

Standard Explanation of Declarations of Interest for Members of the NHS Tayside Drug and Therapeutics Committee – Medicines Advisory Group

If members have interests not specified in these notes but which they believe could be regarded as influencing their advice they should declare them.

Personal Interests

A personal interest involves payment to the member personally. The main examples are:

- a. Consultancies: any consultancy, directorship, position in or work for the pharmaceutical industry which attracts regular or occasional payments in cash or kind.
- b. Fee-Paid Work: any work commissioned by the pharmaceutical industry for which the member is paid in cash or kind.
- c. Shareholdings: any shareholding in or other beneficial interest in shares of the pharmaceutical industry. This does not include shareholdings through unit trusts or similar arrangements where the member has no influence or financial management.

Non-Personal Interests

A non-personal interest involves payment which benefits a department for which a member is responsible, but is not received by the member personally. The main examples are:

- a. Fellowships: the holding of a fellowship endowed by the pharmaceutical industry.
- b. Support by the pharmaceutical industry: any payment, other support or sponsorship by the pharmaceutical industry which does not convey any pecuniary or material benefit to a member personally but which does benefit his/her position or department eg.
 - A grant from a company for the running of a unit or department for which a member is responsible;
 - A grant or fellowship or other payment to sponsor a post or a member of staff in the unit for which the member is responsible. This does not include financial assistance for students;
 - The commissioning of research or other work by, or advice from, staff who work in a unit for which the member is responsible.

Members are under no obligation to seek out knowledge of work done for or on behalf of the pharmaceutical industry within departments for which they are responsible if they would not normally expect to be informed.

Members should declare a personal specific interest if he or she has at any time worked on the product under consideration and has personally received payment for that work, in any form, from the pharmaceutical industry. If the interest is no longer current, the member may declare it as a lapsed* personal specific interest.

Members should declare a personal non-specific interest if he or she has a current personal interest in the pharmaceutical company concerned which does not relate specifically to the product under consideration

Members should declare a non-personal specific interest if he or she is aware that the department for which he or she is responsible has at any time worked on the product but the member has not personally received payment in any form from the pharmaceutical industry for the work done.

Members should declare a non-personal, non-specific interest if he or she is aware that the department for which he or she is responsible is currently receiving payment from the pharmaceutical company concerned which does not relate specifically to the product under consideration.

If a member is aware that a product under consideration is or may become a competitor of a product manufactured, sold or supplied by a company in which the member has a current personal interest, he or she should declare an interest in the company marketing the rival product.

* an interest is considered to have lapsed after 2 years.