



SRNT



2025 Strategic Review GUIDING PRINCIPLES, COMBINED

The SRNT 2025 Strategic Review is a 15 month-long process that the Board of Directors has undertaken in order to identify and address factors that we believe will impact the Society over the next 7 - 10 years. The goal is to arrive at member-informed conclusions, recommendations, and ultimately, Board actions that will set the stage for SRNT's future relevance, integrity, and sustainability.

Background	2
Guiding Principles: Purpose & Role	3
Guiding Principles: Global Presence	4
Guiding Principles: Industry Participation	5

GUIDING PRINCIPLES, Combined

Background



The following SRNT 2025 Guiding Principles were developed over a period of 11 months based on input from:

- SRNT member-representative survey responses (29 individuals with representation based on research discipline and SRNT Network foci, geographic region, country income status, gender, ethnicity, career stage, and diverse views on e-cigarettes and Industry participation in SRNT activities)
- Individual interviews with SRNT leadership
- Two facilitated meetings of the SRNT Board of Directors
- Initial meetings of each of three Work Advisory Groups appointed by the Board: [Purpose & Role](#), [Global Presence](#), and [Industry Participation](#), chaired by Suchitra Krishnan-Sarin, Megan Piper and Caitlin Notley, and Jennifer McClure, respectively

- Responses from the comprehensive [Membership Survey](#), undertaken in May/June of 2019

A Note on Compromise: In some instances, member feedback provided clear direction while in others, membership feedback reflected a variety of opinions and the diversity of the SRNT membership, itself. In those cases, SRNT has worked diligently to identify compromise positions that may not please everyone, but do – to the extent possible – recognize and respect the divergence of opinion on sensitive subjects.

- Comments on the SRNT listserv
- Written evaluations from recent SRNT Annual Meetings
- Follow-up meetings of each of the three Work Advisory Groups
- Review and comments on the draft Principles by leaders of the three Work Advisory Groups
- Final review and comments on the draft Principles by the three Work Advisory Groups

All of the above were conducted by or in conjunction with the professional consulting groups, JFB & Associates and Corona Insights.

The SRNT Board will periodically review Guiding Principles and Boundary Standards to ensure relevance and compatibility with evolving SRNT purpose and values, as well as changes affecting the broader nicotine and tobacco research community.



GUIDING PRINCIPLES, Combined

Purpose & Role Guiding Principles

1: What We Are

SRNT is a scientific society whose mission is to stimulate the generation and dissemination of new knowledge concerning nicotine and tobacco in all its manifestations, from cellular to societal, across research disciplines, with the ultimate goal of reducing the harms of tobacco and nicotine-containing products around the globe.

SRNT is the professional society for those working on tobacco and nicotine scientific questions in pre-clinical, clinical, public health, epidemiological, and policy/regulatory research domains.

SRNT welcomes as members those working in adjacent communities (tobacco control, cessation, etc.) who are interested in the latest, cutting edge research on nicotine and tobacco.

2: SRNT's Unique Role

As a scientific society, SRNT has a unique role, a unique identity and purpose, and a unique agenda within the broader public health/tobacco control community. The role of a scientific society is not interchangeable with that of organizations operating in adjacent or “sister” communities. SRNT's unique role is to focus on science. Please refer to the white paper, “[The Edge Zone Effect](#).”

3: An Open Scientific Forum

SRNT is a convener, bringing together researchers from multiple countries, from diverse backgrounds, across multiple disciplines, who represent a diversity of viewpoints on issues of concern to the global nicotine and tobacco research community.

4: Remaining Neutral on Outstanding Scientific Questions

SRNT will remain neutral on issues that are not clearly resolved by scientific evidence; SRNT does not take sides in ongoing scientific, clinical, or political debates. Rather, SRNT supports the creation and dissemination, and facilitates the debate, of rigorous science to address challenging public health questions, regardless of the direction the evidence leads.

