

Updated February 2025

## **Policy on working with commercial companies**

The Society for Endocrinology is the UK home of endocrinology. With nearly 3000 members, we bring together the endocrine community to share ideas and advance our discipline. We welcome commercial partners as an integral and essential constituent of this community and we recognise that advances in medical science are more likely to be brought into clinical practice when academia, NHS, charities and commercial partners collaborate.

As a membership organisation we support scientists, clinicians, nurses and associated professionals who work with hormones throughout their careers. We also engage policy-makers, the media, patients and the public with hormone science to encourage informed health decisions, and to demonstrate the value of endocrinology to the wider world.

To this end, we are transparent regarding the nature of the Society's relationships with commercial partners and ensure the Society remains independent without undue influence from external organisations. Our relationships with commercial partners are overseen by the Corporate Liaison Committee, which provides a conduit between industry and the Society's Council facilitating mutually beneficial initiatives.

The Society warmly welcomes industry support and collaboration on activities and initiatives which help the Society achieve its objectives and sees this as a two-way partnership, where commercial partners can derive benefit from our expertise in the endocrine community and beyond. Commercial partnership initiatives will always be clearly and openly acknowledged.

For the best interest of the Society and its partner organisations, the Society will always develop its scientific programmes and clinical guidelines independently of outside influence.

The Society reserves the right to choose the commercial partners it works with, but as a general principle we are open to working with those commercial companies who can demonstrate the following:

- A desire to support the endocrine community for the benefit of patients and the public
  - Companies must show evidence of working within the framework of their regulatory bodies (e.g. ABPI code of practice)
  - Working in alignment with Society for Endocrinology clinical guidance
  - That they are not currently under investigation by any regulatory authority in relationship to activities in the endocrine field. (Following any regulatory investigation, the Society will decide on a case-by-case basis if and how they wish to work with the company)
  - That the relevant subsidiary of the company is not engaged directly in activities that are unethical or could be seen as conflicting with the Society's public health mission (e.g. but not limited to, weapons, tobacco)
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Once the Society and a commercial partner have agreed on a collaboration, contracts, terms of reference and other documentation (as applicable) will put in place to outline roles, responsibilities and timeframes, to protect all parties and ensure the maximum success of the initiative.