



**Declaration of Interests and Confidentiality Form**

Please complete and return your signed form by email to:  
 Carolina Mancini, Administrative Assistant, COVID-19 Immunity Task Force

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Surname	Kellner
First name	James
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I hereby declare the following interests:

- No Conflict of Interest
- Potential Conflict of Interest (please specify below)

Area of Work	Nature of Interest/Conflict
<b>UPDATED Jun 4, 2021:</b> Pediatric COVID-19 Cohort – Indirect (non-disqualifying) interest	<p>I previously had an Indirect (non-disqualifying) interest in a project that was submitted to the May 2020 CITF national survey of COVID-19 immunity research. I am PI on this project, the “Alberta Childhood COVID-19 Cohort (AB3C) Study”, which includes a longitudinal serosurveillance component funded by the Government of Alberta. The AB3C study is also funded by Genome Alberta and the Alberta Children’s Hospital Research Institute. To address the conflict issue, I withdrew this project from consideration by the CITF in June 2020.</p> <p>There has been communication between CITF leadership and the Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL) – Public Health regarding provision of antibody testing kits to the APL for research studies in Alberta including the AB3C Study. I have had no involvement in those discussions but I have been informed through the written contract with the Government of Alberta, that cost savings to the APL through provision of antibody testing kits by the CITF led to an equivalent reduction in the AB3C budget from the Government of Alberta for funding that would have paid for the testing kits.</p>
<b>NEW Oct 28, 2021:</b> Pediatric COVID-19 Research – Indirect (non-disqualifying) interest	<p>I am a co-investigator with Dr. Stephen Freedman (PI) and 10 others on a CIHR/CITF funded study, "A Prospective Pan-Canadian Cohort Assessment of SARS-CoV-2 Variant of Concern Disease Severity and Association with Long-Term Symptoms in Children. I did not write that proposal that was submitted directly to the CIHR funding</p>



	competition, nor did I have any role in the CITF evaluation and approval of further funding.
<b>NEW Oct 28, 2021:</b> Contract Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccine Clinical Trial – Indirect (non-disqualifying) interest	I am the site investigator in Calgary for a randomized clinical trial of COVID-19 vaccination in children (Moderna, ClinicalTrials.gov ID NCT04796896).
COVID-19 Vaccine Research – Indirect (non-disqualifying) interest	I am a co-investigator with Drs. Scott Halperin (PI), Manish Sadarangani, Caroline Quach, Jesse Papenburg, Matthew Cheng, and 57 others on the recently awarded CIHR grant, “Canadian Immunization Research Network: COVID-19 Vaccine Readiness.”
Other Vaccine Research – Other relevant interests	I am a current collaborator with Dr. Manish Sadarangani (recipient of support from the CITF), Dr. Gina Ogilvie (CITF Leadership Group member and Co-Chair Field Studies Working Party), and Dr. Scott Halperin (CITF Leadership Group member and Pediatric Network Co-Lead), on vaccine clinical trials and vaccine evaluation studies that have included grants and publications in the last three years related to pneumococcus and meningococcus (Sadarangani, Halperin) and human papilloma vaccine (Ogilvie, Halperin). <b>UPDATED Oct 28, 2021:</b> Related to studies of pneumococcus disease and vaccines noted above, I have current funding to support a long-term study of vaccine impact on invasive pneumococcal disease and asymptomatic carriage in Calgary (Pfizer). For this study I receive, via the University of Calgary, study operational funding but no personal payments.
Contract Vaccine clinical trials – Other relevant interests	I am a site principal investigator on 2 current randomized clinical trials in children: new rotavirus vaccine (GSK) and new pneumococcal vaccine (Merck). Both studies have concluded enrolment and routine visits. Now conducting followup and completion activities. I am a site principal investigator on a current randomized clinical trial of a new meningococcal vaccine (GSK) in children. <b>UPDATED Oct 28, 2021:</b> For each study I receive, via the University of Calgary, study operational funding but no personal payments.
Member of a scientific advisory body	I am a member of the Alberta Advisory Committee on Immunization (reporting to the Deputy Minister of Health), the Alberta COVID-19 Serology Advisory Committee (reporting to the Chief Medical Officer



