

Disclosure of Payments to Individual Healthcare Professionals

Why are individual payments being disclosed?

The drive to increase transparency of relationships between the pharmaceutical industry, healthcare professionals (HCPs) and healthcare organisations (HCOs) is a Europe wide initiative. The European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA) agreed the EFPIA Disclosure Code in June 2013 and disclosure has been implemented in the UK through amendments to the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI) Code of Practice.

What is changing?

Since 2012, payments made to healthcare professionals, for consultancy services, by pharmaceutical companies have been made publically available on an aggregate basis. Companies have disclosed the number of healthcare professionals they work with, the total amount paid for fees for service and sponsorship to attend educational meetings.

Pharmaceutical companies are now required to disclose details of payments on an annual basis, with details of payments made in 2015 being published by 1st July 2016. Pharmaceutical companies will collect details of relevant payments to HCPs and healthcare organisations HCOs and collate them into a template, which will be uploaded to the central platform through a secure system.

How will the data be managed and checked?

Details of payments made to HCPs and HCOs will be submitted by companies and published on a proposed central platform, accessible via the ABPI website.

The data will be checked to ensure that it is correct, complete, up-to-date and has accurate search functionality. Before any of the information goes live, healthcare professionals will be given the opportunity to check the data relating to them and raise any queries with the relevant company. After the checking period, the data will go live via the ABPI website. www.abpi.co.uk on Thursday, 30th June 2016.

Who will be able to see the data and how?

The UK platform will be a single, searchable, publicly available database to display the payment information. Accessed through the ABPI website, users will be able to search the data. Anyone can search the database. For example, a patient registering at a new surgery will be able to see any payments their GP may have received and what they were for.

Is it compulsory for HCPs to consent to disclosure?

Servier fully supports transparency within the industry and adheres to all the laws and regulations in this country governing disclosure. We take this responsibility very seriously.

Disclosure is an industry initiative to improve transparency, and therefore disclosure is optional for HCPs. Personal information is protected by Data Protection law and details cannot be disclosed without documented consent from the individual concerned. We believe the choice is that of the HCP, that there may be a variety of reasons a HCP may not wish to disclose, and that we should respect their decision without the threat of sanctions. A HCP can withdraw consent to disclose their individual payments at any time.

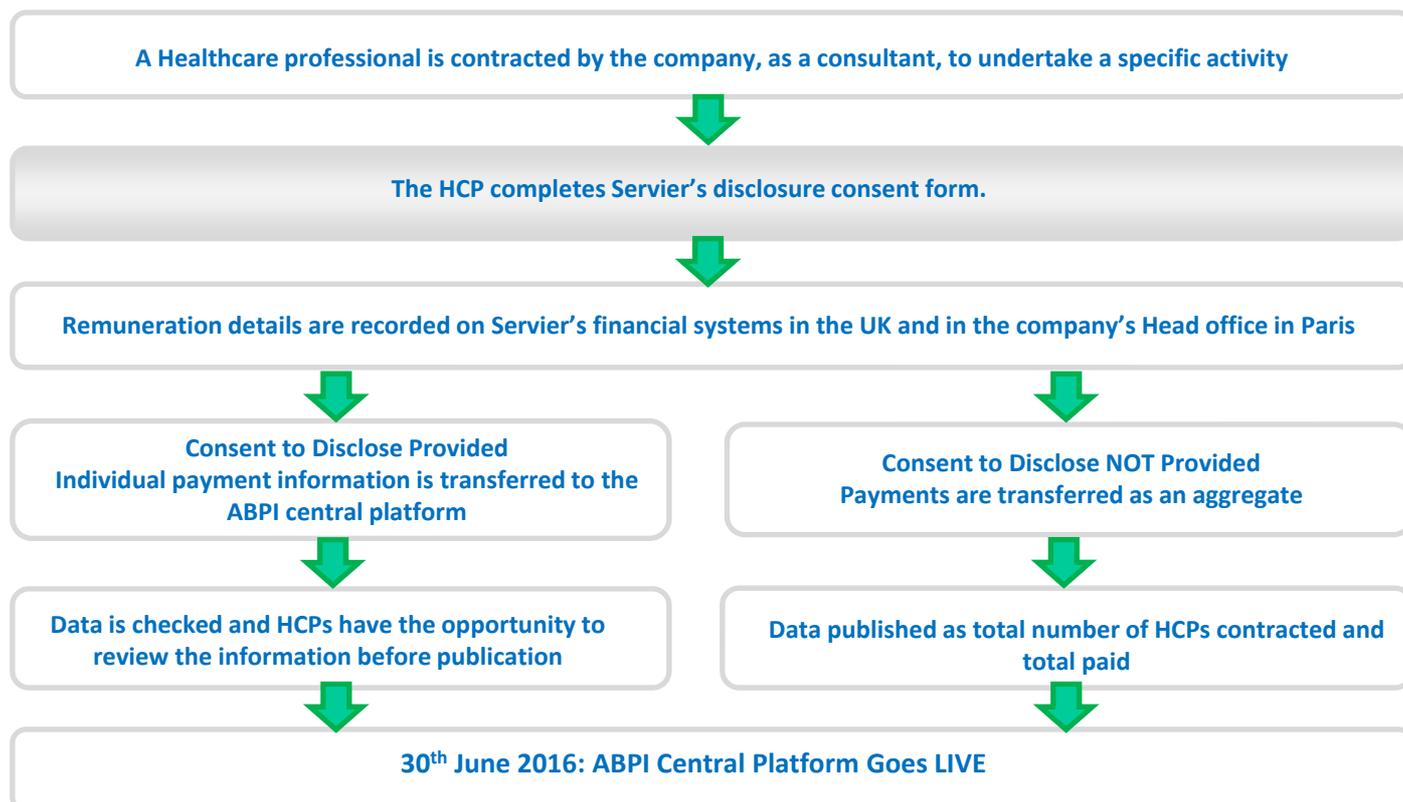
What happens if a HCP does not agree with the payment information a company holds?

If a HCP does not agree with the information about how much they were paid by a company, the HCP can contact the company directly, or the ABPI so that the issue can be resolved. Until a resolution has been found, data on that individual HCP will be added to the aggregate total and will not be disclosed.

Consultation with HCPs

In 2013, the Ethical Standards in Health and Life Sciences Group (ESHLG) conducted a consultation with HCPs to identify in principle whether there would be support for a centrally hosted, single, searchable database for payments. 1,155 responses were received from a range of individuals, HCOs and professional bodies. Over 90% of respondents agreed payments should be transparent and publicly declared. The results were published in the British Medical Journal in October 2013

DISCLOSURE PROCESS



- HCP's maintain the right to review, amend or withdraw consent to disclosure of their material at any time.
- If you are an HCP and require information relating to Servier's approach to disclosure, please contact DatamanagementUK@servier.com
- For further information on HCP payment disclosures or the ABPI Code of Practice please go to www.abpi.org.uk or email info@abpi.org.uk



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