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Revised Code of Ethics issued by the Hellenic Association of Pharmaceutical Companies

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The Hellenic Association of Pharmaceutical Companies ("SFEE") has recently published on its website the revised version of its Code of Ethics, which will enter into force on 01.07.2025. The most noteworthy changes of this revised Code of Ethics may be summarized as follows:

- Enrichment and amendments to the Definitions section.
- Addition of a new section regarding the origin and value of self-regulation.
- Possibility of incorporating the Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC) into materials *via* QR Code, provided that a printed version of the SmPC would always be available, if and when required.
- Revision of the categories of scientific events, in light of the Corrigendum of EOF Circular under no. 45560/16.04.2025, as published on EOF's website on 21.05.2025.
- Classification of patient information events by the type of organizer namely: (a) patient organizations, (b) healthcare organizations, and (c) pharmaceutical companies.
- Introduction of a section on scientific events organized abroad by foreign pharmaceutical companies.
- Introduction of a section on scientific events organized in Greece by foreign pharmaceutical companies.
- Additions to the section on Advisory Boards, in light of the Corrigendum of EOF Circular under no. 45560/16.04.2025, as published on EOF's website on 21.05.2025
- Revisions and additions to the section on Patient Education and Support Programs.
- Incorporation of new provisions and restrictions as regards medical samples.
- Introduction of an obligation to send *via* email to SFEE of the annual publicly accessible list of patient organizations to which the company offers financial support and/or significant indirect non-financial support, as well as of patient organizations with which it has entered into a service agreement.
- Revision of sponsorship limits for scientific events, as well as daily limits for hospitality and accommodation expenses. SFEE's thresholds are, in some cases, stricter than those set by EOF.
- Update of the methodology for calculating fair market value.

It is apparent that the revised SFEE Code of Ethics introduces a series of significant changes aimed at enhancing transparency, aligning industry practices with recent regulatory developments, and strengthening the principles of self-regulation. Companies are encouraged to carefully review the revised Code of Ethics to ensure timely compliance prior to its entry into force.

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