

Medicines Management Team

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Dear colleagues,

**Joint working with the Pharmaceutical Industry**

NHS Lambeth CCG has approved the "Guidance for Joint Working with the Pharmaceutical Industry". The guidance applies to **all** Health professionals, including independent contractors working under NHS terms and conditions.

It was developed to address the activities of the pharmaceutical industry within the NHS in Lambeth, and ensure that any joint working with the pharmaceutical industry including sponsorship and hospitality are lawful and comply with NHS Lambeth CCG Standards of Business Conduct policy (including Conflicts of Interest)

The implementation of this guidance is not designed to stifle partnership working with pharmaceutical companies, but is designed to ensure that there are mutually agreed outcomes that benefit both the NHS and the pharmaceutical company.

There are two main areas covered by this guidance.

- Joint working
- Hospitality, gifts and sponsorship

The guidance should be read for full details. (<http://www.selondon.nhs.uk/documents/11956.pdf>)

**Joint working**

When approached by pharmaceutical companies for support with projects, audit etc, the offer should be assessed by a senior manager and Head of Medicines Management, using this checklist (Appendix 6), to ensure that the proposal is lawful and meets acceptable standards of corporate and clinical governance. Staff should not agree to participate in any project with a pharmaceutical company until this process has been followed. A summary of this process is attached.

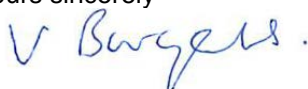
Where it is unclear if a proposal meets the local criteria, or further advice is needed on a project, guidance should be sought from medicine management team.

**Hospitality, gifts and sponsorship**

Practices should ensure that they have an agreed process for recording offers of sponsorship or hospitality. The Register of Hospitality, Gifts and Sponsorship (Appendix 4) could be used for this purpose. All records should be kept by the practice. **Practices will not be required to submit this information to the Director of Governance and Development.**

If you have any queries, do not hesitate to contact the medicines management team on 020 3049 4197

Yours sincerely



Vanessa Burgess  
Chief Pharmacist and Assistant Director Medicines Optimisation  
NHS Lambeth CCG

**Process summary - Approval of Joint Working Arrangements**

