

# **Methods used to identify financial benefits 2019**

**Biocodex Oy**

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## 1 Target

Pharmaceutical companies are constantly cooperating with healthcare professionals. Transparency and openness of operations is to be guaranteed throughout Europe by disclosing financial relationships between pharmaceutical companies and healthcare professionals. The disclosure follows the codes of the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries (EFPIA) and Pharma Industry Finland (PIF).

In Finland the members of Pharma Industry Finland are committed to publishing financial information that is related to cooperation with healthcare professionals. As a member of Pharma Industry Finland, Biocodex Oy wants for its part to ensure transparency and openness of the operations and discloses the cooperation information annually.

In this memo we present a summary of the methods we have used to create a table of financial benefits. We also describe the methods by which the information to be disclosed has been categorised.

The cooperation between Biocodex Oy and healthcare professionals and organizations is mainly related to complementary training. Together with healthcare professionals and organizations we organize training in those therapeutic areas in which we are active. For our part we want to ensure that the latest information is made conveniently and rapidly available to professionals. Continuously updating the expertise of healthcare professionals and providing them with the latest research information is in the interest of all parties. Every patient wishes that that his/her illness is investigated and treated using the very latest medical information.

## 2 Definitions

### Healthcare professional (HCP)

Healthcare professionals are persons that in their work prescribe or supply medicinal products. Persons qualified to prescribe or supply medicinal products are physicians, dentists, veterinarians, authorized pharmacists and pharmacists. When disclosing financial relationships, all nurses are also considered as health care professionals.

The disclosure of the information concerning healthcare professionals is individual, i.e. benefits paid for an individual or a self-employed person.

Disclosing fees and payments to self-employed persons using their names requires their consent for all benefits and agreements with Biocodex. If consent is not available, the benefits are reported as total amounts under *Aggregate disclosure*. The number of persons who have not given their consent is also disclosed as a percentage (%) of the total number of beneficiaries.

A person has the right at any time to request for deletion of individual information from the report. Biocodex Oy is committed to updating the information within 14 days after receiving a written request.

## Healthcare organization (HCO)

Healthcare organizations are healthcare, medical or scientific organizations as well as enterprises and other communities, through which healthcare professionals provide services. These kinds of organizations are e.g. hospitals, clinics, foundations, universities or other educational institutions. Patient organizations don't belong to this group but the cooperation with them is governed by special regulations.

The financial benefits related to research and product development are always reported as summaries. Biocodex Oy is a sales and marketing company so it doesn't have any benefits to be reported in this group.

## 3 Disclosure principles

The financial benefits related to cooperation between pharmaceutical companies and healthcare professionals (HCP) and healthcare organizations (HCO) that are related to prescriptions and OTC medicines with the following principles:

A financial benefit may be a fee or other compensation for work done for a pharmaceutical company or a work-related cost (travel, accommodation). Donations and other support for healthcare organisations (HCO) are also subject to disclosure.

Events or compensations related to non medicinal products or food supplements are not included in the disclosure.

The disclosure takes place in the country where the recipient of the financial benefit has its principal place of business, work address or place of registration. However, the individual foreign benefits are disclosed in connection to the local benefits, if Biocodex does not operate in the respective country. The financial benefit to be disclosed is allocated to the year during which the payment was made.

The amounts are reported in euros. If the costs include expenses in other currencies, they are reported in euros using the exchange rate on the date of payment. The financial benefit to be disclosed is defined on the basis of its cost to the company (not value/benefit from the beneficiary's point of view).

The reported amounts don't include taxes. Biocodex Oy has performed all its tax obligations in accordance with the legislation in force.

According to the recommendation of Pharma Industry Finland, Biocodex will publish the 2019 benefits on 13. June 2020. The data tables and the background information of the disclosure report will be published at <https://www.biocodexnordics.fi/fi/yritys/yhteistyon-lapinakyvyys>.

## 4 Report categories

The benefits are always disclosed to a clearly identifiable entity.

The individual disclosure includes actual registration costs and/or travel and accommodation costs related to them which are paid for healthcare professionals against vouchers.

Organizational fees and costs to be disclosed include e.g. donations and grants, contribution to costs related to events and fees for service and consultancy which are paid for private entrepreneurs, limited partnership companies or limited liability companies.

### 4.1. Donations and grants to healthcare organizations

A donation is published as detailed as possible in the name of the recipient, such as an association, a hospital, a university or, possibly, an independent part thereof.

### 4.2. Contribution to costs related to events

Contribution to costs related to events mean sponsorship for events arranged by health care organizations.

The contribution is allocated to real, documented costs such as rent for exhibition stands, purchase of advertising space or organization of satellite symposiums. In return, the company is given the opportunity to market its products on an exhibition stand or in other ways related to the event.

Trainings are arranged in a place appropriate for the implementation of the program, never in famous entertainment venues or a luxurious places. The event may also be e.g. an international congress abroad.

Travels sponsored for healthcare professionals shall be arranged so that the participants spend most of their time in scientific events or in training. Travels can't be extended for personal reasons.

Events related to prescriptions shall be arranged for the healthcare professionals who have the right to prescribe medicines. When a person working in the public healthcare is offered an opportunity to participate in an event supported by pharmaceutical industry, the invitation shall be addressed to the relevant healthcare unit. The unit chooses independently the person who shall participate in the travel or the event.

### 4.3. Fees for service and consultancy

Service or consultancy and the fee paid for it is always defined and described in a written agreement. The value of the financial benefit is demonstrated to the party of the agreement (healthcare professional or healthcare organization).

The following are included in the category of fees for service and consultancy, for example:

- Fees for expert speakers
- Fees for medical articles
- Fees for planning and producing training material
- Expert consulting

If the agreement contains fees or other expenses such as travel or accommodation costs, these benefits shall be specified and disclosed in appropriate categories. Fees paid in form of salary are disclosed as gross salaries without social security contributions.

## 5 Contact information

For additional on information on disclosure by Biocodex Oy, please contact General Manager Tessa Ahoalmi +358 50 501 4582, [t.ahosalmi@biocodex.fi](mailto:t.ahosalmi@biocodex.fi)