	of Health), the University of Calgary COVID-19 Analytic and Strategy Group (reporting to the President of the University) and the Pneumococcal Working Party of the National Advisory Committee on Immunization.
<b>NEW June 4, 2021:</b> Member of a scientific advisory body	I am a volunteer member of the Data Safety Monitoring Board for the VIDO (Vaccine & Infectious Disease Organization, U of Saskatchewan) sponsored COVID-19 vaccine clinical trial, “A Randomized, Observer-Blind, Dose-Escalation, Phase 1/2 Clinical Trial of COVAC Vaccines in Healthy Adults.”



<p><b>NEW June 4, 2021:</b> COVID-19 Vaccine Research – Direct (disqualifying) interest</p>	<p>I am a long established (&gt;5 years) site investigator in Calgary with CIRN’s “CANVAS” (Canadian National Vaccine Safety) Network that has previously conducted annual surveys of influenza vaccine safety and is now conducting the CANVAS-COVID project. I did not withdraw from my role as a site investigator as I had specific local skills and responsibilities that were not readily transferable to someone else and were necessary to help successfully establish the CANVAS-COVID study in Alberta. I was not involved in any of the recent CITF/VSRG evaluation or decision making regarding the CANVAS-COVID project or any projects primarily focused on vaccine safety. I did provide reviews of some projects submitted to the RFA related to other aspects vaccine surveillance and evaluation.</p>

*(Please add more rows where necessary)*

**Declaration**

I have read the COVID-19 Immunity Task Force Conflict of Interest Guidelines and Confidentiality statement. I have disclosed all interests that I current perceived as applicable in relation to the work of the Task Force. I understand the confidential nature of the review process and agree to update this statement as necessary when new projects and issues come before the Task Force and/or Secretariat.

Date: May 6, 2020, updated  
September 28, 2020,  
updated June 4, 2021,  
updated Oct 28, 2021

Signature: *Jim Kellner*



## Definition of Interests

- 1. Scientific** meaning situations where an individual has a professional scientific interest. This includes situations where the individual has:  
A **direct (disqualifying) interest** in an application, including where the individual is an applicant, co-applicant, or sponsor of a fellow within the same evaluation round and/or has been involved in the preparation of an application  
An **indirect (non-disqualifying) interest** in an application, including where the individual holds or is currently seeking funding for research on the subject matter; is a direct competitor of the applicant(s); is a current collaborator or has collaborated with any of the applicants in the past three years as evidenced by joint publications or joint grants or is planning to do so; is supervising or has supervised the doctoral work of any of the applicants; has provided a personal recommendation or letter of support to an applicant or has provided advice or input to an application or proposal.
- 2. Financial interest:** economic stake or share in a body with an interest in the subject matter. This includes stocks, equities, or bonds; intellectual property rights (royalties, patents, copyright) and any other situation that may result in financial benefit, direct or indirect, from a decision made by EDCTP.
- 3. Member of a managing body or equivalent structure:** participation in the internal decision-making (board member, trustee, or director) of a public or private entity with an interest in the subject matter.
- 4. Member of a scientific advisory body:** participation in the activities of a scientific advisory body (permanent or ad hoc) managed by a body with an interest in the subject matter.
- 5. Employment:** any form of regular occupation or business, part-time or full-time, paid, or unpaid, including self-employment (consultancy), in any body with an interest in the subject matter.
- 6. Ad hoc or occasional consultancy** meaning any ad hoc or occasional activity in which the concerned person provides advice or services to a body with an interest in the subject matter. This includes services provided on an honorary basis (for free or without payment of fees).
- 7. Interests of family members and other personal involvement** meaning interests in the subject matter held by partners or persons dependent on the individual submitting the DoI, as well as close personal ties that may result in bias.
- 8. Other memberships or affiliations:** any membership or affiliation not falling under the definitions provided above that is relevant for the purpose of this policy, to any organisation or body with an interest in the subject matter, including professional organisations.
- 9. Other relevant interests** meaning any interest not falling under the definitions above and relevant for the purposes of this policy.