

Ovarian Cancer Australia's Policy on Collaboration with the Pharmaceutical Industry

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Pharmaceutical companies are significant stakeholders in the cancer community as their products are integral to most cancer treatments. The effectiveness, safety, side effects and cost of those products are of great interest to cancer consumers.
- 1.2 Ovarian Cancer Australia's key stakeholders and in particular patients and survivors are very interested in information about these products, as well as any clinical trials for which they may be eligible.
- 1.3 Ovarian Cancer Australia can also provide important information to pharmaceutical companies regarding the experience and needs of women with ovarian cancer.
- 1.4 Ovarian Cancer Australia recognises the importance of maintaining an open dialogue and relationship with pharmaceutical companies that are producing products which may lead to benefits for ovarian cancer consumers.

2 Principles

- 2.1 Ovarian Cancer Australia will always act according to our own priorities, issues and timelines.
- 2.2 Ovarian Cancer Australia will engage in dialogue with pharmaceutical companies to benefit our key stakeholders and patients and survivors in particular.
- 2.3 Ovarian Cancer Australia is committed to total transparency in all dealings with pharmaceutical companies.
- 2.4 Ovarian Cancer Australia will not endorse individual pharmaceutical cancer products.
- 2.5 Ovarian Cancer Australia will not endorse or develop a special relationship with an individual pharmaceutical company.

3 Definition

- 3.1 The definition of a Pharmaceutical company used in this policy is as follows:
Developer, manufacturer and/or distributor of therapeutic products to be used in the treatment or diagnosis of human illness (in particular cancer).
- 3.2 Medical equipment definition: tools and machines to be used in the treatment or diagnosis of human illness (in particular cancer).

4 Policy

- 4.1 No pharmaceutical company will have any direct or indirect input into or influence over any of Ovarian Cancer Australia's patient, awareness or organisational programs and activities.
- 4.2 Ovarian Cancer Australia will consider funding from pharmaceutical companies for appropriate core or non-core activities of awareness raising, support, education and advocacy on a case by case basis. Any funding must be approved by the Board of Directors.
- 4.3 Ovarian Cancer Australia will consider funding from any third parties for appropriate core or non-core activities where funds for activities are provided by pharmaceutical companies on a case by case basis. Any funding must be approved by the Board of Directors.
- 4.4 Ovarian Cancer Australia may approach pharmaceutical companies for funding for appropriate core or non-core activities but will only receive funds on the basis that this does not imply an endorsement of product.
- 4.5 Any approach to or by a pharmaceutical company must be brought to the attention of and approved by the Board of Directors.
- 4.6 Ovarian Cancer Australia will consider invitations to attend pharmaceutical company sponsored conferences, meetings and events on the basis that that these meetings are a source of information relevant to Ovarian Cancer Australia's work. Each meeting will be reviewed on merit and brought to the Board of Directors for decision.
- 4.7 People representing Ovarian Cancer Australia (Board members, Management and all Staff) cannot endorse a product or accept payment for their services from a pharmaceutical company.
 - 4.7.1 Ovarian Cancer Australia staff may review relevant patient information material for pharmaceutical companies but may not receive any payment for these services except for any minor out of pocket expenses as approved by the Chief Operating Officer.
 - 4.7.2 Ovarian Cancer Australia staff may attend briefings, meetings or seminars where information on new products and treatment protocols are presented however Ovarian Cancer will not endorse any product or have its name used to promote these products.
- 4.8 The Ovarian Cancer Australia Board is required to approve the acceptance of any offer of hospitality through a pharmaceutical company, including overseas travel and accommodation.

- 4.9 The COO will provide a half yearly report to the Ovarian Cancer Australia Board regarding the organisation's engagement with pharmaceutical companies and compliance with the policy during that period.

5 Communication & Acknowledgement

- 5.1 Ovarian Cancer Australia will maintain a register of contact with pharmaceutical companies which is available for review on request and a brief summary will be reported in Ovarian Cancer Australia's Annual Report.
- 5.2 The Ovarian Cancer Australia Policy on Collaboration with Pharmaceutical Companies will be made publicly available via www.ovariancancer.net.au.
- 5.3 All funding received by Ovarian Cancer Australia from pharmaceutical companies whether for core or non-core activities or attendance at meetings will be declared in Ovarian Cancer Australia's Annual Report.
- 5.4 Ovarian Cancer Australia's logo or information and resources cannot be used by any pharmaceutical company to promote a product.
- 5.5 Ovarian Cancer Australia will not agree to its name or logo appearing in any pharmaceutical company materials or communications without express prior approval of the Board of Directors.
- 5.6 Any pharmaceutical company wishing to acknowledge Ovarian Cancer Australia's involvement in the development of patient information material, including the use of our logo, must first obtain written permission from Ovarian Cancer Australia and Ovarian Cancer Australia must approve a proof version prior to publication.
- 5.7 Ovarian Cancer Australia will not include references to a pharmaceutical company on any materials provided to patients or in any other external communications without express prior approval of the Board of Directors.
- 5.8 Any information produced by pharmaceutical companies relevant to consumers provided to Ovarian Cancer Australia will only be included on our website or in any of our communications under our own editorial control.
- 5.9 Ovarian Cancer Australia will not include any links from our website to the website of any pharmaceutical company and will not include pharmaceutical company logos on Ovarian Cancer Australia's website.
- 5.10 Ovarian Cancer Australia will not provide comment or support to pharmaceutical company media releases.
- 5.11 Any funding from pharmaceutical companies is conditional on Ovarian Cancer Australia and the pharmaceutical company signing a binding agreement which includes or reflects the terms and conditions stated in this Policy.