



Guidelines for the staff members of LSHTM Clinical Trials Unit (CTU) with respect to honoraria or any other payments offered, and share ownership

CTU and those working in CTU should be independent, and perceived to be independent, of financial bias. Hence, although the CTU management group cannot insist that these guidelines are adhered to, it is strongly recommended, for all members of CTU, that:

- a) In most cases, offers of honoraria to individuals for any CTU related activities should be declined; see Note (d). Receipt of reasonable expenses and travel cost from both drug companies and other bodies to attend meetings is acceptable.
- b) Invitations from drug companies to speak at drug company colloquia should be considered carefully to ensure that the meeting is a 'proper' scientific meeting – or if not, that some specific interest of CTU would be served by acceptance. If neither, they should not be accepted. Even if the meeting fulfils one or both of the requirements, any honoraria in relation to such colloquia should be declined.
- c) If it is considered appropriate to accept an honorarium (for example, because it is from a publisher, a broadcaster, another educational establishment, etc) for activities that derived from studies in CTU, the money should in general be donated to the CTU for the benefit of the CTU development.
- d) If an honorarium is declined, the intended CTU recipient may suggest that a corresponding amount be donated to a specific charity.
- e) It is generally not appropriate for CTU staff who would have foreknowledge of significant publications or statements from the CTU on tobacco, alcohol or pharmaceuticals, to own shares in tobacco, alcohol, drug or biotechnology companies, as these may be directly or indirectly affected. Owning unit trusts or other managed share portfolio is acceptable irrespective of the shares involved.