

## New Zealand Multiple Sclerosis Research Trust–CODE OF ETHICS

### **PURPOSE:**

The New Zealand Multiple Sclerosis Research Trust (“NZMSRT or Trust”) Code of Ethics sets the standards of ethical behavior on which the Trustees of the Trust are expected to conduct their professional lives.

Trustees will:

- Always act with honesty and total integrity exercising diligence and fairness. They will conduct themselves in a manner that ensures the Trust’s reputation and image will not be compromised by their actions or statements.
- Fulfill their duties and exercise their powers as Trustees with due care and diligence having regard to the Trust’s Values and acting in the best interests of NZMSRT.
- To the best of their abilities, using reasonable endeavor, seek to ensure NZMSRT’s records and documents, including financial reports, are accurate and true.
- Avoid conflicts of interest. Each Trustee will disclose all relationships they have with NZMSRT together with private or business interests that may constitute a conflict of interest to the Board so that the Board can assess the Trustee’s independence in each instance.
- Respect, maintain and protect the confidentiality of information about the Trust’s financial and business affairs as well as information entrusted to them about donors, work colleagues and stakeholders, except where disclosure is permitted or required by law.
- Respect, protect and uphold the rights of employees, donors and other legitimate stakeholders in the Trust.
- Not take advantage of opportunities arising through the use of any of NZMSRT’s assets, property or information for personal gain.
- Fully comply with all laws, rules and other regulations relevant to the Trust and its Charitable Status in all jurisdictions within which the Trust operates.
- Use their best endeavors to ensure compliance by the Trust with all statutory and internal disclosure requirements in a timely manner.
- Not accept unauthorized payments, gifts or other inducements arising from dealings conducted on behalf of NZMSRT.
- Report any unethical or illegal (or potentially illegal) behavior of which they become aware to the Chairman of the Trust.