

THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR ORAL AND DENTAL RESEARCH  
**Oral Medicine and Pathology Research Group**  
**Constitution**

**Background**

The Oral Medicine and Pathology Group (OMPG) is one of the research groups of the British Society for Dental and Oral Research (BSODR), which is the British Division of the International Association for Dental Research (IADR). The Group promotes networking and dissemination of scientific knowledge to facilitate communication of research, and support advancement of knowledge for both scientific discoveries and education. The Group forms the framework for identifying the scientific sessions for the BSODR meetings and contributes to the organisation of the Pan European Research meetings, as well as organising educational events outside of the main scientific meetings.

**Aims and Purpose for the OMPG**

The purpose of the OMPG is to provide a forum for academic and clinical members of the BSODR/IADR for collaboration and discussion. The aim is to provide a network for members interested in subjects related to the clinical practice, patients' management and research of oral medicine and pathology. These subjects include basic science research, translational and clinical research of relevant subjects, including orofacial diseases, potentially malignant and malignant disease of the head and neck, immune mediated and autoimmune mucosal disease, infectious disease of the head and neck, conditions of the salivary glands, orofacial manifestations of systemic disease.

**Management of Scientific Groups and Networks**

The research group work is managed by up to six officers representing leadership positions, elected from the members of the BSODR. A person can hold two positions, for instance Secretary and Treasurer, if a position remained vacant after a call for nominations. The following officer positions are responsible for the governing of the OMPG:

***Chair***

- Arrangement of annual business meeting and/or business lunches.
- Developing future initiatives for scientific activities outside of the main BSODR and PER meetings.
- Report activities to the BSODR management committee annually.
- Identification of plenary speakers or symposium for the BSODR meetings and PER meetings as the call arises and liaising with organising committees of BSODR and PER meetings in organisation within the scientific programme.
- Lead the committee for the organisation of research activities outside of main annual scientific meetings.
- Organise the research group in identification of sponsors for meeting activities.

***Vice Chair***

- Support and deputise for the Chair as necessary.
- Work with the BSODR editor for the review of abstracts and organisation into scientific sessions.
- Respond to requests from PER meetings in identifying reviewers for scientific meetings.
- Communicate with group members.

***Secretary***

- To provide administrative support for the group.
- Organise and set up, annual business meeting at the main conferences of the BSODR and PER.
- Minute and circulate the Group's meetings.
- Liaise with the BSODR web manager to ensure their Research Group web pages are informative and up to date.
- Advertise the group's activities.

#### **Treasurer**

- Work with the BSODR treasurer to maintain budgets and expenditure incurred in organisation of symposium, prize awards (eg invoicing of sponsors and payment of prize winners) and workshop activities.
- Deputise for the secretary as necessary.

#### **Councillor(s) (maximum of 2)**

- Councillors are normally expected to be **early career researchers** and/or **trainees' representative**, providing career development opportunities for future leadership opportunities whether in the Research group or the Management committee of the BSODR.
- Make recommendations and provide supporting roles in the development of activities of the Research group in general.
- Make recommendations and provide support and administration for activities for early-career researchers and juniors.
- Support in finding sponsorship for meeting activities.

#### **Committee term of office**

All positions are held for 4 years, and renewable (maximum twice) following elections to be held at BSODR meetings or as positions become available. The officers may identify future leaders of the Research groups based on service to the scientific programme.

#### **Membership of research groups**

Membership is free to BSODR/IADR members and registered via the IADR on-line membership registration site. Membership of the IADR and of the BSODR are a prerequisite to membership of the Group. Recognising that research interests can span more than one Research group members can join more than one research group.

#### **Attendance and advertising of scientific activities of the Research group**

Attendance of all scientific activities organised by the Research group is free for all BSODR / IADR members, regardless of whether the member is affiliated to the research group organising the activity or not. Non-members of the BSODR may also attend but requested to pay a non-members fee per activity commensurate with the overall cost for providing the activity. OMPG does not intend to make a profit from such activities and the fee will be used as a contribution to expenses incurred in organising scientific activities of the Research group present and future.

Advertising of scientific activities is the responsibility of the research group committee and will normally involve the BSODR email distribution service organised by the secretary of the BSODR management committee.

#### **Business meetings**

The OMPG will hold an annual business meeting at the main meetings of the BSODR or PER. Attendance should be encouraged by all eligible members attending the meeting.

#### **Website and social media engagement**

The group should prepare and maintain an accurate webpage on the BSODR website, advertising scientific activities and events. When possible, the OMPG will disseminate and advertise relevant activities via social media platforms. The Officers of the research group are responsible for ensuring the accuracy and appropriateness of the content.

**Amendments to constitution**

These rules may be amended following suggestion of the Research groups at a vote of at least two-thirds of those members attending and voting at the ABM of the Group, provided that notice of such amendment shall have been received by the Secretary at least thirty days prior to the meeting.

To keep consistency for the activities and governance of all the Research groups operating within the BSODR, all amendments are subject to final approval by a least two-thirds of the BSODR management committee and in consideration for the justifications underpinning the proposed change.

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