

## AbbVie Ltd Transparency Disclosure Methodological Notes for Reporting Year 2017

As a member company of EFPIA and ABPI, AbbVie Ltd is committed to ensure that the nature and scope of transfers of value (ToV) with healthcare professionals (HCPs) and healthcare organisations (HCOs) are clear and transparent to the public. Therefore, AbbVie Ltd has published applicable ToV provided directly or indirectly to HCPs or HCOs for the 2017 calendar year.

This Methodological Note provides guidance on how AbbVie Ltd has recorded and publicly reported this information in accordance with the current editions of ABPI Transparency Code.

### **Reporting period / Reportable ToV:**

The AbbVie 2017 disclosure includes applicable ToV provided between 1 January 2017 and 31 December 2017.

Transactions processed after 15th January will be considered for the next report.

### **Transparency Acknowledgment from HCPs or HCOs (where applicable):**

Agreements between AbbVie and HCPs/HCOs relating to ToV may have included a Transparency section where HCPs and HCOs were notified of AbbVie's Transparency disclosure obligations.

### **Consent Approach:**

HCPs received correspondence explaining AbbVie's commitment to Transparency and the options and rights they have in accordance with the data protection legislation.

AbbVie Ltd will publish the total value of the ToV for those HCPs that have provided express consent for such individual disclosure. HCPs not providing consent will have their amounts included in an aggregate amount published per ABPI requirements. If an HCP would like to withdraw a consent already provided, they can do so in writing to AbbVie Ltd at [UK.Transparency@abbvie.com](mailto:UK.Transparency@abbvie.com)

### **Partial Consent:**

AbbVie Ltd supports full disclosure. If only partial consent is given by an HCP, all the ToV of this HCP will be disclosed in aggregate.

### **Multiple Licensed HCPs:**

HCPs with licenses authorizing them to practice in more than one country, including AbbVie Ltd may have ToVs disclosed in multiple country reports.

### **Non Duplication:**

Whenever possible, ToV are disclosed to the respective HCPs. If ToV is provided to the company of an HCP, the ToV will be attributed to the company.

### **HCP number of recipients reported at an aggregate level for Reporting:**

In agreement with latest ABPI HCP aggregate guidance (March 2018) each of the four columns to which aggregate ToVs can be attributed (Registration fees, Travel and accommodation, Fees and Related expenses agreed in the fee for service or consultancy contract) have been completed independently with the three rows of information required.

- Aggregate amount attributable to transfers of value to such Recipients
- Number of Recipients in aggregate disclosure
- Number of Recipients disclosed in aggregate as a % of all Recipients (individual & aggregate disclosures)

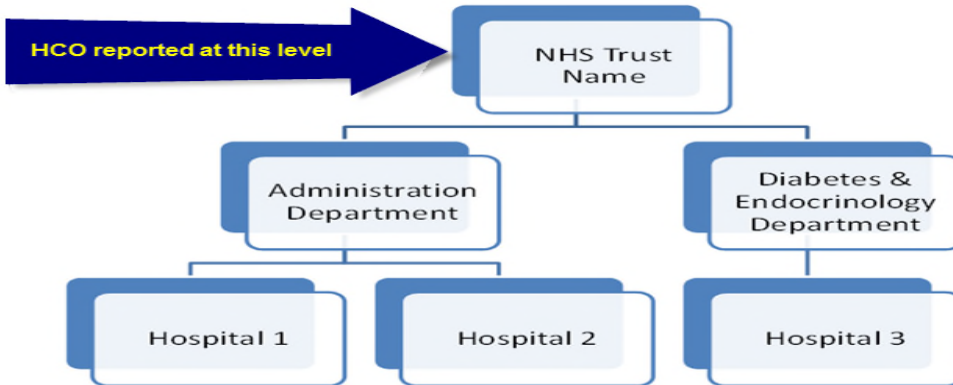
So that for each column of spend all of this information is completed, resulting in:

- The amount of money spent on registration fees that is not individually disclosed
- The number of individuals that received this money for registration fees who are not individually disclosing

- The percentage of all of the individuals receiving ToVs that this number represents.

**HCO Disclosure:**

Where it has not been possible to identify an individual hospital or department within an organisation, the HCO will be reported at the highest organizational level as displayed below:



**Cross Border Interactions:**

Reportable ToV provided by AbbVie affiliates (worldwide) to UK HCPs/HCOs have been included.

**Sponsoring Payments Made to More Than One HCO:**

In the case of sponsorship agreements where different HCOs have participated, it was assumed that each HCO received an equal share and was published for each HCO.

**Joint Working:**

A formal written agreement is in place between AbbVie Ltd and the NHS. AbbVie Ltd has made the executive summary publicly available on AbbVie’s website: [www.abbvie.co.uk](http://www.abbvie.co.uk)

**Pre Disclosure:**

During February and March 2017, HCPs that granted consent to disclose on individual level, received a statement containing the details of ToV to be reported according to ABPI requirements. AbbVie’s intention was to provide an opportunity for HCPs to verify and review the information to ensure it is accurate, prior to disclosure on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

**Transfer of Value Definitions:**

**HCPs ToV Definition, such as:**

- Fee for Service and Consultancy
  - Speaker fee (including associated preparation work)
  - Advisory Boards and other consultancy engagements (including associated preparation work)
  - Chairing a meeting
  - Training
  - Educational/Scientific Events

Note: Where AbbVie knows the identity of a market research participant (single blind market research), the fee(s) will be disclosed under this category.

