



BRITISH
PHARMACOLOGICAL
SOCIETY

Today's science, tomorrow's medicines

BPS President: ABPI Code 'a great step forward'

BPS President Professor Ray Hill has joined 13 other signatories in supporting a new Code of Practice, issued by the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI).

The changes are part of the ABPI's trust imperative introduced in 2008 to develop a new way of working with healthcare professionals based on integrity, honesty, knowledge, appropriate behaviours, transparency and trust.

These changes to the Code mean the industry will:

- No longer provide branded promotional aids, such as pens, pads and mugs to healthcare professionals (effective from 1 May 2011)
- Be required to collect and declare information about the total payment to healthcare professionals and others for services such as speaker fees and participation in advisory boards, as well as declaring the number of consultants employed. Similarly companies will have to declare sponsorship for attendance at meetings organised by third parties. The first annual declaration of payments to be made in 2013 for payments in 2012

BPS President, Professor Hill said:

"The British Pharmacological Society (BPS) is the primary UK academic society concerned with research into drugs and the way they work. Our members work in academia, drug discovery and the health services, meaning that we have a genuine interest in drug safety from bench to bedside.

"I'm therefore delighted to be lending our support to this important initiative, which is a great step forward in the fight for greater transparency, and the promotion of safe and effective prescription of medicines, the cornerstone of a number of goals we jointly share with ABPI and our fellow signatories."

[Read the ABPI press release](#)

[Read the joint statement \(PDF 698KB\)](#)