmatic experience in areas at the intersection of SRHR and sexual and gender-based violence (e.g. reproductive coercion) or SRHR and climate change, including for the **humanitarian-development nexus**.

## Terms and Conditions

While the time commitment varies, members must be prepared to commit to the following:

- 2-3 hours/month to review protocols.
- Between 1-2 hours/month for a virtual meeting (MS Teams)
- 1-2 hours every year for a virtual, annual meeting (MS Teams)
- Additional research outputs as required (e.g. development of discussion papers, guidance, and/or training as per the annual workplan)

***More time than you have available?*** Please consider expressing an interest in becoming an external advisor to the Committee. This would mean our members could contact you when reviewing protocols if questions arose in your area of expertise.

ERC Members and external advisors are employed as contractors and paid on an invoice.

- The daily rate for an MSI ERC member is £300/day. Most initial reviews are expected to take half a day. External consultants would also attract this rate.
- Monthly meeting attendance is £50 for attendees, £220 for the lead reviewer and £180 for the second reviewer. A £50 flat fee is payable for review of resubmitted protocols.

## Interested?

Please send your CV and a cover letter to the attention of Dr Clare Tanton, Chair MSI ERC that (1) affirms your acceptance of the Terms and Conditions and (2) highlights your relevant skills/experience/qualifications.

Applications close **Sunday, 15th June 2025 at midnight (GMT)**

**Application materials to be sent via email: [ethics@msichoices.org.uk](mailto:ethics@msichoices.org.uk).**

**Questions? [ethics@msichoices.org.uk](mailto:ethics@msichoices.org.uk)**; Tel: (+44) 020 7636 6200. Ask for

Hannah Chappell.