

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 common goals to:

- Prevent avoidable thrombotic events,
- Increase understanding of prevention and management of venous thromboembolism (VTE) (also known as ‘blood clots’)
- Inform and thereby improve management and care of VTE.

Our guidelines ensure the Charity’s approach to working with industry supporters including device and 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.

The official name ‘Thrombosis UK’ and the corresponding ‘Thrombosis UK logo’ may be used only with the permission of Thrombosis UK and only in accordance a contracted agreement by Thrombosis UK.

Our policy guideline for working with industry is reviewed annually.

Working in collaboration:

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 or device.**

In any project that 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 device and pharmaceutical companies. 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 benefits 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.
- Show our commitment to working collaboratively with device and 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 device and 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), Association of British HealthTech Industries (ABHI), the Fundraising Standards Board (FSB) and the Institute of Fundraising's Codes of Practice.

Our relationship with device, pharmaceutical and other industry 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, device 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 device and 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), Association of British HealthTech Industries (ABHI), 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 continued, as well as developed new, successful partnerships with device and pharmaceutical companies in 2020.:

Alexion, Bayer, Bristol Myers Squibb and Pfizer Alliance, Boston Scientific, Cardinal Health, Care UK, Daiichi-Sankyo, LEO-Pharma, LumiraDX, Pfizer, Portola, Sanofi, Techdow, ThinkSono.

Partnerships with medical device and pharmaceutical companies during 2020 enabled us to run an online educational conference as part of Thrombosis UK's support for World Thrombosis Day.

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