

## **THROMBOSIS UK POLICY GUIDELINE TO WORKING WITH CORPORATE, LINKED INDUSTRY & PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY SUPPORTERS**

Thrombosis UK has an excellent reputation in the UK for promoting awareness, research and care in the prevention and management of thrombosis.

An important part of this reputation is our integrity. We work to do the right thing in the proper way for the people we represent. Our ethos and values run throughout the organization in everything we do.

Thrombosis UK works with all interested parties and stakeholders who share our values, and with whom we share our common goals:

- To prevent avoidable thrombotic events
- Increase understanding
- Improve management and care of thrombosis.

Our guidelines ensure our approach to working with industry supporters including pharmaceutical companies, is transparent and cannot compromise our independence. We will not engage with any companies unless they contractually agree to these guidelines and do not restrict in any way what we communicate with our stakeholders and the public.

Our policy guideline for working with industry is reviewed annually.

Any project we undertake jointly must align with our vision, mission and aims as an organisation. We will

never promote, advertise or endorse an individual therapy.

In any project we may undertake which has received industry sponsorship, full control and decision making regarding the planning, content and delivery of the work will always rest with Thrombosis UK and we will not allow this policy to be modified under any circumstances.

Thrombosis UK also recognises the need and importance for such partnerships to be transparent and able to stand up to scrutiny. As a result, Thrombosis UK has developed this document to define how the organisation engages with the pharmaceutical industry. This will ensure that Thrombosis UK can withstand external scrutiny of its decisions and actions whilst at the same time allowing the organisation the freedom to work in a way that will benefit those who live with and manage VTE and further the understanding and awareness of VTE.

## About the guidelines

Thrombosis UK will always:

- Demonstrate its independence and impartiality
- Be transparent, consistent and fair when working with industry
- Maintain our integrity and reputation within the charity as well as within the external patient and healthcare community and wider health sectors
- Remain true to its values, ethos and patient-centred approach, putting patients at the heart of everything we do
- Shows our commitment to working collaboratively with pharmaceutical companies, alongside other stakeholders involved in VTE, to improve patient outcomes
- Remain accountable to its internal and external stakeholders

The guideline also complies with other relevant best practice guidelines and codes that have been put in place to ensure a clear, transparent and honest working relationship between pharmaceutical companies and the charitable sector, such as those produced by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI), the Fundraising Standards Board (FSB) and the Institute of Fundraising's Codes of Practice.

Our relationship with sponsors is based on these principles:

- Working with companies does not imply endorsement of the company or their products
- Companies have no input to the design or content of any Thrombosis UK branded programme, project or campaign.
- Thrombosis UK and pharmaceutical companies will comply with relevant best practice guidelines and adhere to these codes that have been put into place to ensure a clear, transparent and honest working relationship between pharmaceutical companies and the charitable sector, such as those produced by the Medicine and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (APBI), the Funding Standards Board (FSB) and the Institute of Fundraising Codes of Practice.
- Thrombosis UK is transparent about any financial support it receives and will ensure that agreements comply with both regulatory requirements and our own guidelines.

We are proud to have successful partnerships, in 2019 these included partnerships with: Alexion, Arjo, Bayer, Bristol Myers Squibb, BMS-Pfizer Alliance, Care UK, Daiichi-Sankyo, Garments, LEO-Pharma, LumiraDX, Pfizer, Portola, Techdow, ThinkSono,

Partnerships with medical device and pharmaceutical companies during 2019 enabled us to run educational meetings across the UK.

Our full accounts for each reporting year can be viewed on the Charity Commission portal and on the charity's own website.