



What is Disclosure UK and why are we doing it?

Karen Borrer, Head of Corporate Communication MedComms Networking Brunch Club, 1 November 2017, Oxford

The simple answer...



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What is **Disclosure UK**?



- Disclosure UK is an online, searchable database that shows payments and benefits in kind – known as transfers of value (ToV) – made to healthcare professionals (HCPs), other relevant decision makers (ORDMs), and organisations (HCOs) for working in partnership with the pharmaceutical industry.
- It is part of a Europe-wide, pharmaceutical industry-led initiative, laid out in the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA) HCP/HCO Disclosure Code and the ABPI Code of Practice for the Pharmaceutical Industry.
- It is something that pharmaceutical companies that are Code signatories must do annually in order to be compliant.



PMCPA/Prescrip

What does it show?



Data shown on Disclosure UK covers the key areas of collaboration between industry and HCPs, including:

- participation in advisory boards
- speaking at or chairing meetings
- working with and advising doctors and scientists in pharmaceutical companies
- speaking at conferences and symposia
- attending and contributing to national and international conferences
- participating in medical education and training funded by pharmaceutical companies.

It also shows ToVs for collaboration with HCOs including:

- provision of grants and donations
- sponsorship of events for the provision of medical education to HCPs.

In addition it shows the total amounts that pharmaceutical companies spend annually on research and development activities with HCPs and HCOs, most commonly in clinical trials.



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But it's more complicated...





History of disclosure in the UK





The UK pharmaceutical industry has a long history of openness about its collaborations with HCPs, HCOs and patient organisations, dating back to the introduction of the first ABPI Code of Practice for the Pharmaceutical Industry published in 1958.

Disclosure UK is the latest step in this journey towards greater transparency about our relationships.

It's impacting our reputation



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Transparency remains a key driver for industry reputation – particularly in pricing and drug development. Disclosure plays a small but important role in that reputation development.

ComRes Reputation Audit 2016

"We should be willing to disclose what has been received. You know, I've received payments, myself, for things and I'm happy to say that, and why. Where there are occasions where it's been from a single company I think you have to accept that there is some conflict of interest. If you are transparent about that, I think that's okay."

- HCP

"I think it's a good initiative. It will have some impact but nowhere near as much impact as some really good, strong, positive campaigns about the [industry's] contribution to improving patient care and the economy."

Patient Representative Group

Others agree with us



NHS England supports the development of Disclosure UK in bringing greater transparency to the relationships between HCPs and industry.

Its guidance* to staff and organisations on managing conflicts of interest suggests that:

... "organisations should seek to ensure that staff who are subject to wider transparency initiatives such as the ABPI Disclosure UK scheme are aware of and comply with them"...



Guidance for staff and organisations



NHS England

Publications Gateway Reference: 06419

* https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/guidance-managing-conflicts-of-interest-nhs.pdf, accessed October 2017

Others agree with us *



(Doctors should) "Be open about any conflict of interest they face, declaring it formally when appropriate and as early as possible, in line with the policies of their employer or the organisation contracting their services."

GMC Joint Statement on Col

"We hope that more individuals and organisations do choose to be open about the payments and benefits they are receiving. Ultimately we would expect one hundred per cent take up because patients should know the basis on which their doctor is making a recommended treatment."

AoMRC statement

"...we strongly encourage individuals to give their consent for payments they receive from the pharmaceutical industry to be disclosed as part of the ABPI Disclosure UK initiative..."

NICE Col consultation document

*http://www.abpi.org.uk/our-work/disclosure/Pages/disclosure.aspx, accessed October 2017

The future of Disclosure UK



2020 -2019 - 90%* 2018 – 75%* 100%* 2016 - 55% Data collected Data collected Data collected Data collected Data collected Jan – Dec 2015 Jan – Dec 2016 Jan – Dec 2017 Jan – Dec 2018 Jan – Dec 2019 - NHSE Col guidance in force June 2017 - AoMRC statement issued June 2017 - GMC statement issued August 2017 100% target in 3 'publication' years

* Estimated consent rate



More information?

If you would like more information please contact the Disclosure UK team:



info@disclosureuk.org.uk



0207 747 1410