	Document No.	VLT 006
	Effective Date	June 2004
	Revision Date	Nov 2022
<b>WFH Policy on Relationships with Companies in the Pharmaceutical Industry</b>		

## INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

WFH programs and activities are made possible thanks to the support of partners who share a core belief in our mission to improve and sustain care for people with inherited bleeding disorders around the world. All relationships must align with the WFH's goals and objectives. With all donors, WFH strives for a partnership that is beneficial for both the donor and WFH.

We recognize that pharmaceutical industry funding has contributed significantly to our ability to fulfil our mission. Although we share many common goals with industry, our interests may differ on certain other issues. In all dealings with industry, it is imperative that WFH maintain the trust of our members, the public and governments. Thus, conflicts of interest and the appearance of undue influence must be avoided.

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to


- Minimize conflicts of interest and/or the appearance of impropriety in our relationships with industry partners.
- Provide guidelines for interactions between WFH representatives and Industry partners, ensuring that these relationships take place in an ethical and transparent manner.
- Ensure the WFH complies with international, regional, and local laws, such as the Sunshine Act aimed at improving the transparency of financial relationships between health care providers and pharmaceutical manufacturers; the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA) Code on Relationships between the Pharmaceutical Industry and Patient Organization; and other regulations where necessary.

## SCOPE

This Policy applies to the WFH and all its representatives - inclusive of board members, officers, directors, employees, volunteers, and other agents or third parties acting on behalf of the WFH.

This Policy also applies to all Industry partners wishing to engage in a partnership with the WFH.

The term "Industry Partners", or "Pharmaceutical Companies" is defined as companies manufacturing and/or distributing treatment products/therapies, medical devices, or diagnostics for the bleeding disorders community.

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## GENERAL GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The WFH must abide by the following principles in its operations and everyday practice:


- 1) We must never compromise our independence or engage in a corporate relationship that will affect the credibility or integrity of our organization.
- 2) We should be transparent about our policies and communicate them accordingly.
- 3) We should treat all funding partners fairly and honestly.
- 4) We should continue to publicly thank our financial contributors

## GUIDELINES

- 1) WFH reserves the right to determine appropriate sponsors, the type of sponsorship and the length or duration of sponsorship for any given program, activity, or publication.
- 2) The Board of Directors or CEO as applicable, will decide which programs, activities, or publications the WFH will make eligible for sponsorship annually.
- 3) Sponsorship opportunities and related visibility/recognition will be communicated annually to all current and potential funders.
- 4) Pharmaceutical companies must contribute to the WFH Corporate Partner Program to be eligible to sponsor WFH programs and activities.
- 5) The WFH will always seek to secure multiple funding partners for each program, activity, or publication.
- 6) Exclusivity will be accepted if all other funding partners have been given the opportunity to sponsor the program, activity and publication and refused.
- 7) Exclusive sponsors will have first refusal on extending the sponsorship, providing the pledged sponsorship covers the required cost to execute.
- 8) The WFH will retain full decision-making authority over sponsored programs, activities, events, or publications.

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- 9) The WFH may collaborate on an event or project organized by an industry partner where pertinent, as long as said collaboration is not perceived as being the promoter of a particular product and WFH's participation is fair to all other industry partners. Before considering collaboration, the WFH would ensure that:
  - a) the company's event is not focused on promoting product.
  - b) collaboration would support WFH objectives and not create confusion about the WFH's role and that of the company.
- 10) All funding and/or other collaboration will be by written agreement, signed by both parties, prior to implementation of the corporate relationship. Signed copies will be kept by both parties
- 11) The WFH will report on sponsored programs, activities, events or publications, as outlined in the funding agreement and will provide opportunities for partners to provide feedback and recommendations.
- 12) Recognition of corporate sponsors will be outlined in the written partnership agreement. In the case of a pharmaceutical company sponsoring a WFH training or event, the company logo can be displayed, and verbal recognition given. The presence of a company representative at these trainings may be possible for sessions selected at the sole discretion of the WFH.
- 13) The general policy of WFH is not to accept product advertising; sponsorship recognition will be given to companies and not to products manufactured by these companies. Product advertising is only acceptable in exhibition space targeting doctors and scientists at the WFH World Congress and other WFH events organized in countries where direct to consumer advertising of prescription drugs is legal.
- 14) Product Donations will be gratefully accepted. For more details on acceptance of product donations, the WFH/ Humanitarian Aid Policy is available and provide guidance on the criteria of accepted donations, methods of channeling donated products, criteria of institutions/organizations receiving the donations, methods of control, and reporting on the use of these donations.
- 15) Any use of the WFH name, logo or brand by donors or sponsors must have the advance express written consent of the CEO. WFH retains the sole discretion as to the use of its name, logo and brand. Any use granted should be specific as to duration and/or purpose.
- 16) Any personal honoraria to WFH staff or board members representing WFH should be directed to WFH.

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