

## **Auris Medical Holding AG**

#### **Code of Business Conduct and Ethics**

Adopted July 4, 2014, as amended on November 16, 2016

#### Introduction

This Code of Business Conduct and Ethics (the "Code") has been adopted by our Board of Directors and summarizes the standards that must guide the actions of the employees, directors and executive officers of Auris Medical Holding AG and its subsidiaries (collectively the "Company"). Although they cover a wide range of business practices and procedures, these standards cannot and do not cover every issue that may arise or every situation in which ethical decisions must be made, but rather set forth key guiding principles that represent Company policies and establish conditions for employment at the Company.

We must strive to foster a culture of honesty and accountability. Our commitment to the highest level of ethical conduct should be reflected in all of the Company's business activities, including, but not limited to, relationships with employees, customers, suppliers, competitors, the government and the public, including our shareholders. All of our employees, directors and executive officers must conduct themselves according to the language and spirit of this Code and seek to avoid even the appearance of improper behavior. Even well-intentioned actions that violate the law or this Code may result in negative consequences for the Company and for the individuals involved.

One of our Company's most valuable assets is our reputation for integrity, professionalism and fairness. We should all recognize that our actions are the foundation of our reputation and adhering to this Code and applicable law is imperative.

### **Conflicts of Interest**

Our employees, directors and executive officers have an obligation to conduct themselves in an honest and ethical manner and to act in the best interest of the Company. All employees, directors and executive officers should endeavor to avoid situations that present a potential or actual conflict between their interest and the interest of the Company.

A "conflict of interest" occurs when a person's private interest interferes in any way, or even appears to interfere, with the interests of the Company as a whole, including those of its subsidiaries and affiliates. A conflict of interest can arise when an employee, director or executive officer takes an action or has an interest that may make it difficult for him or her to perform his or her work objectively and effectively. Conflicts of interest may also arise when an employee, director or executive officer (or a member of his or her family) receives improper personal benefits as a result of the employee's, director's or executive officer's position in the Company.

Although it would not be possible to describe every situation in which a conflict of interest may arise, the following are examples of situations that may constitute a conflict of interest:

• Working, in any capacity, for a competitor, customer or supplier while employed by the Company.



- Accepting gifts of more than modest value or receiving personal discounts (if such discounts are
  not generally offered to the public) or other benefits as a result of your position in the Company
  from a competitor, customer or supplier.
- Competing with the Company for the purchase or sale of property, products, services or other interests.
- Having an interest in a transaction involving the Company, a competitor, customer or supplier (other than as an employee, director, or executive officer of the Company and not including routine investments in publicly traded companies).
- Receiving a loan or guarantee of an obligation as a result of your position with the Company.
- Directing business to a supplier owned or managed by, or which employs, a relative or friend.

Situations involving a conflict of interest may not always be obvious or easy to resolve. You should report actions that may involve a conflict of interest to the Chief Executive Officer, and you may do so anonymously.

In the event that an actual or apparent conflict of interest arises between the personal and professional relationship or activities of an employee, director or executive officer, the employee, director or executive officer involved is required to handle such conflict of interest in an ethical manner in accordance with the provisions of this Code.

# **Quality of Public Disclosures**

The Company has a responsibility to communicate effectively with shareholders so that they are provided with full and accurate information, in all material respects, about the Company's financial condition and results of operations. Our reports and documents filed with or submitted to the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and Nasdaq and our other public communications shall include full, fair, accurate, timely and understandable disclosure, and the Company has established a Disclosure Committee consisting of senior management to assist in monitoring such disclosures.

# **Compliance with Laws, Rules and Regulations**

We are strongly committed to conducting our business affairs with honesty and integrity and in full compliance with all applicable laws, rules and regulations. No employee, director or executive officer of the Company shall commit an illegal or unethical act, or instruct others to do so, for any reason.

If you believe that any practice raises questions as to compliance with any applicable law, rule or regulation or if you otherwise have questions regarding any law, rule or regulation, please contact your supervisor/manager or the Chief Executive Officer.

### Compliance with This Code and Reporting of Any Illegal or Unethical Behavior

All employees, directors and executive officers are expected to comply with all of the provisions of this Code. The Code will be strictly enforced and violations will be dealt with immediately, including by subjecting persons who violate its provisions to corrective and/or disciplinary action such as dismissal or removal from office. Violations of the Code that involve illegal behavior will be reported to the appropriate authorities.



Situations which may involve a violation of ethics, laws, rules, regulations or this Code may not always be clear and may require the exercise of judgment or the making of difficult decisions. Employees, directors and executive officers should promptly report any concerns about violations of ethics, laws, rules, regulations or this Code to their supervisors/managers or the Chief Executive Officer, or in the case of accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters, the Audit Committee of the Board, and any such report may be made anonymously.

