



IPHA Disclosure Code

From January 2016, member companies of the **Irish Pharmaceutical Healthcare Association (IPHA)**, which represents the research based pharmaceutical industry in Ireland, will make publicly available details of how we engage with and support healthcare professionals (HCPs) and healthcare organisations (HCOs) to provide better patient care. The information will be made public no later than 1st July 2016 and will convey information about transfers of value such as research and development, donations and grants (including medical education and unrestricted educational grants), consultancy fees, conference registration fees or travel costs to attend medical congresses.

IPHA and its member companies are currently interacting closely with HCPs/HCOs to raise their awareness and prepare for the implementation of this disclosure process.

Why is greater transparency important?

The IPHA's move towards greater transparency is part of a European wide initiative designed to bring transparency to the way the research based pharmaceutical industry and the healthcare community work together for the ultimate benefit of patients.

The healthcare profession offers invaluable expert knowledge about the management of disease which plays an important part in informing the pharmaceutical industry's efforts to improve patient care and treatment options – critical to improving health outcomes. It's important that these interactions meet the high standards of integrity that patients, governments and other stakeholders expect.

Ultimately our goal is to assure the public that such relationships do not influence clinical decisions and that they can trust their HCP to recommend treatment or administer appropriate care based solely on clinical evidence and experience.

What information will be made available to the public?

Following consent by the HCP the following information will be made available during 2016 for transfers of value which took place in 2015:

- Contribution to costs related to events
- Fees for service and consultancy

Similar information relating to HCOs will be made available in addition to transfers of value for donations and grants.



Data Privacy

No individual information will be made public by IPHA member companies without the expressed consent of the HCP. IPHA member companies must comply with applicable data protection and other laws. Thus legally, companies must obtain consent from HCPs prior to disclosure of individual data. It is recommended that companies also obtain consent from HCOs prior to disclosure.

Applicability

The IPHA Code of Practice which governs the application of the transfer of value disclosure requirement applies to all prescription medicine member companies of the IPHA. IPHA has 47 member companies which include most research based pharmaceutical companies who supply medicines in Ireland. In a case where a member company is found in breach of the Code, then IPHA would sanction the company in question.

More information

For more information on what this move towards greater transparency means for you, please consult the IPHA Code of Practice at www.ipha.ie (Publications). You may wish to discuss it with representatives from IPHA member companies that you may work with. Also you can contact your professional representative organisation. All leading professional organisations have been informed of the move to greater transparency and working with IPHA to advise us on how best to implement the change.

Definitions

The IPHA Code of Practice defines HCPs as any registered medical practitioner, registered dentist, registered pharmacist or registered nurse.

HCOs are defined as any healthcare, medical or scientific association or organisation (irrespective of the legal or organisational form) such as a hospital, clinic, foundation, university or other teaching institution or learned society (except for patient organisations within the scope of Annex III of the IPHA Code) whose business address, place of incorporation or primary place of operation is in Europe or (ii) through which one or more HCPs provide services.

The IPHA looks forward to collaborating with the healthcare profession in this move towards greater transparency for the future.

