Correlation Network and Stichting de Regenboog Groep – transparency policy

This document describes De Regenboog Groep transparency policy concerning the sponsoring of Correlation-activities by pharmaceutical companies. In this document, De Regenboog Groep is referred to as “the foundation.”

The mission of Correlation Network, the international branch of De Regenboog Groep, is to achieve inclusive harm reduction interventions and policies through research, knowledge exchange, training and advocacy activities. In order to fulfill this mission, Correlation Network receives financial support from the pharmaceutical industry in addition to the funding received from the European Commission and national agencies.

Although the sponsorship of the pharmaceutical industry offers advantages, the foundation is aware that this sponsorship also comes with some risks. These risks may be related to the harmful practices of sponsors that are not in line with our mission and objectives. There are also risks to our credibility and independent position towards governments, partners and donors. That is why the foundation has developed the below-listed guidelines; to ensure our integrity and our independent position is safeguarded.

Sponsorships of pharmaceutical companies

1. Financial contributions from the foundation by pharmaceutical companies must comply with all European laws and applicable codes of conduct.

2. The foundation must always be able to demonstrate that the financial contribution of pharmaceutical companies has no influence on its own policies and procedures.

3. The foundation strives to receive support from various pharmaceutical sponsors for specific events and projects, in order to avoid the risk of the foundation being associated with a certain sponsor. Projects or events with only one pharmaceutical sponsor are regularly evaluated.

4. Pharmaceutical companies may not use the foundation's names or logos for marketing purposes of their products, unless the agreement contains a clause that explicitly authorizes the conditions for the use of one of the names and logos.

5. When the foundation receives in-kind contributions from pharmaceutical companies, they may not pursue promotional objectives and the distribution of products must comply with existing best practice standards.

6. Employees of pharmaceutical companies or members of the Board of Directors may not sit on the Board of the Foundation.

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