

## **Methodological Notes**

The relationship between the pharmaceutical industry and healthcare professionals (HCPs) and healthcare organisations (HCOs) is important in the development and delivery of life-enhancing and life-saving medicines. At the core of the relationship is sharing knowledge to improve outcomes for patients. All parties want to ensure that patients and others have confidence that this relationship is open and transparent and this is why the pharmaceutical industry is taking the lead on disclosing details of payments and other benefits in kind made by industry to HCPs and HCOs. This information is published on a database called Disclosure UK.

Disclosure UK is part of a [Europe-wide initiative](https://www.abpi.org.uk/ethics/ethical-responsibility/disclosure-uk/) to increase transparency between pharmaceutical companies and the doctors, nurses, pharmacists and other health professionals and organisations it works with (based on information on the Disclosure UK website, <https://www.abpi.org.uk/ethics/ethical-responsibility/disclosure-uk/>).

The methodological notes below explain the data Dr Falk Pharma UK Limited has disclosed and how the data has been prepared.

### **VAT**

VAT is excluded from disclosures of transfer of value.

### **Currency**

Disclosures are made in pounds sterling (£). Where the original payment was made in another currency, the value was converted to pounds at the exchange rate prevailing at the time of the original payment.

### **Data included**

The data disclosed by Dr Falk Pharma UK Limited is consistent with the requirements of the ABPI Code of Practice. The disclosure data are published on a central platform, hosted by the ABPI – Disclosure UK.

The data are categorised as follows:

#### ***Sponsorship of health professionals to attend educational events***

The data includes all travel costs and accommodation costs, but does not include food and drink costs. The data also includes the registration fee, where applicable, for the health professional to be registered to attend the educational event.

#### ***Payment of consultants who provide services to Dr Falk Pharma UK Ltd***

The data includes the payment of honoraria to health professionals who provided services to Dr Falk Pharma UK Ltd in the past year. Where applicable, the data also includes payment of expenses to consultants in the delivery of their services, such as travel expenses or accommodation expenses, in line with the current Code of Practice.

#### ***Donations, grants and benefits to health care organisations & patient groups***

The data includes transfers of value to UK health care organisations such as the provision of meeting organisation services by Dr Falk Pharma UK Limited or payment to support educational meetings or projects that enhance patient care or benefit the NHS and maintain patient care. Support was declared on materials relating to the specific event or programme.

#### ***Payments to charity and HCO as fees***

On occasion, an HCP who has provided a service to Dr Falk Pharma UK Ltd may ask for their fee to be paid to charity or to the HCO where they are employed. On these occasions, the fee received by the HCP will be disclosed under that HCP's entry.

#### ***Payments to non-UK HCPs or HCOs***

Dr Falk Pharma UK Ltd operates in both the UK and Ireland. As such, some transfers of value are made to organisations and individuals based outside the UK. All payments made by Dr Falk Pharma UK Ltd are declared.

#### ***Patient Organisations***

Patient organisations are providers of essential support and information to those living with medical conditions, as well as their families and carers. Working with these valued organisations allows Dr Falk Pharma UK Ltd to support their efforts with vital resources. All transfers of value to UK-based patient organisations are disclosed.

### **Data Privacy/GDPR and Consent**

Revised data protection under the new GDPR requires that Dr Falk Pharma UK Ltd obtain express permission from individual HCPs prior to disclosing personal data, such as individual transfers of value. Since the new law applies retrospectively to all data, Dr Falk Pharma UK Ltd has decided to treat all personal data as confidential until such time as consent can be unambiguous. Dr Falk has therefore declared the total spend as an aggregate figure as a separate line entry within the relevant disclosure category.