

# ARTERY - CONSTITUTION

Adopted: 14.09.2007

Amended: 15.10.2011

1. The name of the Association shall be Artery, The Association for Research into Arterial Structure and Physiology.
2. The Association shall promote the advancement of knowledge and dissemination of information concerning the pathophysiology, pharmacology, epidemiology, detection, investigation and treatment of arterial structure and function.
3. Membership shall be open to anyone active in the field of haemodynamics and large artery structure and function and who usually have had experience in the field of arterial structure and physiology.
4. Proposals for membership shall be made in writing to the Secretary, using an application form compiled by the Executive Committee. Each nomination shall be accompanied by:
  - a statement of the candidate's academic qualifications,
  - a statement of the candidate's professional position and
  - a list of relevant publications
  - supporting statements by two members of the Association

The Executive Committee shall consider and approve proposals for membership three times a year (usually at the Executive Committee Meetings held in January, June and September). On being accepted into membership by the Executive Committee, new members will be required to pay the annual membership fee and will be entitled to receive a subscription to *Artery Research*. Successful applications will be ratified by members at the Annual Business Meeting, confirmed by a simple majority of those voting in favour.

5. The number of Ordinary Members shall be unlimited and all Ordinary Members are entitled to one vote at the Annual Business Meetings and in electronic votes.
6. Honorary membership may be awarded, where appropriate, to distinguished scientists.
7. Ad hominem membership may be awarded, in a personal capacity, to appropriately qualified individuals working in related industries including the pharmaceutical industry. Membership shall be limited to a maximum of three years, following which time the individual's membership status will be reviewed by the Executive Committee. The decision of the Executive Committee to accept or reject applications for ad hominem membership shall be final.
8. Ex-Presidents of the Association will be awarded lifetime honorary membership on retirement from their main remunerated employment.
9. Student Membership is open to PhD students/trainees working in the field of haemodynamics and large artery structure and function who have not yet published sufficiently to qualify for Full Membership. The maximum term for Student membership of the Society shall be 5 years. Student membership shall not apply to those studying for a second degree. Once students have completed their PhD and have an adequate number of publications, they will be required to re-apply for Full Membership. Student Members do not have voting rights at the Annual Business Meeting and do not have to pay a membership fee. Students are entitled to receive a subscription to *Artery Research*.
10. Ordinary Members shall pay an annual subscription of an amount to be determined by the Association.
11. Only Ordinary Members shall be eligible for election to the Executive Committee.

12. Ordinary membership shall automatically cease upon failure, for two successive years, to pay the annual subscription fee.
13. Ordinary membership shall normally lapse upon failure, for three successive years, to attend a scientific meeting of the Association.
14. At least one scientific meeting shall be convened at least once every two calendar years and an Annual Business Meeting shall be held once every year at the Annual Scientific Meeting
15. An Executive Committee of eight persons, which shall include the office bearers, namely the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, shall be elected at the Annual Business Meeting.
16. The term of office of the Inaugural President shall be four years from September 2006, after which the standard term of office shall be two years. The office bearer shall not be eligible for re-election to this office.

The term of office of the Inaugural Vice President shall be four years from September 2006, after which the standard term of office shall be two years. The office bearer shall not be eligible for re-election to this office.

The inaugural term of office of the Secretary shall be five years from September 2006, after which the standard term of office shall be two years. The office bearer shall not be eligible for re-election in the same office.

The inaugural term of office of the Treasurer shall be four years from September 2006, after which the standard term of office shall be two years. The office bearer shall not be eligible for re-election in the same office.

Four members shall be elected as ordinary members of the committee. Two ordinary members shall serve for five years, one ordinary member shall serve for four years and one ordinary member shall serve for three years on the Inaugural committee. After this, the term of office for ordinary members of the Committee shall be two years after which the postholders shall retire, but remain eligible for election as office-bearers.

Ordinary members of the Committee who have retired become eligible for re-election after two years.