Any concerns about violations of ethics, laws, rules, regulations or this Code by any director or executive officer should be reported promptly to the Board of Directors or the Chair of the Audit Committee, and the Chair of the Audit Committee shall notify the Board of Directors. Any such concerns involving the Chair of the Audit Committee should be reported to the Board of Directors. Reporting of such violations may also be done anonymously to the Board of Directors. An anonymous report to the Company should provide enough information about the incident or situation to allow the Company to investigate properly. For concerns or complaints made by an employee on a confidential basis without anonymity, we will endeavor to protect this confidentiality, subject to applicable laws, regulations or legal proceedings.

The Company encourages all employees, directors and executive officers to report any suspected violations promptly and intends to thoroughly investigate any good faith reports of violations. The Company will not tolerate any kind of retaliation for reports or complaints regarding potential misconduct that were made in good faith. Open communication of issues and concerns by all employees, directors and executive officers without fear of retribution or retaliation is vital to the successful implementation of this Code. You are required to cooperate in internal investigations of misconduct and unethical behavior.

The Company recognizes the need for this Code to be applied equally to everyone it covers. The Chief Executive Officer will have primary authority and responsibility for the enforcement of this Code, subject to the supervision of the Board of Directors, and the Company will devote the necessary resources to enable the Chief Executive Officer to establish such procedures as may be reasonably necessary to create a culture of accountability and facilitate compliance with this Code. Questions concerning this Code should be directed to the Chief Executive Officer.

The provisions of this section are qualified in their entirety by reference to the following section.

### **Protected Rights**

You have the right to communicate directly with and provide information, including documents, not otherwise protected from disclosure by any applicable U.S. law or attorney-client privilege to the Securities and Exchange Commission or any other federal, state or local government agency or commission regarding possible legal violations, without disclosure to the Company. The Company may not retaliate against you for any of these activities. Your rights and remedies as a whistleblower protected under applicable U.S. whistleblower laws, including a monetary award, if any, may not be waived by any agreement, policy form, or condition of employment, including by a pre-dispute arbitration agreement.

### Waivers and Amendments

Any waivers (including any implicit waivers) of the provisions in this Code for directors or executive officers will be disclosed to the Company's shareholders via a press release and a Form 6-K or the Company's annual report on Form 20-F. Any waivers of this Code for other employees may only be granted by the Chief Executive Officer or Chief Financial Officer. Amendments to this Code will also be disclosed in the Company's annual report on Form 20-F.



# **Trading on Inside Information**

Using non-public Company information to trade in securities, or providing a family member, friend or any other person with non-public Company information, is illegal. All such non-public information should be considered inside information and should never be used for personal gain. You are required to familiarize yourself and comply with the Company's policy against insider trading, copies of which are distributed to all employees, directors and executive officers and are available from the Chief Financial Officer or General Counsel with any questions about your ability to buy or sell securities.

## **Protection of Confidential Proprietary Information**

The provisions of this section are qualified in their entirety by the section entitled "Protected Rights" above.

Confidential proprietary information generated by and gathered in our business is a valuable Company asset. Protecting this information plays a vital role in our continued growth and ability to compete, and all proprietary information should be maintained in strict confidence, except: (1) as provided by the section entitled "Protected Rights" above; (2) when disclosure is authorized by the Company; or (3) when disclosure is required by law.

Proprietary information includes all non-public information that might be useful to competitors or that could be harmful to the Company, its customers or its suppliers if disclosed. Intellectual property such as trade secrets, patents, trademarks and copyrights, as well as business, research and new product plans, objectives and strategies, records, databases, salary and benefits data, employee medical information, customer, employee and suppliers lists and any unpublished financial or pricing information must also be protected.

Unauthorized use or distribution of proprietary information violates Company policy and could be illegal. Such use or distribution could result in negative consequences for both the Company and the individuals involved, including potential legal and disciplinary actions. We respect the property rights of other companies and their proprietary information and require our employees, directors and executive officers to observe such rights.

Except as provided above in the section entitled "Protected Rights" above, your obligation to protect the Company's proprietary and confidential information continues even after you leave the Company, and you must return all proprietary information in your possession upon leaving the Company.

### **Protection and Proper Use of Company Assets**

Protecting Company assets against loss, theft or other misuse is the responsibility of every employee, directors and executive officers. Loss, theft and misuse of Company assets directly impact our profitability. Any suspected loss, misuse or theft should be reported to the Chief Executive Officer.

