

FRIENDS OF THE BRITISH HYPERTENSION SOCIETY

The BHS Executive Committee is pleased to announce the ongoing development of the initiatives between the Society and our colleagues in the pharmaceutical industry.

At the BHS Annual Business Meeting on 10th September 2002, the then President, Bryan Williams, outlined proposals for establishing a 'Friends of the BHS' scheme. A meeting was held in December 2002 between the Committee and senior representatives of major pharmaceutical companies with an interest in the field of hypertension, where this initiative was discussed further.

We are pleased to confirm that the following pharmaceutical companies are currently Friends of the BHS, and we are very grateful to them for their support:

Boehringer Ingelheim
Bristol Myers Squibb/Sanofi
Menarini
Merck Sharp & Dohme
Novartis
Pfizer
Servier
Takeda

Contributions from the above companies to the Friends scheme enable the BHS to continue to develop the following initiatives, which are organised by Working Parties who report to the Executive Committee:

BHS Information Service and Guidelines Working Party

- To provide information for health care professionals about hypertension (BP Measurement CD-ROM and Posters, Nurse Distance Learning Packs, ABCD Algorithm Posters, BHS Cardiovascular Medicine Research Net, Shared Care Card, Factfiles)
- To provide hypertension guidelines and web-based timely updates in response to new trial evidence
- To produce factfiles on the management of hypertension in special situations
- To develop and implement BHS Live! events
- To develop a strategy, manage & support the Information Service to ensure that it delivers on the above
- To manage the BHS website as an educational resource for BHS members and other healthcare professionals

BHS Educational Programmes Working Party

- To develop UK Specialist Accreditation
- To organise BHS Primary Care Meetings
- To organise BHS Masterclasses
- To liaise with other Societies regarding Joint Symposia

BHS BP Monitoring Working Party

- To advise on the validation of blood pressure monitors
- To be responsible for issues relating to mercury
- To develop educational resources relating to the measurement of blood pressure