

Introducing the EFPIA Disclosure Code

The EFPIA Disclosure Code on Disclosure of Transfers of Value from Pharmaceutical Companies to Healthcare Professionals and Healthcare Organisations

EFPIA believes that interactions between the pharmaceutical industry and healthcare professionals have a profound and positive influence on the quality of patient treatment and the value of future research. At the same time, the integrity of the decision of a healthcare professional to prescribe or recommend a medicine is one of the pillars of the healthcare system. EFPIA recognises that interactions between



WHAT IS THE EFPIA DISCLOSURE CODE?

The EFPIA Disclosure Code is a formal code of conduct that requires all EFPIA member companies and companies which are members of EFPIA member associations to disclose transfers of value to healthcare professionals (HCPs) and healthcare organisations (HCOs). Under the Code, EFPIA member companies will have to disclose the names of healthcare professionals and organisations that have received payments or other transfers of value from them. They will also have to disclose – by HCP or HCO – the total amounts of value transferred, by type of transfer or value which could consist of, for instance, a grant to an HCO, a consultancy fee for speaking, payment for travel, or registration fees to attend a medical education congress. This information will be published on a public platform, which could be on the company's own website or a central platform combining data from different companies.



WHY WAS THE CODE CREATED?

Collaborative working between healthcare professionals and commercial life sciences organisations has long been a positive driver for advancements in patient care and progression of innovative medicine. Both parties regularly join together, during early scientific research, clinical trials and medical education in the interests of delivering and advancing high quality patient care.

What's more, as the primary point of contact with patients, the medical profession can offer invaluable and expert knowledge on patients' behaviour and management of diseases. This plays a big part in informing the pharmaceutical industry's efforts to improve patient care and treatment options – and is essential in improving health outcomes.

A healthy working relationship between the pharmaceutical industry and HCPs/HCOs is in the best interest of patients. The EFPIA Disclosure Code was created to protect the integrity of these relationships, and represents a step towards fostering greater transparency and building greater trust between the pharmaceutical industry, the medical community and society across Europe.

the industry and healthcare professionals can create the potential for conflicts of interest. In recent years, there have been calls for increased transparency around these relationships. Towards this end, EFPIA and its member associations and companies have adopted codes and guidelines to ensure that these interactions meet the high standards of integrity that patients, governments and other stakeholders expect.



WHO HAS AGREED TO THE DISCLOSURE CODE?

On June 24, 2013, the EFPIA General Assembly formally adopted the EFPIA Disclosure Code. In adopting the Code, EFPIA member companies are required to implement it by 2016, at which point they will make publicly available payments and transfers of value made to healthcare professionals and organisations from the previous year, 2015. In autumn of 2013, EFPIA published letters signed by all CEOs of its member companies, renewing their commitment to the EFPIA Codes, including the Disclosure Code.



WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

EFPIA's transparency website (<http://transparency.efpia.eu/>) is a good place to start. It includes information on all of EFPIA's initiatives that are moving the industry towards greater openness, including the Disclosure Code.



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