The British Thoracic Society wishes to ensure that there is balance, objectivity and scientific rigour in its activities.

All speakers participating in the BTS Winter Meeting this year are being asked to disclose the following:

- The existence of any significant financial activity or other relationship the speaker has – (a) with the manufacturer(s) of any commercial product and/or providers of commercial services discussed in an educational presentation; and (b) with any commercial supporters of the activity. This will apply to any relationships that are in place at the time the presentation will take place or in the past 12 months preceding the 2017 Winter Meeting.

- If a speaker is, or has been, a full or part-time employee, or paid consultant to, the tobacco industry at any time during the previous 10 years, or has received any other benefits or payments in kind from the tobacco industry.

- Unlicensed uses of substances or products included in the presentation that are not approved in the UK and/or the status of substances or products that are being investigated for such use.

The intent of this disclosure is not to prevent a speaker who has a significant financial or other relationship, or who wishes to refer to unlicensed uses in his/her presentation. Rather, the Society aims to provide listeners with information on which they can use their own judgements. It remains for delegates to the Meeting to determine whether the speaker’s interests or relationships may influence the presentation. The Society does not view the existence of these interests and/or commitments as necessarily implying bias or decreasing the value of a speaker’s participation.

Please note also that, when making reference to substances or products, the Society wishes speakers to use generic names wherever possible.

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