

## **CODE OF GOOD SCIENTIFIC PRACTICES IN THE RELATIONSHIPS OF THE CATALAN AGENCY FOR HEALTH TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT WITH THE HEALTH INDUSTRY AND/OR OTHER TECHNOLOGY SPONSORS.**

**The principles that underpin the Agency's activities are independence, scientific and methodological rigor and transparency, be the client public or private, profit or non-profit.**

Ever since it was incorporated as a public company (1994), the Agency has rendered contract-based services to other companies and health insurers. In view of the background and the sensitivity in the world with regard to relationships in biomedical research and the industry, the conditions described below are proposed to govern any relationships the Agency may establish with the industry. For any eventuality not provided for in this or any later documents that may be developed in specific areas, the Agency will apply the Code of Good Scientific Practice published by the centres of the Biomedical Research Park of Barcelona (PRBB), which are available at <http://www.prbb.org/eng/part01/p06.htm>.

### **Relationship principles:**

- Commission will be accepted from the industry or other sponsors provided that the Agency maintains:
  - the intellectual property (shared, as the case may be, and always by mutual agreement between the parties),
  - exploitation rights (shared, as the case may be, and always by mutual agreement between the parties),
  - the right of dissemination and publication (protection and penalty clauses may be introduced),
  - the right to choose reviewers.
- The following types of unjustified funding will be rejected:
  - attendance by any of its members at congresses,
  - books (unless they are regarded as necessary to carry out the commission and/or as relevant information),
  - courtesy/gift objects.
- Sharing or commissioned publications with the industry will be rejected if the Agency is foreseen as an instrumental partner.
- An agreement will be signed with the industry client in which both parties accept the document generation process pursuant to the principles of the Agency and the conditions of this protocol.
- The relationships that the Agency establishes with the industry, as well as the conditions of this protocol, will be given due publicity (on the website, annual reports, etc.).

Barcelona, December 2007