

Research and Innovation Sub Committee (RI)

Scope

The Research and Innovation Sub Committee (RI) plays a strategic role in advancing AIOH's engagement with occupational hygiene research and innovation. The Committee is focused on fostering research collaborations, promoting emerging science, and ensuring that research outcomes are accessible and relevant to members. It also oversees the management of the scientific content for the AIOH Annual Conference, ensuring high-quality, evidence-based content.

The Committee's scope includes:

- Building partnerships with academia, government, and industry to support research aligned with AIOH's mission.
- Translating research into practical outputs such as summaries, webinars, and guidance materials for members.
- Providing strategic advice to Council on emerging research, technologies, and trends impacting occupational hygiene practice.
- Supporting a strong research culture within the AIOH community and encouraging member involvement in research activities.
- Managing the abstract review process, scientific content, and proceedings for the AIOH Annual Conference.

Purpose

The purpose of the RI is to strengthen the link between research, innovation, and occupational hygiene practice. The Sub Committee ensures that AIOH remains informed, connected, and proactive in responding to new research and emerging evidence that impacts worker health protection. By promoting the translation of research into practical tools, advice, and education, the RI contributes to the continuous advancement of the profession.

The RI also serves as a conduit between researchers and practitioners, helping members stay at the forefront of scientific developments and promoting evidence-based practice across the profession.

Role and Responsibilities

The Research and Innovation Sub Committee (RI) plays a strategic and facilitative role in advancing the AIOH's engagement with occupational hygiene-related research. Its focus is on fostering collaboration, promoting innovation, and ensuring that research outcomes are translated into practice and made accessible to AIOH members. This includes managing the scientific content presented at AIOH's annual conference.

The Sub Committee is responsible for:

- In collaboration with AIOH Foundation, identifying and promoting collaborative partnerships with academic institutions, industry bodies, government agencies, and other relevant organisations to support occupational hygiene research aligned with the AIOH's mission and strategic priorities.
- Supporting the communication and translation of research findings into formats that are accessible and meaningful to members, such as summaries, infographics, webinars, or position statements.
- Monitoring emerging research trends, technologies, and innovations in occupational health and hygiene and providing strategic advice to the AIOH Council and other committees on their implications for policy, education, or practice.
- Promoting evidence-based practice within the profession by connecting AIOH members with relevant research outputs and fostering a culture of scientific inquiry and critical appraisal.
- Encouraging and enabling member participation in research, including postgraduate research, collaborative projects, or data-sharing initiatives where appropriate.
- Managing the scientific content at the AIOH annual conference.

Activities

To fulfil its responsibilities, the Sub Committee undertakes a range of strategic and operational activities, including:

- Initiating or supporting collaborative research projects by brokering introductions, offering AIOH endorsement (where appropriate), or facilitating member involvement.
- Creating and curating research communication products for the AIOH membership, such as:
 - Plain-language research summaries or "Research Spotlights"
 - Webinars and podcasts with researchers (in liaison with the Professional Development Sub Committee)

- Articles for the AIOH Newsletter or website
- Providing briefings to the AIOH Council on new or emerging research areas that warrant attention or advocacy.
- Reviewing significant publications, reports, or white papers in the field to identify relevance to the AIOH mission.
- Advising the Council or relevant committees on opportunities to co-sponsor or contribute to national/international research initiatives or conferences.
- Evaluating member feedback or research interests to inform future activities or partnerships.
- Assisting the Conference Committee and AIOH Events Team to:
 - Call for abstracts and posters
 - Review and select the abstracts for presentation and posters
 - Reviewing submitted papers and preparing the conference proceedings.

Resources

The Research and Innovation Sub Committee is supported by a range of resources, including:

AIOH Administration Support, including assistance from the AIOH Events Team for conference-related tasks, document management, meeting coordination, and communications.

AIOH Foundation, which provides financial and strategic support for research initiatives and partnerships.

AIOH internal platforms, including the AIOH website, newsletter, webinars, and member communications for promoting research outputs and opportunities.

Access to academic networks, universities, and research bodies involved in occupational health and hygiene.

Partnerships with government agencies, industry bodies, and international organisations for collaborative research and knowledge sharing.

Scientific databases, journals, and research repositories to stay informed on current and emerging research relevant to occupational hygiene.

Member expertise, drawing on the collective knowledge, experience, and interests of AIOH members engaged in research or applied science.

Collaboration with other AIOH Committees, particularly the Professional Development Sub Committee and Public Policy Sub Committee, to help disseminate research and influence policy or training where applicable.

Membership and Composition of Sub Committees

Membership of this committee will consist of three or more members of the AIOH with an interest in research and innovation.

The Sub Committee may, at its own discretion, collaborate with other members who may have expertise in a specific area to help the Sub Committee perform effectively.