



## Solidarity Support Programme Rules

**1-** The Solidarity Support Programme was created by Association Mieux Prescrire (AMP) in 1993, in response to requests from healthcare professionals in lower-income countries who could not afford a subscription to *La revue Prescrire* or *Prescrire International*, or who did not have access to other informational resources vital to their practice or training. The programme was then extended to support professional development initiatives, and in particular to help create and support the development of independent drug bulletins.

In order to foster access to *Prescrire* and the development of a culture of professional independence beginning during healthcare professionals' initial training, the programme was extended in 2016 to cover future healthcare professionals and their student associations, without condition as to their country's income levels.

**2-** Donations to the Solidarity Support Programme are collected by AMP. While donations come primarily from subscribers to *La revue Prescrire* and *Prescrire International*, gifts from other sources are accepted, with the exception of donations which might create conflicts of interest (donations from pharmaceutical companies, etc.). AMP is actively involved in coordinating the Programme, making staff members available for training sessions, allocating educational, logistical or other assistance to student associations in order to develop a culture of professional independence, and granting reduced rates on subscriptions purchased under the Programme. The Programme's annual financial statement is made available to donors, and is published every year in *La revue Prescrire* and online at [www.prescrire.org](http://www.prescrire.org)

**3-** The Solidarity Support Programme's benefits are granted to named individuals or not-for-profit organisations. The Board appoints a Selection Committee from the AMP membership. The Committee serves for a period of 3 years, renewable. Beneficiaries of the Solidarity Support Programme are selected on the basis of:

- the applicant's difficulties in funding their own action, training, informational resources or subscription;
- the applicant's ability to make good use of the assistance and to enable their colleagues or fellow students to benefit from it. The Selection Committee gives priority to applicants involved in the initial training or continuing education of other healthcare professionals or in providing information to the public.

Applications most closely respecting these criteria are given priority. Applicants may make their request directly, or be nominated by third parties such as subscribers, reviewers, AMP members, editorial correspondents, members of the International Society of Drug Bulletins (ISDB), etc.

**4-** Financial assistance for trainee editors from lower-income countries is granted by the Selection Committee after the trainee has accepted the training programme designed by the Prescrire editorial team. The objective of creating or developing quality, independent information is a prerequisite.

**5-** Financial assistance to enable health professionals in lower-income countries to obtain documentation can only be used for documents that have been analysed and cited in *La revue Prescrire* for their important contribution to training or professional practice or for providing valuable information to the public.

**6-** After ensuring that applicants have been advised of the “Solidarity Subscription Rate” (**a**), free solidarity subscriptions are granted for an initial period of one year so as to ascertain whether *La revue Prescrire* meets the applicant’s needs, renewable for periods of one year, up to a maximum of 3 years. After 3 years, beneficiaries of free solidarity subscriptions are then encouraged to subscribe at the “Solidarity Subscription Rate”, if possible.

**7 –** Beneficiaries are expected, in return, to keep Prescrire informed of their progress and of any difficulties encountered in their project. Beneficiaries of the Solidarity Support Programme are encouraged to participate in the life of *La revue Prescrire* (readers’ letters etc.), as is the case for all subscribers.

**Updated 30 April 2018**

**The Selection Committee**

Séverine Carré-Pétraud - Jacques Juillard - Bernard Topuz

**President of the Association Mieux Prescrire**

Pierre Chirac

- a-** *Prescrire’s “Solidarity Subscription Rate” applies for countries with weighted annual per capita gross national product (GNP) of less than 12 500 USD, according to the World Bank classification. Details are available on request from the Subscriptions department of La revue Prescrire and Prescrire International (or online at [www.prescrire.org](http://www.prescrire.org)). The list of qualifying countries is updated annually on the website [www.prescrire.org](http://www.prescrire.org)*