

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Public-Private Collaboration Critical to Eradicate Healthcare Graft

IPMG initiate a joint commitment among Indonesia's healthcare key stakeholders as a part of its commitment to support the establishment of ethical marketing practices for the benefit of the public

Jakarta, September 27th, 2014 - International Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Group (IPMG), a non-profit organization comprises of 24 international research-based pharmaceutical companies operating in Indonesia, together with stakeholders in Indonesia's healthcare sector, including Indonesian Medical Association (IDI) and GP Farmasi, today announced the launch of the joint commitment to complement government efforts in fighting corruption and eradicate gratification in the country's healthcare sector. The initiative is part of IPMG's commitment to support the medical community in a scientific manner and complies with the prevailing laws and regulations as well as the establishment of ethical marketing practices for the benefit of the public.

The joint commitment was set in motion following the signing of a commitment to fight corruption between the Ministry of Health of Republic of Indonesia (MoH) and the Indonesian Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) and the issuance of Regulation of MoH (Permenkes) No. 14/2014 which also regulates about gratification, the establishment of gratification control unit (UPG) and the mechanism to report gratifications involving civil servants of Ministry of Health.

The Anti-Corruption Law further provides a definition of gratification, i.e. any gift in a broad meaning covering gift of money, goods, discount, commission, interest-free loans, travel tickets, lodging, travel tours, free medication and other facilities, whether received in Indonesia or abroad by whatever means.

Luthfi Mardiansyah, Chairman of IPMG said, "It is vital to encourage business to play their part in the fight against corruption and take action to promote the establishment of the same level playing field and ethical marketing practices among all relevant stakeholders in the healthcare sector. International Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Group (IPMG) welcomes and highly supports the decision of the Ministry of Health to issue the Regulation of Ministry of Health (Permenkes) No. 14/2014 to obliterate Gratification by organizing the workshop to further socialize the new Permenkes to other stakeholders."

With the implementation of Ministry of Health Regulation No. 14/2014, it is essential for all healthcare stakeholders to know and understand the guidelines and gratuities regulations set by the Ministry of Health. "By establishing uniform standards of conduct to which companies must adhere and by facilitating the sharing of information on anti-corruption experiences and best practices, IPMG as the government strategic partner in providing accessible innovative medicines as well as improving healthcare services to the Indonesian people support the government's efforts to establish the ethical marketing practices and same level playing field as well as increasing transparency and accountability in the Indonesia marketplace. Effective collaboration between the private sector and government is a critical enabler to our future success," Lutfi further added.

Each members of IPMG abide to Code of Ethics in Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices and commit to always apply and uphold the transparency principle and the highest level of ethics and integrity throughout its operational in Indonesia.

Unethical practices such as doctors receiving extra payments or receiving gifts from companies for prescribing their drugs which existed in Indonesia needs correction. This kind of behavior not only damages competition - hampering the establishment of the same level playing field and honest competition but also threatening patients' access to safe and highly efficient medicines, lowering the quality of services and undermining the credibility of the government.

"The public sector or private sector acting alone cannot win the fight against corruption in the country." Lutfhi said, adding that the efforts to combat unethical practices in healthcare sector are best when driven by solid collaboration between public-private sectors. IPMG hopes the joint commitment could demonstrate that businesses are not only interested in reducing corruption, but also willing and eager to be mobilized to take concrete steps to fight it.

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About IPMG

IPMG is a non-profit organization that comprises 24 international research-based pharmaceutical companies operating in Indonesia. IPMG was established in August 2002.

IPMG members and their headquarters continuously invest in research and development to bring the latest innovation in medicines that are safe and produced in accordance to the international standard of quality to Indonesia.

So far IPMG members have introduced more than 250 new products to Indonesia to treat cancer, infectious diseases, cardiovascular diseases and other diseases. IPMG members today employ about 10,000 people in their operations.

IPMG strives to combat and help eradicate counterfeit drugs by raising public awareness of the danger of counterfeit drugs.

IPMG is an active member of International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers & Associations (IFPMA) and the Indonesian Chambers of Commerce (KADIN).

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