

Policy on Acceptance/Refusal of Donations

The Trustees of Tommy's have undertaken to set out a policy on the acceptance and refusal of donations so as to be transparent with the public about the funding of its work in preventing miscarriage, premature birth and stillbirth.

The Trustees of the charity take responsibility for decisions relating to whether a donation is accepted or refused. Decisions are made based on the following criteria:

1. it is in the best interests of the charity and will assist in the goals of the charity
2. do not undermine the key areas of the charities activities which are pregnancy medical research and providing pregnancy information
3. do not damage the reputation of the organisation and potential future funding
4. promote any trustee or employee's personal moral agenda

Tommy's Trustees and directors meet three times a year to monitor the charity's activities and funding and the Chief Executive meets monthly with the Chairman of the board of trustees.

Policy regarding specific industries

Alcohol Industry

We will not accept financial donations of any size from an alcohol manufacturer because of the direct link between the use of alcohol and problems in pregnancy.

However, if an employee of an alcohol manufacturer, due to personal circumstances wishes to support and donate to the charity from personal efforts, this is acceptable to the trustees. It is felt by the trustees that many people who have experienced the heartache of losing a baby often would like to support a charity in memory of their baby and to prevent others from having a similar experience. Not accepting their donations on the basis on who they work for would be unacceptable discrimination.

This policy does not apply companies such as supermarkets where many products are stocked and are not reliant on just alcohol.

Baby Milk manufacturers

We support that breastfeeding is necessary for the healthy development of babies. Tommy's also recognises in the case of premature babies it is not always possible to follow this best practice and help is required in the form expressed breast milk from mother or from a donor or the use of specially formulated pre-term infant formula.

We are aware of the UK and WHO's code in relation to marketing of infant formulas and will not enter into initiatives which contravene these.

We will accept financial donations from milk manufacturers to fund our medical research programmes (finding the causes and treatments for miscarriage, premature birth and stillbirth) and improve the skills and knowledge of health professionals for their work with women who have suffered a miscarriage, had a

premature baby or have had a stillborn baby. This includes breastfeeding education.

We will not provide direct endorsement of infant milk products e.g. logo on packaging or promotions which promote infant formula instead of breastfeeding. No infant feeding products or product information will be passed onto any beneficiary of our training grants nor will personal data be passed onto a milk manufacturer.

We do not believe this industry contravenes with our charitable cause, aims and goals – determining the causes of miscarriage, premature birth and stillbirth and finding treatments so as to reducing the number of babies who die due during pregnancy or at birth; provide the latest pregnancy information for health professionals and parents-to-be to minimise risks during pregnancy and where we can, helping to improve skills of those caring for pregnant women to ensure a healthy pregnancy.

Recognition of support will be agreed where we feel it is appropriate and does not contravene guidelines. This may take the form of for example, press releases, conferences and website.

Pharmaceutical industry

We accept financial donations from pharmaceutical companies to fund our medical research programmes, all of which adhere to the ABP1 Code of Conduct. We will not be aligned to any one company and seek collaborations with all pharmaceutical companies who can play a major role in our progression to finding the causes and potential treatments for miscarriage, premature birth and stillbirth.

No pharmaceutical company will have influence over our decisions on funding of medical research programmes.

Endorsements of products are approved on a case by case basis ensuring it meets the charity's aims and benefits pregnant women across the UK and globally. All checks will be carried out.

We manufacture our own brand of pregnancy vitamins which is retailed to the public. A percentage of the profits are returned to us to re-invest in our medical research and information programmes.

Recognition of support is made within relevant channels for example, press releases, websites, conferences and materials.

Tobacco Industry

We will not accept donations of any size directly from any tobacco company. This decision is made because tobacco plays a key role in problems in pregnancy and undermines our aim to ensure every baby is given the best start.

However, if an employee of a tobacco company, due to personal circumstances wishes to support and donate to the charity from personal efforts, this is acceptable to the Trustees. It is felt by the trustees that many people who have experienced the heartache of losing a baby often would like to support a charity in memory of their baby and to prevent others from having a similar experience. Not accepting their donations on the basis on who they work for would be unacceptable discrimination.