French conference vetting system

Presentation and feedback from the 1st 6 months of implementation

IPCAA Call – 20 October 2022
Objectives of a French conference vetting system

Promote the ethical rules of our industry and assist member companies and event organizers in their assessment of the conferences towards the ethical rules

2 objectives:

- Transfer this assessment to the Leem’s Ethics committee (Codeem)

- Increase awareness of event organizers towards the respect of the Ethicals rules
Main principles (1/2)

- **Complementary to the E4ethics/Ethical MedTech vetting system**
  - Codeem would only assess conferences not under the scope of CVS
  - Similar process and criteria
  - Main difference: French vetting system is not binding

- **System subject to requests**
  - By pharmaceutical companies, any third party or event organizers
  - Codeem only assess on request, no proactivity

- **Adversarial procedure for event organizers when they are not the ones issuing the request**
  - They are informed of the request and can provide observations or additional information
  - They are informed of the pre-evaluation and can provide observations
  - They are informed of the evaluation once published

- **Transparent procedure: publication on the Codeem webpage**
  - Assessment requests (applicant remains anonymous)
  - Final evaluation

- **Event organizers will have the possibility to indicate that their conference has been assessed by Codeem**
Main principles (2/2)

- Assessment procedure will be published and available on the Codeem webpage www.leem.org/codeem

- The assessment procedure will provide details on:
  - Assessment principles
  - Procedure and its terms
  - Timeline
  - Assessment criteria

- Assessment delt by the Secretary of Codeem, with the help of Codeem members

- Experimental basis for one year
  - Amendments will be made if necessary
Terms and procedure

- **Application scope**
  - Face-to-face, virtual and hybrid meetings
  - Organised by third parties
  - Taking place on the French territory or abroad if funded by companies established in France or if French HCP are invited
  - Out of the Scope of E4ethics/Ethical MedTech, meaning:
    - Less than 500 persons
    - Less than 5 countries
Terms and procedure

- **Objective and verifiable assessment criteria**
  - Assessment criteria are *easily readable*
  - *Same implementation* for all conferences
  - Only related to *organizational conditions*
    - Criteria related to personal conditions of HCP are not assessed
    - The objective being to enable event organizers to amend them
  - *Aligned on the most part with* E4ethics/Ethical MedTech criteria
Terms and procedure

• 6 assessment criteria, based on the Ethical rules

  – Scientific program
    Pharmaceutical companies can only finance or invite HCP or PO representatives of/to scientific, health or profesional events

  – Geographic location
    The geographic location should not be the main attraction of the conference et should be justified as regards the organizational conditions and its scope and be compatible with the Ethica

  – Event venue facility
    The event venue facility should be appropriate as regards the professional of scientific nature of the conference

  – Hospitality
    Hospitality should be reasonable and incidental compared to the main purpose of the event

  – Event registration packages
    They should only cover the scientific program, authorized activities and hospitality

  – Communication support
    Advertising brochure should highlight the scientific nature of the program content

• Descriptives regarding the assessment will be provided for each criteria
Terms and procedure

• Timeline
  - Objective: have an assessment well before the venue, to allow for amendments and submissions to the authorities regarding the authorization process
  - Request should be sent to the Codeem within 5 months before the due date of the venue
  - Codeem would have 2 months maximum to exchange with the applican and/or the event organizers and publish the evaluation

• Request
  - Assessment only realized on documents provided
  - The procedure would describe the documents to be provided to enable Codem to assess
Terms and procedure

• Form of the publication
  – Conference would be identified
  – Assessment of each criteria with a color code:
    • Green: compliant to Ethical rules
    • Blue: incomplete information, criteria not assessed
    • Orange: deviation to the Ethical rules identified, with information of the nature of the deviation
    • Grey: not applicable (for example for virtual events)
French vetting system

In place since February 2022

EVALUATION DES ÉVÈNEMENTS SCIENTIFIQUES
Le Codem met en place un outil permettant d'évaluer la compatibilité des programmes des événements scientifiques aux Dispositions Déontologiques Professionnelles.

https://www.leem.org/liste-des-demandes-d-evaluation

- 10 Evaluations published
  - 7 for the program
  - 3 for the venue
  - 1 for the location

- 22 requests
- 9 Out of time requests
- 1 Event already assessed by MedTech Europe
- 2 Ongoing evaluations