**VALIDATE Membership Application Form**

VALIDATE is an engaged and interactive international community of researchers aiming to accelerate vaccine R&D for three groups of complex intracellular neglected pathogens: *Mycobacteria*, *Leishmania spp,* and *Burkholderia pseudomallei.* VALIDATE also aims to help members, especially Early Career Researcher members, progress their careers in the field.

**The VALIDATE Network offers three levels of membership:**

1. **Investigator**

For senior members of the scientific, advocacy or vaccine development community who work directly in the development of vaccines against complex intracellular pathogens, who have been awarded their own funding, work independently leading their own research group, and who will add value to the Network community. This includes Group Leaders from related disciplines, such as (but not limited to) social science, epidemiology, bioengineering, and mathematical modelling.

Group Leaders working on complex intracellular neglected pathogens other than *Mycobacteria, Leishmania spp,* and *Burkholderia pseudomallei* can join VALIDATE, but should be aware that VALIDATE can only fund projects related to our three focus pathogen groups.

Investigators need to apply to the Network Management Board (NMB) for membership (at any time), and their applications will be decided upon at the next NMB meeting. They then:

* Are invited to attend the VALIDATE Network annual meeting and other events
* Can collaborate on pump-priming funding applications
* Are kept up to date via our quarterly newsletters and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/NetworkValidate)
* Can connect with other VALIDATE members on [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/in/validate-network/)
* Early PIs are eligible to apply for a more senior mentor, if appropriate

Senior Scientist Investigators should be prepared to be a potential mentor to less senior members of the Network as part of our mentoring scheme

All Network Investigators must sign the VALIDATE Confidentiality Agreement before they will be given full membership rights, including attendance at meetings, due to the nature of the unpublished data that are shared.

1. **Associate**

* Post-doctoral scientists (with a PhD) working on research directly related to vaccine development for mycobacteria, leishmaniasis, or melioidosis
* Post-doctoral researchers (with a PhD) working in a field/discipline related to vaccine development (e.g. social sciences, bioengineering) and VALIDATE’s focus pathogens
* Post-doctoral researchers (with a PhD) working on interdisciplinary research and/or complex intracellular neglected pathogens other than our focus pathogens are welcome to join VALIDATE, particularly if they are keen to build collaborations and gain experience and expertise to move fields, but should be aware that VALIDATE can only fund projects related to our three focus pathogen groups.

We particularly encourage and welcome applications from Early Career Researchers to join and benefit from the VALIDATE Network. Network Associates should apply to the Management Team for membership (at any time), and their applications will be decided upon monthly.

We *occasionally* make an exception to the requirement that Associate members must hold a PhD for **LMIC** researchers who do not have a PhD but have extensive experience in our research field (e.g. have led clinical trials for TB vaccines for 10 years). This rare exception is to recognise that obtaining a PhD is not an opportunity open to everyone everywhere, and is at the discretion of the Management Team during membership application review.

Associates are:

* Invited to attend our Network annual meeting and other events (including training workshops)
* Eligible to lead or collaborate on pump-priming grants
* Eligible to apply for VALIDATE Fellowships
* Eligible to apply for training grants
* Eligible to apply for a mentor
* Eligible to apply for our ECR Career Development Network (ECDN) (for members identifying as female or non-binary)
* Kept up to date via our quarterly newsletters and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/NetworkValidate)
* Can connect with other VALIDATE members on [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/in/validate-network/)

All Associates must sign the VALIDATE Confidentiality Agreement before they will be given full membership rights, including attendance at meetings, due to the nature of the unpublished data that are shared.

1. **Affiliate**

Affiliate membership is for anyone, anywhere, who is interested in our Network’s research, and in vaccine development for these complex neglected diseases. We welcome all comers, including interested members of the general public, post-graduate and undergraduate students, research assistants and technicians, project managers, scientists in other research fields… and anyone else! Affiliate membership is granted automatically upon application, and once a member you’ll be added to our mailing list to receive our quarterly newsletter. In between these, you can join many of our events, keep up to date with all our news on our website and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/NetworkValidate) accounts, and connect with other members on [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/in/validate-network/). We look forward to hearing from you, and to hearing your views.

Affiliates who join members-only activities (e.g. the Annual Meeting, accessing the hub) must sign the VALIDATE Confidentiality Agreement, which protects all members (e.g. when sharing unpublished data).

All levels of membership are free, and members can apply to move between levels as they gain experience and expertise. All members can take advantage of all the information on our website and Twitter [(@NetworkValidate](https://twitter.com/NetworkValidate)), as well as our seminar series.

