



# Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain

Helping pharmacists achieve excellence

31 August 2010

Heather Simmonds  
Prescription Medicines Code of Practice Authority  
12 Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2DY

RUTH WAKEMAN

HEAD OF PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

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Dear Sir/Madam,

## **Re: Phase 2 proposals to amend the ABPI Code of Practice for the Pharmaceutical Industry**

Please find below the response of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain to the above consultation. This response has been prepared by the professional arm of the Society following specialist input from the Industrial Pharmacists Group.

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain is currently the professional and regulatory body for pharmacists in England, Scotland and Wales. There will be de-merger of the Society's regulatory and professional roles in September 2010 which will see the establishment of a new General Pharmaceutical Council and a new Professional body.

The objectives of the Society are to represent the pharmacy profession and to promote our policies and views to a range of external stakeholders. We strive to lead and support pharmacists and to assist in their development and to promote the advancement of science, practice, education and knowledge in pharmacy.

### **Proposed amendments to clauses 18, 19 and 20**

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society supports the range of proposed changes to clauses 18, 19, and 20 which aim to improve transparency in the code of practice.

Specifically we agree that strengthening the requirement for pharmaceutical companies to make financial information linked to donations, grants, benefits in kind, gift inducements, promotional aids, educational goods and services, hospitality, sponsorship and consultation fees, publicly available is a positive step forward and support the proposed changes in the ABPI code of practice that will make this mandatory.

In addition we support the requirement for mandatory inclusion of declaration requirements in contracts with health professionals and other consultants.

We hope these comments are useful.

Thank you for contacting the Society.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ruth Wakeman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ruth Wakeman MRPharmS

Head of Professional Support