



DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACEUTICALS AMENDS THE UNIFORM CODE FOR MARKETING PRACTICES IN MEDICAL DEVICES, 2024

On April 30th 2026, the Department of Pharmaceuticals issued a circular bearing reference no. 31026/51/2024-MD (Part File), amending the Uniform Code for Marketing Practices in Medical Devices, 2024 (“UCMPMD Amendment”), in order to reduce the compliance burden for the medical device industry with respect to foreign training events of healthcare professionals (“HCPs”).

- Prior to the UCMPMD Amendment, under **Clause 6.2(i)** of the Uniform Code for Marketing Practices in Medical Devices (“UCMPMD”), the conduct of Continuing Medical Education (“CME”), Continuing Professional Development (“CPD”), training, or otherwise for conference, seminar, workshop, etc. in foreign locations was prohibited except for advanced clinical trainings in exceptional circumstances like non-availability of trainers or equipment and products within the country. For trainings conducted at foreign locations, detailed justification, along with details of participating HCPs, duration and location of training, trainers, equipment and facilities to be used, expenditure to be incurred on travel and boarding etc. had to be submitted to the Department of Pharmaceuticals (“DoP”) at least three (3) months in advance before the scheduled date, and only on specific approval of the DoP such foreign trainings were allowed to be permitted.
- **Post the UCMPMD Amendment, the earlier requirement of seeking specific prior approval from the DoP at least three (3) months in advance has been omitted and the amended Clause 6.2(i) now requires medical device companies to share details of the proposed foreign training, including justification, participant details, and estimated total expenditure at least one (1) month in advance with their respective Industry Associations.** Moreover, it is the responsibility of the medical device company to adhere to all the provisions of the UCMPMD in letter and spirit, while planning and organizing such training programmes. Any violation shall be dealt with in accordance with provisions contained in **Sections 12 and 13** of the UCMPMD (relating to penalties and reference, and appeal, respectively).
- Before the UCMPMD Amendment the provision of travel facilities by companies, whether inside or outside the country, to HCPs was limited to only speakers for a CME or CPD program. Post the UCMPMD Amendment, **the provision of providing such travel facilities has now been widened to include participants in a training program as well.**
- Before the UCMPMD Amendment, provision of hospitality by companies, representatives or any person acting on their behalf towards HCPs was limited to only speakers of a CME or a CPD program. Post the UCMPMD Amendment, **the provision of providing hospitality has been widened to include participants in a training program as well.**
- Lastly, in the note following **Clause 8.4**, the regulation that will prevail in the case of any items missing under the UCMPMD, has been changed from “*Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulation, 2002*” to the “*National Medical Commission Registered Medical Practitioner (Professional Conduct) Regulations, 2023*”.



Read More:

https://pharma-dept.gov.in/sites/default/files/UCMDMD%20circular%201-2026%2BUCMDMP%20code%20as%20amended%20on%2030.4.2026%20%281%29_0.pdf

This update is only for general informational purposes and shall not be construed to constitute legal advice (which can only be given after being formally engaged and familiarizing ourselves with all the relevant facts). Should you have any queries, or require any assistance or clarifications with regard to anything contained in this newsletter, please feel free to contact our partner, Mr. Pradnesh Warke

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