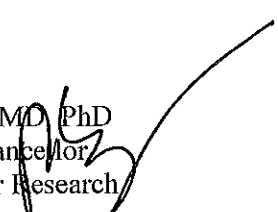


OFFICE OF RESEARCH
Richard S. Larson, M.D., Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor
Vice Chancellor for Research

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 15, 2013
TO: HSC Faculty
FROM: Richard S. Larson, MD, PhD
Executive Vice Chancellor
Vice Chancellor for Research

SUBJECT: PHYSICIAN PAYMENTS SUNSHINE ACT

This very important memo is to inform you of your rights and responsibilities associated with the requirements of the Physician Payments Sunshine Act. Please take a few moments to familiarize yourself with the key dates related to the release of your individual information and how you can ensure its accuracy. **Please note that it is up to the individual physician to correct their reported information.**

The HSC Conflicts of Interest Committee will be comparing Financial Conflicts of Interests disclosures with these reports so it is in your best interest to ensure that this information is accurate and that information in your Financial Conflicts of Interest disclosure forms is always up to date. This will become especially important beginning August 1, 2013.

BACKGROUND

Beginning on August 1, 2013, the Physician Payments Sunshine Act which is part of the Affordable Care Act, will require that manufacturers of drugs, medical devices, and biologicals track and report payments and items of value given to physicians and teaching hospitals. In addition, manufacturers and group purchasing organizations must report certain ownership interests held by physicians and their immediate family members. The industry reports will be made available to the public on a searchable, public website provided by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) beginning on September 30, 2014. These reports are to ensure transparency between physicians and industry.

TIMELINE

August 1 through December 31, 2013: Manufacturers begin collecting and tracking payments, transfer, and ownership interest information. Thereafter, they are required to report every calendar year.

January 1, 2014: It is anticipated that the CMS will launch the physician portal that allows physicians to sign-up and receive notice when their individual report is available for review.

March 31, 2014: Manufacturers will report the data for 2013 to CMS.

April through August 2014: CMS will provide physician access to their individualized consolidated version of all manufacturers' reports for the prior calendar year. *Physicians have the right to review these reports and to*

challenge those reports pertaining to them that are false, inaccurate or misleading. CMS will allow physicians to contact the manufactures/group purchasing organizations to resolve disputed submissions through their online portal. Physicians will have at least **45 days** to challenge and correct their report.

September 30, 2014: CMS will release most of the data on a public website.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO NOW

- Please review the brochure from the American Medical Association (AMA) regarding the Sunshine Act that is attached. It provides detail on what will be reported and what is exempt from reporting and how to handle inaccurate information that may be reported. The AMA website also provides in-depth information at: <https://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/advocacy/topics/sunshine-act-and-physician-financial-transparency-reports.page>.
- Ensure that your Conflicts of Interest Disclosures are accurate and up to date
- Faculty considering outside consulting relationships with pharmaceutical/biomedical companies must have prior discussion with and written approval from their department chair

COMING SOON

The Office of Research will be sending reminders in the coming months of the upcoming industry reports and we will keep you posted on any changes or new information obtained about the Sunshine Act.