5: Advocacy

SRNT serves as the de facto voice of the global scientific community and may advocate for the nicotine and tobacco research community by providing evidence to educate decision makers or joining with advocacy groups on positions that are consistent with the evidence base.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES, Combined

Global Presence Guiding Principles

1: Membership

SRNT is an international membership association operating on the global stage. All members are entitled to the same benefits of membership, regardless of location.

2: LMICs and Building Capacity

Differences in funding levels of research by country result in dissimilar levels of research undertaken across the globe. Because of this reality, researchers in lower- and middle-income countries may require a greater level of support than researchers in higher-income countries. Within the limitations of the Society's financial and volunteer resources, SRNT is committed to addressing the very real need for research capacity building in LMICs.

3: Impacting Global Policy

SRNT recognizes the value of partnering with adjacent communities (e.g., public policy groups and NGOs working to impact policies, regulations, and/or legislation) in LMICs. SRNT will support groups working to change policies, regulations and laws, as financial and volunteer resources, and member engagement allow.

4: SRNT Chapters

The role of Chapters as an extension of the Society in specific geographic regions is a critical subject which has not been addressed formally since 2010. Since that time, the European chapter has become an independently chartered organization, and a new chapter, SRNT Oceania, has been created. The SRNT Board will appoint a task force to address and document the role of Chapters and the relationship between SRNT and Chapters as part of Phase II of SRNT 2025, with the goal of maximizing the impact of chapters in support of SRNT's mission and SRNT members in regions across the world. The Guiding Principles and Boundary Standards relating to SRNT Chapters will be developed at that time.



GUIDING PRINCIPLES, Combined

There are three industries whose work and interests intersect with that of SRNT: the pharmaceutical, tobacco, and electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) industries. SRNT membership is not open to members of the tobacco industry, but has been open to members of the pharmaceutical industry. To date, the Society has not had a policy governing ENDS industry participation. Conference attendance and submission/presentation/publication of science through SRNT vehicles have been open to members of all three industries.

Based on feedback from the 2019 Membership Survey and additional feedback provided by key stakeholders and others interviewed as part of the SRNT 2025 planning process, from this point forward, employees of the ENDS industry will no longer be eligible for society membership, but they will continue to be allowed to share their science at the conference and through the society journal. Policies governing the tobacco and pharmaceutical industries remain unchanged. Thus, for the purposes of this document, “Industries” will refer collectively to the tobacco and ENDS industries.

Industry Participation Guiding Principles

1: Membership in the Society

Consistent with existing SRNT policy regarding Tobacco Industry employee ineligibility for membership in the Society, individuals employed by companies within the ENDS industry will no longer be eligible for membership in SRNT.

Individuals who consult with Industry remain eligible for membership, on a case-by-case basis, pending an additional level of review.

2: Submission, Presentation and Publication of Research

In support of the Society’s intention to provide a multi-disciplinary platform where diverse viewpoints are presented and discussed, SRNT allows conference and journal submissions regardless of funding source. Acceptance of research for presentation/publication will be

determined solely by the peer review process. All presenters and authors must comply with SRNT policies regarding disclosure of funding sources and conflicts of interest.

3: Annual Meeting Attendance

SRNT will not preclude individuals from participating in its Annual Meeting based on Industry affiliation or source of research funds. However, all Annual Meeting participants are subject to SRNT’s codes of conduct. Transparency regarding conflicts of interest and thoughtfully enacted participation parameters will be enforced by the Board of Directors and Program Committee.

4: Financial Support of SRNT

SRNT does not engage in quid pro quo with organizations that provide funding to support SRNT, including direct or grant-funded support of the Annual Meeting. Financial support of Society programs does not entitle an organization to special dispensation.



SRNT

2025 Strategic Review
Guiding Principles, Combined

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS INCLUDE:

Purpose & Role: Guiding Principles and Boundary Standards

Purpose & Role: Global Presence

Purpose & Role: Industry Participation