## GATES OPEN RESEARCH

## Declaration of Competing Interests when Posting a Comment

We ask that all readers posting a Comment disclose both 'Non-Financial' and 'Financial' Competing Interests that might lead a reasonable person to question whether your Comments on the article may have been influenced by your personal or financial relationship with other people or organizations. For every Comment, you must state whether you have any competing interests, and if you disclose that you do have some, you must provide details.

All competing interests that are declared will be displayed against your Comment. If no competing interests are provided, the line: 'No competing interests were disclosed' will be added to your Comment. If you are unsure whether you have a competing interest, please contact our editorial office at editorial@gatesopenresearch.org.

When deciding if you have a competing interest, it might be helpful to consider the following examples, but note that this is not an exhaustive list:

## **Financial competing interests**

- In the past five years have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that may in any way gain or lose financially from the online listing of this Comment, either now or in the future? If so, please specify.
- Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organization that may in any way gain or lose financially from the online listing of this Comment, either now or in the future? If so, please specify.
- Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the article or your Comment? Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to your Comment? If so, please specify.
- Do you have any other financial competing interests? If so, please specify.

## Non-financial competing interests

- Are you a current collaborator with any of the authors of the paper in question, or have you been in the past 3 years?
- Have you co-authored a paper with any of the authors of the paper in question in the past 3 years?
- Are there any other non-financial competing interests (political, personal, religious, ideological, academic, intellectual, commercial or any other) to declare in relation to your Comment? If so, please specify.