- Related expenses agreed in the Fee for Service or consultancy contract, such as:

- Flights
- Hotel
- Other transportations costs (mileage, train, taxi, bus, underground, parking)

Note: Where incidental expenses are immaterial and unable to be disaggregated from the fees, said expenses will be disclosed under the Fee for Service and Consultancy Fees category.

- Contribution to cost of events e.g. sponsorship for registration fees, travel and accommodation, such as:
  - Congress/Meeting registration
  - Flights
  - Hotel
  - Other transportations costs (mileage, train, taxi, bus, underground, parking)

#### **HCOs ToV Definition:**

- Fee for service and consultancy, such as:
  - Speaker fee (including associated preparation work)
  - Advisory Boards and other consultancy engagements (including associated preparation work)
  - Chairing a meeting
  - Training
  - Educational/Scientific Events
- Related expenses agreed in the fee for service or consultancy contract, such as:
  - Flights
  - Hotel
  - Other transportations costs (mileage, train, taxi, bus, underground, parking)
- Contribution to cost of events e.g. sponsorship for registration fees, travel and accommodation, such as:
  - Congress/Meeting registration
  - Flights
  - Hotel
  - Other transportation costs (mileage, train, taxi, bus, underground, parking)
- Sponsorship agreements with HCOs/third parties appointed by HCOs to manage an event, such as part funded independent education events. When sponsorship also included catering costs and any other forms of funding (e.g. logistical costs) as part of a sponsorship package these are disclosed as a ToV (sponsorship).
  - Where indirect sponsorship of an HCP occurs through an HCO, the ToV will be disclosed in the name of the HCO recipient.
  - Where the AbbVie sponsorship is provided through a conference organizer, the ToV will be disclosed in the name of the recipient HCO.
  - Where a vendor is organizing an event (via AbbVie provided sponsorship) on behalf of more than one HCO, then the ToV will be disclosed in the name of each HCO recipient.
- Donations and Grants to HCOs and Benefits in Kind to HCOs

#### **Date Methodology:**

AbbVie followed the date methodology when determining which ToV are in scope for current reporting cycle:

**Event Date** is defined as the date the expense occurred. ToV related to the following categories will use the Event Date when determining applicability for current year reporting requirements (e.g., did the event occur within the reporting period 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2017).

- Fee for Service and Consultancy: Expenses
- Contribution to Cost of Events: Registration Fees
- Contribution to Cost of Events: Travel and Accommodation

**Paid Date** is defined as the date the payment was provided to the covered recipient. ToV related to the following categories use the Paid Date when determining applicability for current year reporting requirements (e.g., did the payment occur within the reporting period 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2017).

- Fee For Service and Consultancy: Fee
- Contribution to Cost of Events: Sponsorship Agreements
- Grants and Donations
- Research and Development

**Out of Scope:**

Meals, drinks, 'samples and starter packs' (as defined by Clause 17 of the 2016 ABPI Code), package deals, promotional aids and patient support items (all as defined by Clause 18 of the 2016 ABPI Code) are out of scope.

**VAT:**

Where applicable, disclosure of payments does not include VAT. Cross border ToV may or may not include VAT depending on the submitting source.

**Withholding Taxes:**

Where applicable, for services provided in locations outside of United Kingdom ToV amounts will be reported as in the contract agreement.

**Currency:**

All information is reported in Pound Sterling (GBP).

**Exchange Rate:**

Where ToV were captured in foreign currency, amounts were converted to local currency based on Monthly Average Rates.

**Rounding:**

For each HCP/HCO, ToV for each reporting category are rounded to the nearest Pound Sterling (GBP). The Total Amount for each HCP/HCO represents the sum of the reporting category amounts.

**Multiyear Contracts:**

Activities with ToV, crossing calendar years may have the contracted full amount disclosed using the date of last payment.

**Research and Development:**

For the purpose of disclosure, research and development (R&D) ToV are ToV to HCPs or HCOs related to the planning or conduct of:

- Non-clinical studies
- Clinical trials
- Non-interventional studies that are prospective in nature and involve the collection of data from, or on behalf of, individual or groups of HCPs specifically for the study.

The total aggregate disclosure includes ToV made by AbbVie Ltd to HCPs/HCOs, as well as those made by its parent company, subsidiaries and joint ventures (as required by the partner agreement).



Clinical trials with retrospective elements including ToV direct or indirect to HCPs/HCOs, has been disclosed at an individual level as a fee for service.

Biological samples and investigational compounds will be excluded from R&D disclosures. These compounds are subject to provisions under the Clinical Trial Directive (their use is submitted in the clinical trial approval process).

Lending of laboratory equipment that is used exclusively for conducting a study and will be returned to AbbVie at the end of the study will not be disclosed in the R&D aggregate amount.

**Post Publication Disputes**

AbbVie will review and investigate disputes with HCPs/HCOs relative to our transparency reports. Any changes resulting from this review will be published in an updated report.