

Code Review Panel Communiqué

The Code Review Panel (CRP) held its fourth formal meeting on 28 November 2013. The following members attended the meeting:

Mr Geoff McDonald (Chairman)	GlaxoSmithKline
Ms Daniella Dickson	PriceWaterhouseCoopers
Mr Aaron Guttman	Bristol-Myers Squibb
Dr Ken Harvey	Consumers Health Forum
Ms Shane McSpedden	Pfizer Australia
Dr Beata Niechoda	Shire Australia
Dr Shaun O'Mara	Novo Nordisk
Mr Andrew Roberts	Boehringer Ingelheim
Ms Genie Small	Pfizer
Ms Holly Kania	Roche Products

Secretariat

Mrs Sophie Hibburd	Medicines Australia
Ms Deborah Monk	Medicines Australia

Apologies

Ms Sonja Eibl	Bayer
Dr Robyn Langham	Australian Medical Association

The CRP:

- Received the draft report of the three consumer workshop for the Code Review, prepared by workshop facilitator Ms Ann Porcino. The Report will be sent to all consumers who participated in the workshops for their comment before finalising the report.
- Agreed to form sub-groups reporting to the Panel to progress key issues relating to legal, stakeholder communications and technical aspects of implementing the model.
- Agreed that the scope of the transparency model should be limited to Australian healthcare professionals receiving payment from Australian pharmaceutical companies, consistent with the scope of the Code of Conduct.
- Discussed the option of setting a maximum monetary limit for hospitality (food and beverages) for a single meal. This will be considered in the light of Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI) recently setting a maximum limit of expenditure on hospitality in its Code of Practice. The Panel also noted that, similarly to the ABPI Code of Practice, the maximum amount would be appropriate only in exceptional circumstances.
- Developed some hypothetical scenarios as to how the transparency model would work, for inclusion in the Code of Conduct Guidelines.
- Considered a range of amendments, other than relating to transparency, to develop Code Edition 18.

The next meeting of the CRP will be held in mid-December 2013.