17. The Editor-in-Chief of the Association's journal, *Artery Research*, shall be an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee, with no voting rights.
18. The Executive Committee shall supervise the affairs of the Association and arrange the scientific meetings.
19. The President of the Association shall serve as chairman of the Executive Committee. In his/her absence, the chair will be taken by the Vice President. In the absence of both the President and the Vice President, the members of the Committee present shall elect an acting chairman.
20. Nominations for election to the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer and to the Executive Committee:
  - 20.1 A call for nominations shall be sent to all Ordinary Members at least three months prior to the Annual Business Meeting and will be posted on the Artery website
  - 20.2 Nominations should include supporting statements from the candidate and three Ordinary Members. Nomination forms must be received at least two months before the Annual Business Meeting
  - 20.3 In the event of more than one nomination for each position, an electronic ballot will be held of all Ordinary Members after the deadline for nominations (members will be sent the nomination forms). Electronic voting will be opened to Ordinary Members three weeks

before the Business Meeting held during the Annual Scientific Meeting and will close at 15.00 hrs GMT on the first day of the Annual Scientific Meeting

- 20.4 The quorum for electronic voting for election to the Executive Committee is 20 and election to the Committee is confirmed by a simple majority of those voting
  - 20.5 Votes will be reproduced anonymously and counted by two members of the Executive Committee nominated by the President who are not either standing for election or nominating any of the candidates. In the event that two members of the Executive Committee do not fulfil this criteria, the Committee will nominate two members of the Society to undertake the count. The results will be announced at the Annual Business Meeting.
  - 20.6 In the event that two or more candidates receive the same number of votes, the person elected will be determined by the first name drawn out of a hat – by a member of the society who is not standing, or nominating a candidate, in the presence of the persons delegated by the committee to oversee the counting of votes.
21. Members of the Executive Committee who retire before the end of their term of office may be replaced by co-optation at the discretion of the remaining members of the Executive Committee, so long as this is a unanimous decision. This will be until the next members' meeting, up to a maximum time of 1 year.
    - 21.1 If a member of the Executive Committee retires before the end of their term of office, an election may be held, adhering to the normal procedure of elections. The timetable for election is, however, to be determined by the Committee. The office term for the elected member should be 2 years in addition to the remaining time left vacant and a maximum of 3 years.
  22. Four members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.
  23. A postal or electronic vote may be held on any relevant issue at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
  24. A Scientific Council of up to 30 members, including all members of the Executive Committee, and other members drawn from the Association shall be established and will meet at each Annual Scientific Meeting. The procedure for nomination and selection of the Council members will be determined by the Executive Committee. The term of office for Council members will vary between two and three years and will also be determined by the Executive Committee.
  25. Changes to the Constitution must be proposed in writing to the Secretary at least one month before the Annual Business Meeting. For an amendment to be adopted it must be passed by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting at the Annual Business Meeting.
  26. The Association may be dissolved by a Resolution passed by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting at a Special General Meeting convened for the purpose, of which 21 days' notice has been given to the members. Such resolution may give instructions for the disposal of any assets held by or in the name of the Association provided that if any property remains after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities such property shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Association, but shall be given or transferred to such other charitable institution or institutions having objects similar to some or all of the objects of the Association as the Association may determine and if and in so far as effect cannot be given to this provision then to some other charitable purpose.
  27. The Executive Committee can appoint working parties for certain purposes:
    - 27.1 At least one member of the Artery Executive Committee should sit on each Working Party, although the Working Party Chairman does not have to be an Executive Committee member.

The Chairman will be appointed by the Executive Committee

- 27.2 The Working Party Chairman decides the membership of the Working Party, but the suggested list of members must be approved by the Executive Committee
- 27.3 Members will sit on the Working Party for an initial term of three years, renewable for a further 3 years where appropriate
- 27.4 A report from the Working Party should be presented at every Executive Committee meeting by the Executive Committee representative on the Working Party
- 27.5 The Terms of Reference, including an estimate of expenditure, should be approved by the Treasurer or another officer of the Executive Committee in advance
- 27.6 The Executive Committee reserves the right to dissolve the Working Party at any stage