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Recent EOF Circular on Scientific Events

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On 23.03.2020 the National Organization for Medicines issued a new Circular (no. 37201/23.03.2020) on scientific events. The new Circular amends certain provisions of the previous Circular 27820/2018 in the light of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic and the suspension of all scientific events in Greece. According to the new provisions:

1. Scientific events organized in Greece solely by a foreign company of EOF-regulated products, without (a) any participation of Greek HCPs and/or (b) any involvement of the Greek subsidiary in them, do not require the EOF's notification/ratification.
2. In case of scientific events organized in Greece solely by a foreign company of EOF-regulated products, in which Greek HCPs do participate, the Greek subsidiaries interested in sponsoring HCPs' participation, shall submit the HCPs participations electronically, according to the procedure "Application for HCP's Participation" in conferences abroad organized by a foreign company in Greece.
3. The sponsorship limit of scientific events whose duration lasts more than eight (> 8) hours is fifteen thousand Euros (EUR 15,000.00) per company/sponsor.
4. The 25% budget overrun is not foreseen.
5. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the suspension of all events in Greece, scientific events may be organized during summer season 2020, provided that the prevailing conditions allow for such events. On the contrary, scientific events shall not be organized in tourist destinations during the winter season (15/12 – 15/01) and at skiing destinations during the period between 15/12 - 15/03.
6. There is no reference to the previous scheme of filing applications to the special electronic database of EOF, according to which scientific bodies/companies of EOF-regulated

products intended to organize a scientific event should submit their applications electronically four (4) times per year, in January, April, July and October.

7. Within the current year of each scientific event and until the 1st of June of the following year, the organizing scientific bodies/companies of EOF-regulated products are liable to submit online the reporting data, namely: (a) a financial report of the event (revenues - expenses), (b) a nominal list of the sponsors and the amount of each sponsorship and (c) the number and names of the participants, based on the registrations.

8. The HCP's hospitality costs (accommodation – meals) in scientific events abroad are set as follows: (a) one hundred fifty Euros (EUR 150) is the maximum cost of meals including breakfast and VAT and (b) four hundred Euros (EUR 400) is the maximum cost of accommodation, including VAT.

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