

MedTech Europe Code of Ethical Business Practice



What does the Code cover?

- The criteria for all events supported or organised by our Member Companies.
- Specific rules for some types of events (Conferences, Procedure Training meetings, product training meetings, etc.).
- Consultancy agreements
- Interactions between HCPs and HCOs
- Grants and Charitable donations
- Research agreements
- Royalties
- Small gifts and educational items
- Demonstration products and samples

Principles that apply whatever the type of interaction

Image and Perception:

Our Member Companies should, at all times, consider the image and perception of the medical technology industry that will be projected to the public when interacting with Healthcare Professionals and Healthcare Organisations.

Transparency:

Our Member Companies will ensure that the HCP's employer or superior is made aware of any interaction or collaboration between them and the HCP.

Documentation:

Any interaction between our Member Companies and HCPs must appear in a written agreement. The activities covered by the agreement must be substantiated and evidenced (for example by activity reports).

Separation:

Interactions between Healthcare Professionals (HCPs) and our Member Companies should be independent from sales transactions, use or recommendation of our Member Companies' products.

Equivalence:

Where Healthcare Professionals are engaged by our Member Companies to perform a service the remuneration must be in line with Fair Market Value for the services.

The Code applies in this geographical area



Timeline

- Introduction on 1 January 2017 of a controlled framework with stringent rules for indirect sponsorship, i.e. educational grants.
- Phasing-out by 1 January 2018 of direct sponsorship of HCPs attending Third-Party Organised Conferences, except for Company speakers at Satellite Symposia
- Transposition by 1 January 2020 of the Code by MedTech Europe National Associations. i.e. bringing the changes to the local level

What's new in the Code?

- Phasing out of direct sponsorship
- Transparency of Educational Grants plus more stringent framework
- Common chapter on General Criteria for all Events
- New chapter on Demonstration Products and Samples
- Agreed definitions
- Common independent enforcement mechanism
- Reinforced scope of the Conference Vetting System

Enforcement

An independent Compliance Panel is competent to handle complaints against our Member Companies that may affect more than one country within the scope of the Code. Otherwise a national solution is normally preferred.

The Conference Vetting System (CVS) reviews the compliance of Third-Party Organised Educational Events (educational conferences and procedure trainings) with the MedTech Europe Code of Ethical Business Practice.

Transparent MedTech is the MedTech Europe transparency platform where the Medical Technology industry discloses all financial contributions provided to independent medical education.

Ethical Charter: Voluntary certification system displaying HCOs/PCOs' engagement to comply with MTE's Code when organising Educational Events.