The sole purpose of the Company's equipment, vehicles, supplies and electronic resources (including hardware, software and the data thereon) is the conduct of our business. They may only be used for Company business consistent with Company guidelines.



# **Corporate Opportunities**

Employees, directors and executive officers are prohibited from taking for themselves business opportunities that arise through the use of corporate property, information or position. No employee, director or executive officer may use corporate property, information or position for personal gain, and no employee, director or executive officer may compete with the Company. Competing with the Company may involve engaging in the same line of business as the Company or any situation in which the employee, director or executive officer takes away from the Company opportunities for sales or purchases of property, products, services or interests.

## Fair Dealing

Each employee, director and executive officer of the Company should endeavor to deal fairly with customers, suppliers, competitors, the public and one another at all times and in accordance with ethical business practices. No one should take unfair advantage of anyone through manipulation, concealment, abuse of privileged information, misrepresentation of material facts or any other unfair dealing practice. No bribes, kickbacks or other similar payments in any form shall be made directly or indirectly to or for anyone for the purpose of obtaining or retaining business or obtaining any other favorable action. In the event of a violation of these provisions, the Company and the employee, director or executive officer involved may be subject to disciplinary action as well as potential civil or criminal liability for violation of this policy.

Occasional business gifts to and entertainment of non-government employees in connection with business discussions or the development of business relationships are generally deemed appropriate in the conduct of Company business. However, these gifts should be given infrequently and their value should be modest. Gifts or entertainment in any form that would likely result in a feeling or expectation of personal obligation should not be extended or accepted.

Practices that are acceptable in commercial business environments may be against U.S. or Swiss law or the policies governing national or local government employees. Therefore, no gifts or business entertainment of any kind may be given to any government employee without the prior approval of the Chief Financial Officer or General Counsel.

Except in certain limited circumstances, the United States Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (the "FCPA") prohibits giving anything of value directly or indirectly to any "foreign official" for the purpose of obtaining or retaining business. When in doubt as to whether a contemplated payment or gift may violate the FCPA, contact the Chief Financial Officer or General Counsel before taking any action.

### **Compliance with Antitrust Laws**

Antitrust laws prohibit agreements among competitors on such matters as prices, terms of sale to customers and the allocation of markets or customers. Antitrust laws can be complex, and violations may subject the Company and its employees to criminal sanctions, including fines, jail time and civil liability. If you have any questions about our antitrust compliance policies, consult the General Counsel.

### **Political Contributions and Activities**

Any political contributions made by or on behalf of the Company and any solicitations for political contributions of any kind must be lawful and in compliance with Company policies. This policy applies solely to the use of Company assets and is not intended to discourage or prevent individual employees, directors or executive officers from making political contributions or engaging in political



activities on their own behalf. No one may be reimbursed directly or indirectly by the Company for personal political contributions.

## **Environment, Health and Safety**

We are committed to conducting our business in compliance with all applicable environmental and workplace health and safety laws and regulations. We strive to provide a safe and healthy work environment for our employees and to avoid adverse impact and injury to the environment and the communities in which we conduct our business. Achieving this goal is the responsibility of all employees, directors and executive officers.

# **Dealings with the Community**

We are committed to being a responsible member of, and recognize the mutual benefits of engaging and building relationships with, the communities in which we operate. Wherever the Company operates, we strive to make a positive and meaningful contribution to the surrounding community and to ensure the distribution of a fair share of benefits to all stakeholders impacted by its activities, including the surrounding community. We strongly encourage our employees to play a positive role in the community.

### **Doing Business with Others**

We strive to promote the application of the standards of this Code by those with whom we do business. Our policies, therefore, prohibit the engaging of a third party to perform any act prohibited by law or by this Code, and we shall avoid doing business with others who intentionally and continually violate the law or the standards of this Code.

### **Accuracy of Company Financial Records**

We maintain the highest standards in all matters relating to accounting, financial controls, internal reporting and taxation. All financial books, records and accounts must accurately reflect transactions and events and conform both to required accounting principles and to the Company's system of internal controls. Records shall not be distorted in any way to hide, disguise or alter the Company's true financial position.

### **Retention of Records**

All Company business records and communications shall be clear, truthful and accurate. Employees, directors and executive officers of the Company shall avoid exaggeration, guesswork, legal conclusions and derogatory remarks or characterizations of people and companies. This applies to communications of all kinds, including email and "informal" notes or memos. Records should always be handled according to the Company's record retention policies. If an employee, director or executive officer is unsure whether a document should be retained, consult a manager/supervisor or the Chief Financial Officer or General Counsel before proceeding.

#### Review

The Board shall review this Code annually and make changes as appropriate.