



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY
OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Athens, October 2, 2013
Protocol No:

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To: The BoD of EOF
To the attention of the President
Mr D. Lintzeris
(284 Mesoghion Avenue, 155 62, Cholargus)

Subject: Re-communication of EOF's Circular for the Scientific Events (Protocol No. 64740/1.09.2013)

Dear Mister President,

I kindly request that you immediately intervene for the major confusion that has occurred from the publication of the above circular, regarding the **ability to compensate the NHS physicians**, via the special accounts of the Health Regional Departments (YPE) (ELKEA), from pharmaceutical companies, both for clinical trials and for honoraria for their participation as spokesmen, chairmen of meetings or trainers in Scientific Events Type A, B, C and D.

Pursuant to article 11 of Law 2889/2001, the "reservation" referred to in point "K" of the above circular of EOF, is not only unhistorical but also dangerous. Law 2889/2001 is in force since 2001, but all preceding laws which determine the working regime for the NHS physicians as "full-time and exclusive employment" are in force since the publication of Law 1397/1983! Consequently, based on the "rationale" of the circular, all payments effected in all preceding years for clinical trials to NHS Physicians via the ELKEA of the DYPE are questioned!

Dear Mister President,

As you are aware, both at a European and at an international level, the promotion of clinical trials is a field with major priority, since it can constitute a reliable source of income but also a vehicle for the upgrading of healthcare systems.

In addition, it is not permissible, through such an arbitrary and distorted legal interpretation, to create an unequal treatment between Hospital and University Physicians in an era where, as you are aware, the wages of NHS physicians have been radically decreased at a percentage exceeding 30%.

For all the above reasons, I kindly request that you **anew issue the circular** by means of "correct repetition" provided that the questionable point "K" is deleted and

provided that there are no reasons for “reservation” or any necessity to amend any existing legislation.

Yours sincerely

THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH

CHRISTINA PAPANIKOLAOU

**Cc: Minister of Health, Mr A. Georgiadis
General Secretary of the Ministry of Health, Mr P. Kalliris
General Directorate of Health
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Mrs M. Skouroliakou, 1st Vice President of EOF
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