

**Role description for Patient and Carer Network
Community member**

CONTACT DETAILS	
Contact details for the patient involvement unit (PIU)	All applications for PCN positions to be emailed to piu@rcplondon.ac.uk
SCOPE	
Title of role	Patient and Carer Network Community member.
Role Context	<p>The Patient and Carer Network (PCN)</p> <p>The RCP set up the Patient and Carer Network in 2004. The network is a group of over 80 patients, carers and members of the public from across England and Wales. Members of the network (Forum and Community members) volunteer their time to help make sure the RCP's work is based on what patients need. PCN members work with the RCP to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a patient, carer and/ or public perspective to support the work and strategy of the RCP • Identify and bring the views, interests and concerns of patients and carers to the RCP with a view to informing and influencing RCP activity, policy and strategy • Support the RCP to find solutions and strategies to improve the care of patients and the health of the population <p>The PCN is supported by the RCP's patient involvement unit and is steered in its work by a Liaison Group made up of the Chair and three PCN members, with the RCP Patient Involvement Officer and RCP Patient Involvement Adviser in support, who help plan, steer and review the work of the PCN.</p> <p>The PCN works within its own Terms of Reference and work plan, which the chair, Liaison Group and PIU staff are responsible for updating.</p>
Role Description and Expectations	<p>Community members of the PCN are recruited to increase breadth, knowledge and diversity of the network. This is to ensure the PCN is representative of a broad range of individuals with different experiences of health and healthcare.</p> <p>Most of the activities will involve Community members remotely via email or social media platforms by providing opportunities to comment on documents and take part in consultations.</p> <p>There will also be opportunities to express interest in committee positions and in some instances there will be occasions where you are asked to attend activities such as focus groups and workshops at RCP London/Liverpool.</p> <p>The RCP aims to support volunteers to be involved as and when you are available however, Community members are expected to:</p> <p>Pro-actively engage in activities and involvement opportunities sent by the PIU that supports and influences RCP activity, policy and strategy</p> <p>Respond to communications as a way of assuring the PIU of their continued</p>

	<p>engagement and involvement</p> <p>Provide feedback twice a year to PCN Liaison Group Members</p> <p>This is a voluntary position - All out of pocket expenses will be reimbursed by the RCP</p>
Proposed time in role	Members will be appointed to the Community for a term of five years. This term may be repeated, by agreement, if members are continuing on an RCP Committee. The total term of membership of the PCN should not exceed 10 years.
Location of role	Remote based role with occasional requests to attend committees/events/workshops/focus groups in London and Liverpool

Skills	
<p>Desired skills, attributes and area of interest required of PCN Community member to most appropriately fulfil the role</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An interest in, or experience of, health, social care or service delivery related issues. • A desire to engage with the RCPs commitment to place patient and carer views at the centre of its work. • Ability to understand and represent concerns in a balanced way, not acting in the interests of any particular group. • Self-confidence in considering health information and sharing views appropriately. • Ability to put views across clearly, constructively and sensitively, taking into account responsibilities and expertise of others. • Ability to look at a situation from a variety of perspectives, not purely from own experience, and to do this in a measured and objective way. • Good communication and team work skills. • Ability to listen to, read, take on board information and reflect on evidence. • Demonstrate tact, discretion and maintain confidentiality. • Willingness to become familiar with medical language.