Please submit your completed application form, or address any queries, to our Network Management Team ([validate@ndm.ox.ac.uk](mailto:validate@ndm.ox.ac.uk)). As a member you will automatically be added to our email subscription list to receive emails detailing our various open calls and events, and our monthly Network newsletter; please just let our Management Team know if you do not wish this to occur. You can unsubscribe at any time by emailing the Management Team.

**CV Guidance**

Investigator and Associate applications are required to submit a CV (max 2 pages) and publication list (max 1 page) in support of their membership application. Please submit your Investigator or Associate application form and associated documents as one pdf document. The below list indicates the information we require to be detailed in your CV. Please note that any additional information supplied is optional.

* Full name
* Email address
* Education history (Bachelors degree and above)
  + Dates of education
  + Course name
  + Institution name
* Employment history (10 years)
  + Dates of employment
  + Institution name
  + Job title
  + Brief summary of your role
* Grants obtained (dates, funder, project title, amount, your role on the project)

Please note that Affiliate membership applications do not require a CV to be submitted as part of the application.

**Membership Application Form**

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| **1. Applicant Details** | |
| Title (e.g. Mr, Ms, Dr, Assistant Prof, Prof) |  |
| First/Given Name |  |
| Middle Name |  |
| Surname (family name) |  |
| Job Title currently held |  |
| *If you are a student*, please tick which degree you are currently studying towards: | Undergraduate  Masters  PhD  Other  (please specify): |
| Institute/Organisation you are based at |  |
| Country your organisation is located in |  |
| Email address |  |
| Telephone number |  |
| Twitter handle |  |
| LinkedIn Profile URL |  |
| Current VALIDATE network membership level | Investigator / Associate / Affiliate / non-member |
| Nationality |  |
| What is your gender identity?  *(this is used for understanding equality and diversity within our network and is for internal purposes only)* | Female  Male  Non-binary  Other  Prefer not to say |

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| **2. Membership level** – please tick the level of membership you wish to apply for: |
| Affiliate (please complete sections 3, 4, 5 and 9, 10, 11, and submit your form)  Associate (please complete questions 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11)  Investigator (please complete all below questions) |

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| **3.**  **Terms and Conditions of Membership** - please confirm: |
| You have read our [Terms and Conditions (v3)](https://www.validate-network.org/joining-validate) and agree to abide by these (particularly  with regards to confidentiality of unpublished data at meetings, events, and in shared  data sets).  You acknowledge reading our [Privacy Notice](https://www.validate-network.org/privacy).  [I](mailto:I) agree to be added to VALIDATE email lists to receive member-relevant emails e.g. about open calls, future activities, and newsletters. |

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| **4. Career History and Current Role** - please outline your career to date, and your area of specialism (max 500 words) |
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| **5. Please confirm which VALIDATE pathogens/disease you work on (tick all that apply):** |
| M. tuberculosis / TB  B. pseudomallei / melioidosis  M. leprae / leprosy  Leishmaniasis  Other mycobacteria  None of the above |

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| **6. Value-adding** – please describe how you would add value to the VALIDATE network (500 words) |
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| **7. (Investigators only) Please list your current research grants (and your position on the grant e.g. PI, Co-I) and leadership positions** |
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| **8. (Investigators only) If you are a Senior Scientist we ask that you agree to be a potential mentor, should the right mentee apply (please tick one box below)** |
| I confirm that I am happy to be a potential mentor  I do not want to be a mentor (please state why:………………………………….) |

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| **9. How did you hear about us** – please could you briefly state how you heard about us |
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| **10. Required additional documents** – please include the following with your application (please read the guidance regarding CVs located at the top of the form): |
| CV (2 page) and publications list (1 page) |

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| **11. Signature** – please sign and date this form before submission |
| Signature:  Date: |

**Biography Page for VALIDATE Website**

If you become a Network member, you can choose to be added to the VALIDATE website Members’ Directory, which enables members to easily find others in a specific field or country and form new collaborations. If you would like to be added to this Members’ Directory please complete the below information (which will be made publically accessible on the VALIDATE website) and include a photograph (for use on the website) with your application.

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| Name |  |
| Title |  |
| Job Title |  |
| Institute |  |
| Phone number | *(If your research is sensitive and you would rather not have this listed, do just say so)* |
| Email | “ |
| Research area keywords | *(e.g. TB, animal models, clinical trials)* |
| Biography | *(1-2 paragraphs about your research and main research interests)* |
| Key publications | *(If these are listed elsewhere (e.g. on your University profile page) please just let us know the link)* |
| Web links of interest | *(e.g. your University profile page; podcasts; LinkedIn page)* |