

Blanch, Belinda

From: Macrae, Tess
Sent: Thursday, 16 October 2014 2:27 PM
To: !MAG Admin
Subject: FW: UK needs database of payments from industry to doctors
[SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Categories: Bel
Security Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Dear Ken Harvey,

The article (BMJ 2014;349:g6197 doi: 10.1136/bmj.g6197 [Published 13 October 2014] - 'UK needs database of payments from industry to doctors') supports our case for the ACCC to request the Medicines Australia Code to include a mandatory transparency process to illuminate payments and transfers of value between pharmaceutical companies and health care professionals that is publicly accessible. It is interesting to note that both the medical profession in the UK (Royal College of Physicians) and the General Medical Council (the equivalent of the Australian Health Practitioners Regulation Authority here) as well as the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry are all in agreement that transparency arrangements are necessary and are to be applied to all health professionals as entries showing transfers of value in databases available publicly. There is no mention in this article of health professionals being able to opt-out and still receive secret gifts from pharmaceutical companies. I hope this article encourages the ACCC to hold the Medicines Australia Code to the same standard.

Yours sincerely, Prof Philip Morris.

I am happy for this to be published on the ACCC website.