Proposal:

Physicians and the Pharmaceutical and Medical technology Industry

The leaders of the Nordic colleges and unions of general practice have agreed on the content of this paper in their biannual meeting in Sweden 2012. The members of this assembly commit themselves to present this resolution for their national boards for adoption and to work for the implementation of the charter in their own countries.

The GP organisations and scientific colleagues of the Nordic countries want to ensure clarity about, and limit the influence of the industry on pharmaceutical and other treatments in the health system of the Nordic countries.

The organisations suggest these five initiatives to ensure this purpose:

1: All countries must establish rules to ensure that doctors’ professional advice in connection with treatment guidelines is independent of the pharmaceutical and medical technology industry.

2: The physician standard drug information must be produced and disseminated from an independent, publicly owned and operated organisation.

3: Institutions which can provide independent assessments of the pros and cons of tests and treatments must be strengthened.

4: Independent drug research must be strengthened.

5: There must be full transparency of physicians’ income from and other interests in the pharmaceutical and medical technology industry.
Henrik Dibbern  
President  
Praktiserende Laegers Organisaton – PLO

Lars G Johansen  
President  
The Danish College of General Practitioners

Arto Virtanen  
President  
Allmänläkare I Finland

Pekka Honkanen  
President  
The Finnish Association of General Practice

Gisle Roksund  
President  
Nordisk Federation of General Practice

Morten Laudal  
Vice President  
The Norwegian College of General Practice

Trond Egil Hansen  
President  
The Norwegian Association of General Practitioners

Ove Andersson  
President  
The Swedish Union of General Practitioners

Karin Träff Nordström  
President  
The Swedish Association of General Practice