

Appointment to the Code of Practice Appeal Board

The Prescription Medicines Code of Practice Authority (PMCPA) was established by the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI) to operate the ABPI Code of Practice for the Pharmaceutical Industry independently of the ABPI itself. In particular, the PMCPA adjudicates upon complaints about pharmaceutical companies made under the Code. The ABPI represents pharmaceutical companies of all sizes which invest in discovering the medicines of the future.

The aim of the ABPI Code is to ensure that the promotion of prescription medicines is carried out in a responsible, ethical and professional manner to support high quality patient care. The Code also covers interactions with health professionals and healthcare organisations as well as the provision of information to the public about prescription only medicines and relationships with patient organisations.

The PMCPA is responsible for the independent administration of the ABPI Code including the provision of advice, guidance and training on the Code. The Director of the PMCPA reports to the Code of Practice Appeal Board for guidance on the interpretation of the Code and the operation of the complaints procedure and to the President of the ABPI for administrative purposes.

The main roles of the Code of Practice Appeal Board are to hear appeals against the decisions made by the Code of Practice Panel and to supervise the activities of the Code of Practice Panel. The Appeal Board Chair is legally qualified and must be independent from the industry. In addition there are eight independent members and eight members from pharmaceutical companies. Independent members, including the Chair, must be in a majority when appeals are heard.

As a result of an independent member completing their term of service during 2022 we are seeking to appoint a registered medical practitioner, with recent experience as a general practitioner, to be appointed following consultation with the British Medical Association

The appointment will be made by the ABPI Board in consultation with the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency.

Meetings of the Appeal Board are held approximately every 4 - 5 weeks and are usually held in central London. Members are expected to make every effort to attend the meetings, read and consider the papers in detail beforehand (provided electronically) and contribute to meetings. They receive an annual honorarium plus a meeting attendance fee and associated expenses. Additional time will be required for training.

Information about the ABPI Code, the PMCPA and this appointment, and an application form, are available on our website (www.pmcpa.org.uk). Applications should be submitted to hsimmonds@pmcpa.org.uk to arrive by Thursday, 30 June. Any questions should be to via email to Heather Simmonds, PMCPA Director. Interviews will be held in July/August 2022.

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