VALIDATE: Membership Terms & Conditions, and Code of Conduct

Please read the terms and conditions below. By becoming a VALIDATE member, you accept these terms and conditions and agree always to act in accordance with them.

VALIDATE takes members breaking these membership terms and conditions very seriously, and doing so may result in your permanent expulsion from the VALIDATE network. If you do not agree to these terms, please do not register as a member.

If you have any concerns about these membership terms and conditions please contact the Network Management Team (validate@ndm.ox.ac.uk) before completing your registration.

1. **Membership**
   a) By completing and submitting the Membership Application form (available on the VALIDATE website) to VALIDATE you will become a member of VALIDATE.
   b) Your membership level will be assessed and decided by the Management Team and Network Management Board; levels are described on the VALIDATE website. You can apply to move between membership levels as you gain experience and expertise by resubmitting the Membership Application form.
   c) By completing and submitting the 'Biography page for VALIDATE website' section of the Membership Application form you agree to being listed on the VALIDATE website as a member, using the information you provide in this section, which will then be publically available through the website. You can amend or delete your information at any time by contacting the VALIDATE team.

2. **Data Collection and Privacy**
We respect the privacy of all our members, and are committed to the protection of all non-public, personal information. Personal information provided to us is governed by the VALIDATE Privacy Notice, available to view on the VALIDATE website. In addition:

   a) It is the individual member's responsibility to ensure your information is up to date and to inform the VALIDATE team of any changes. If you wish to amend your personal information you can do so at any time by completing the membership update form, available on the VALIDATE website.
   b) You can unsubscribe from the VALIDATE mailing list, and/or terminate your VALIDATE membership at any time by contacting the VALIDATE team.
   c) If the email address you provide during the registration process becomes invalid and emails sent to you by the VALIDATE team result in a Delivery Notification Status (failure) response, your membership will be considered to have lapsed and will be cancelled, and your details will be deleted from the directory of members.

3. **Member's conduct**
   a) Members of VALIDATE are expected to comport themselves in accordance with the general principles of good research practices, having:
      i. Reliability in ensuring the quality of research, reflected in the design, the methodology, the analysis and the use of resources

<ol type="i" start="2">
Honesty in developing, undertaking, reviewing, reporting and communicating research in a transparent, fair, full and unbiased way
Respect for colleagues, research participants, society, ecosystems, cultural heritage and the environment
Accountability for the research from idea to publication, for its management and organisation, for training, supervision and mentoring, and for its wider impacts
Integrity in the work they present as their own, and in providing adequate credit when referencing the work of others

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Members agree to treat all other VALIDATE members, no matter their level of seniority or membership level within VALIDATE, with respect and courtesy.
Membership of VALIDATE is with a view to furthering the aims and vision of the VALIDATE Network. You do not have permission to use contact details obtained from the members' directory to send unsolicited emails for the purpose of direct marketing.
Members may have access to unpublished data at VALIDATE events or via the VALIDATE Hub. As a member you agree to respect the confidentiality of these data at all times. Postings made in the VALIDATE Hub or at VALIDATE events should be treated as confidential and must not be disseminated unless already in the public domain.
You must not share your unique VALIDATE Hub login details with any other person and you must take immediate steps to change your login details if you suspect that another person is using them to gain access to the secure area.
In the event that you share data in the portal or provide content for the website, such content will not be used for the transmission, uploading or posting of any computer viruses or any other harmful or deleterious files or programs.
All human data shared to the portal or with other VALIDATE members must be anonymised.
All partners in any research collaboration formed through VALIDATE will ensure all partners in the collaboration are properly informed and consulted about all submissions for publication of research results.

4. Attending Network Events

As a Network member you will have the right to apply to attend Network workshops and events. In becoming a member you understand and agree that:

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Submission of an application to attend an event does not constitute confirmation that a place has been awarded to you.
In the event that you are successful in your application to attend a Network event, you will receive a confirmatory email upon the award of your place followed by full attendance details which will be made available to you no less than two weeks before the event is due to take place.
VALIDATE will not be held liable for any costs incurred by you.

5. The VALIDATE Website

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Any material displayed on the website is provided without any guarantees, conditions or warranties as to its accuracy. Your use of the website and its contents is at your own risk.
For further information, please see the VALIDATE website 'Ownership, liability and use' page.

6. Updates to terms and conditions

We will post a notification of any changes to the terms and conditions of membership on the VALIDATE website and notify you by email. You have the option to terminate your membership if you do not agree with future changes to terms and conditions.