

Comment Form: WHO Statement on Public Disclosure of Clinical Trial Results

Comment as individual or on behalf of agency or institution?: On behalf of the British Association of Dermatologists

Commenter's Name in Full, Title, Institution, City, Country, Tel., Email address:

Name in full: Prof Eugene Healy

Title and Position: Chair, British Association of Dermatologists Research Sub-committee

Institution or Agency: British Association of Dermatologists

Address including city and country: British Association of Dermatologists, Willan House, 4 Fitzroy Square, London W1T 5HQ

Tel: 020 7391 6359

Email address: catherine.thums@bad.org.uk (BAD Research Administrator)

Locator (Page & Line No or section heading, footnote number)	Comment	Suggested Amendment	Internal Use Only [blank]
Page 2, lines 40 - 43	The British Association of Dermatologists agrees with the WHO statement that all clinical trials (i.e. which investigate the ability of a medical intervention to help prevent development of a disease and/or to treat patients with a disease) should be published or otherwise made publically available. We believe that this is essential so that doctors and healthcare practitioners can make appropriate evidence-based decisions for all patients with the disease as well as for the general public who are at risk of the condition. Skin diseases affect around 54% of the UK population each year and it is challenging to gain a sufficient evidence-base for many skin conditions simply due to the vast number of different skin disorders (i.e. approximately 2,500). In cases where dermatological clinical trials have been conducted, we consider it imperative that all the clinical trial results are made available to doctors and healthcare practitioners who treat patients with these conditions. Furthermore, we believe that patients who are interested in finding out more about their skin disorders should also be able to gain access to the information contained within these reports / publications and that brief "easy to read" versions of the results of all clinical trials should also be made available for patient access. This "easy to read" version could either be published in an open access journal alongside the original manuscript, or as supplementary	The British Association of Dermatologists suggest that the WHO consider adding the following sentence to the WHO statement on Public Disclosure of Clinical Trial Results: - Brief "easy to read" versions of the results of all clinical trials should be published (i) in open access journals alongside the original manuscript, or (ii) as online supplementary material, or (iii) deposited in "repositories" following acceptance of the manuscript by the journal so that interested patients / the public can also access the results of these clinical trials.	

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	material online relating to the original manuscript. Alternatively, the WHO might wish to consider advocating the establishment of international repositories where these “easy to read” versions of clinical trial results can be viewed by patients and the public.		

Anonymous comments will not be considered