



POLICY ON WORKING WITH PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES

ABOUT THE HEPATITIS B FOUNDATION UK

We are a registered charity (no. 1116556).

Mission statement

Our mission is to:

- promote interventions designed to prevent hepatitis B virus infection, including universal immunisation
- promote the welfare of people with hepatitis B virus infection and its related complications by educating
 - people with hepatitis B virus infection
 - health professionals and others who care for them
 - the general public
- facilitate supportive networking between patients, their families and friends
- secure the best possible services in the UK for the management of liver diseases related to hepatitis B virus infection, including liver cancer.

Our activities

- Raising awareness about the prevention of hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection, including the key role of immunisation.
- Raising awareness about the treatment and management of chronic hepatitis B.
- Offering advice and information to individuals with HBV infection or to their families and friends, providing a 'bespoke' service by phone/email/post.
- Facilitating networking between patients and/or families affected by HBV infection, putting people in touch with others for support and sharing of experiences.
- Campaigning to secure the best possible services in the UK for the prevention of HBV infection, including universal immunisation.
- Campaigning to secure the best possible services in the UK for the management of hepatitis B virus-related liver diseases, including liver cancer.

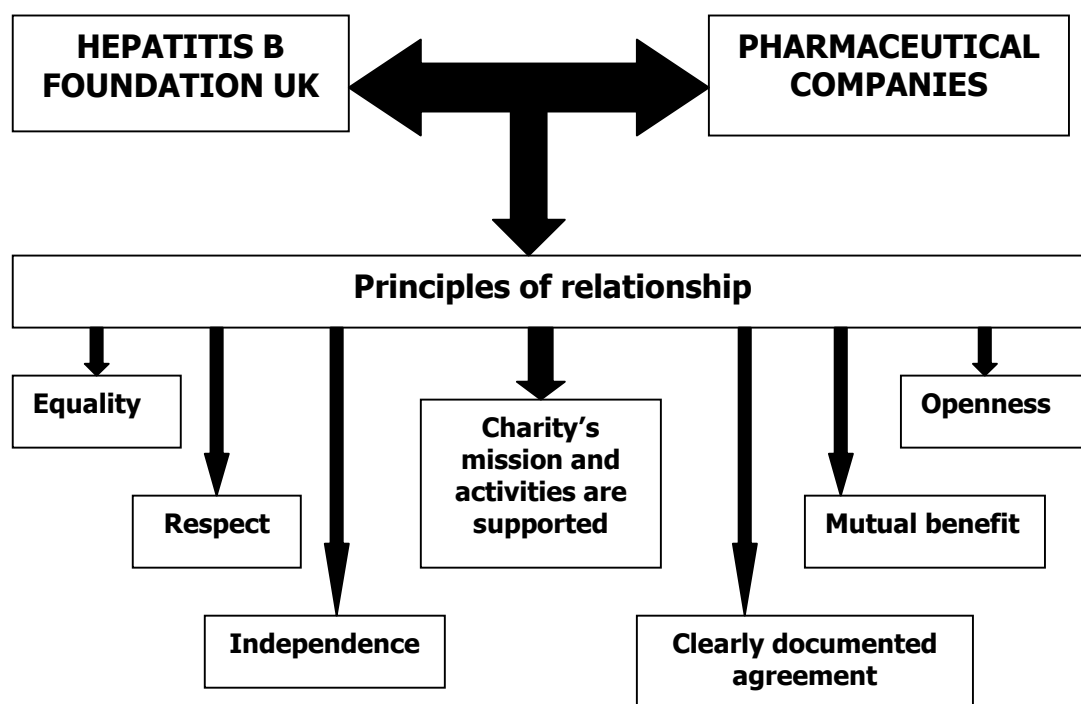
Ethical policy

Acceptance of donations and use of funds to support the mission and activities of the charity places a statutory duty to act in accordance with an ethical policy. This includes our policy on working with pharmaceutical companies.

PRINCIPLES OF THE CHARITY'S RELATIONSHIP WITH PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES

Figure 1 summarises the principles of the charity's relationship with pharmaceutical companies.

FIGURE 1: PRINCIPLES OF RELATIONSHIP



Charity's mission and activities are supported

The relationship must further the Hepatitis B Foundation UK's charitable mission and activities.

Equality

Both parties in the relationship should be of equal importance. The Foundation will not enter into a relationship designed to give obvious competitive advantage to any company. We favour entering into a relationship with more than one company, although we will work with a single company if this furthers our charitable objectives.

Respect

The Hepatitis B Foundation UK respects and supports the need for pharmaceutical companies to comply with relevant legislative and regulatory requirements and the ABPI Code of Practice.

Independence

The Foundation's independence should not be compromised by the relationship with a pharmaceutical company. The relationship should not be seen as an endorsement by the Foundation of any particular pharmaceutical

product or service. The charity retains editorial control and copyright over material produced under its name. However, it accepts that pharmaceutical companies are responsible for ensuring that information about their products is correct and complies with regulatory requirements and the ABPI Code of Practice.

Openness

The relationship between the Foundation and a pharmaceutical company should be transparent and it should be expected that the relationship may be made public. The Hepatitis B Foundation UK will make available on its website and annual report the pharmaceutical companies from whom it has received financial support.

Mutual benefit

The relationship should be beneficial to the Hepatitis B Foundation UK and the pharmaceutical company.

Clearly documented agreement

Agreements must be clearly documented with defined objectives, budgetary requirements, timelines and strategy for evaluating stated objectives.

Hepatitis B Foundation UK
May 2009