

## Generative Artificial Intelligence Policy

*Policy last updated: February 2026*

This policy sets out RNID's position on the use of generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools in its application and funding processes.

It applies to all those involved in RNID's application and funding processes, including RNID staff, applicants for funding, host institutions, and peer reviewers and review panel members.

Generative AI tools offer potential benefits for researchers but also present challenges and risks. Through the Association of Medical Research Charities, we are a signatory to the [Funders joint statement on the use of generative AI tools](#). We have developed this policy to provide additional guidance when applying to RNID for funding.

### Definitions

*Generative AI:* a type of artificial intelligence which can be used to create new content (for example: text, code, images, videos or music referred to as output). It uses machine learning algorithms to model and to train on large data sets.

*Host Institution:* a university, institution or other organisation at which research funded by RNID will be carried out if an application is successful.

### What we expect from researchers and organisations who apply to us for funding

#### *Requirements of applicants*

Researchers should use caution when using generative AI tools in developing their funding applications and stay up to date with any policies and guidance from their institutions or funders.

Applicants must:

- Be honest, transparent and accountable about the use of generative AI tools in their application, by disclosing any use of generative AI on their application form. This could include listing the generative AI source(s), and where practicable, the specific model/s used and software, and specifying how content was generated (such as by listing the prompt used). *We gather this information for monitoring purposes. It does not affect the assessment process and will not be disclosed to reviewers.*
- Ensure generative AI tools are used in accordance with relevant legal and ethical standards, including data privacy where those standards exist. Confidential information and personal data should not be inputted into generative AI tools.
- Ensure the accuracy and validity of any outputs from generative AI tools that are used in an application. This includes ensuring applications do not contain false or misleading information.
- Be aware of third-party intellectual property rights (where the rights to the material belong to someone else) when using generative AI tools in an application and only use information from third party sources with their consent.
- Adhere to Host Institution policies on the use of generative AI tools, particularly those concerning plagiarism and fabrication.

Host Institutions should provide guidance to their researchers on how to use AI responsibly.

#### *Requirements for expert reviewers and review panel members*

Our expert reviewers and review panel members are selected for their expertise and experience in their field. We seek their knowledge and judgment of an application in relation to our assessment criteria, and value their unique perspectives.

Expert reviewers and review panel members **must not** input any content from our confidential grant applications or reviews into, or otherwise use, generative AI tools to develop their expert review feedback. Doing so is a breach of RNID's codes of conduct for external peer reviewers and review panel members.

Reviewers should also not take into account or speculate within their assessment whether generative AI has been used to develop the application.

Expert reviewers and review panel members are required to sign or otherwise agree to our codes of conduct to confirm their compliance with the confidential nature of the review process, including not uploading or sharing content or original concepts from an application or peer review critique into generative AI tools.

### **RNID's responsibilities as a funder**

#### *RNID's use of generative AI when processing and assessing grant applications*

RNID staff have access to a Reviewer Finder tool on the [Dimensions.ai](#) platform which they may use to identify potential expert reviewers for the applications we receive. Only staff involved in the application process have access to the tool and any information inputted is only accessible to the individual inputting the data and is not used for any training purposes.

RNID does not use generative AI tools to make decisions on grant applications.

#### *Upholding this policy*

If a reviewer or panel member informs RNID that they have used generative AI to develop their assessment, the following action will be taken:

- for external reviewers, the review they have provided will not be used
- for review panel members, the comments they have provided will not be used to inform the funding decision

#### *Updating this policy*

Given the speed of development of generative AI tools, RNID, in collaboration with other research funders, intends to monitor developments and update this policy as appropriate.

### **For further information or support**

Please email [research@rnid.org.uk](mailto:research@rnid.org.uk) if you have any questions about this policy.