



International  
Federation of  
Pharmaceutical  
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Associations

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Internationale de  
l'Industrie du  
Médicament

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## News Release

### Updated Industry Clinical Trials Transparency Position Requires Disclosure of All Exploratory Efficacy Trials

Geneva, 26 November 2008 – The Council of the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers & Associations (IFPMA) has approved an updated *Joint Position on the Disclosure of Clinical Trial Information via Clinical Trial Registries and Databases*<sup>(1)</sup>. This extends the range of trials that member companies<sup>(2)</sup> must provide information about to include all confirmatory and exploratory efficacy clinical trials. This is a minimum standard: the new Position explicitly leaves companies free to disclose phase 1 trials at their discretion, for example, in patients for oncology & other serious life-threatening conditions.

IFPMA Director General Alicia Greenidge, said: “Our aim is to strike an appropriate balance. On the one hand, we want to make available clinical trial information that can provide patients and health professionals with an idea of the likely efficacy of potential medicines. On the other, disclosure of early safety trial information cannot provide any useful insight into the potential efficacy of the compound trialed, but can make it easier for rival companies to gain an insight into the scientific approach of the company concerned. We should also try to avoid needlessly increasing the total volume of clinical trial information that has to be sifted through by patients and doctors to find potential medicines which may be able to address a particular condition.”

The new Position enters force with immediate effect, having been already been approved by the other participating pharmaceutical associations, the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA), the Japanese Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association (JPMA) and the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA). The new Position replaces the previous ones, dated September and January 2005.

The IFPMA Clinical Trials Portal ([www.ifpma.org/clinicaltrials](http://www.ifpma.org/clinicaltrials)) was launched in September 2005 to facilitate patients' and health professionals' access to clinical trials registry details and summary results of completed trials. The Portal has been subsequently refined to improve its performance and ease of use, notably providing interfaces in French, German, Japanese and Spanish, and to allow users to request e-mail alerts when new trials are posted which correspond to user-defined criteria. The IFPMA is committed to a process of ongoing improvement of the Portal.

**(ends)**

<sup>(1)</sup> *Joint Position on the Disclosure of Clinical Trial Information via Clinical Trial Registries and Databases*, dated 18 November 2008, available online at [www.ifpma.org/clinicaltrials](http://www.ifpma.org/clinicaltrials).

<sup>(2)</sup> Companies which are direct members of the IFPMA or members of an IFPMA member association.

**About the IFPMA:**

The International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers & Associations is the global non-profit NGO representing the research-based pharmaceutical, biotech and vaccine sectors. Its members comprise 26 leading international companies and 44 national and regional industry associations covering developed and developing countries. The industry's R&D pipeline contains hundreds of new medicines and vaccines being developed to address global disease threats, including cancer, heart disease, HIV/AIDS and malaria. The IFPMA Clinical Trials Portal ([www.ifpma.org/ClinicalTrials](http://www.ifpma.org/ClinicalTrials)), the IFPMA's Ethical Promotion online resource ([www.ifpma.org/EthicalPromotion/](http://www.ifpma.org/EthicalPromotion/)) and its Developing World Health Partnerships information ([www.ifpma.org/HealthPartnerships/](http://www.ifpma.org/HealthPartnerships/)) help make the industry's activities more transparent. The IFPMA strengthens patient safety by improving risk assessment of medicines and combating their counterfeiting. It also provides the secretariat for the International Conference on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH).

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