



**Monopar Therapeutics**

**MONOPAR THERAPEUTICS INC.**

**CODE OF BUSINESS CONDUCT AND ETHICS**

**Adopted by the Board of Directors on**

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**(As amended on October 8, 2024)**

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## ***Introduction***

Monopar Therapeutics Inc. (the “Company”) is committed to maintaining high standards of business conduct and professional ethics appropriate to its research and development of innovative prescription pharmaceuticals business and to the biopharmaceutical industry environment. This Code of Business Conduct and Ethics (the “Code”) documents an essential selection of the business practices and principles of ethical and professional behavior that support this commitment. References in this Code to employees are intended to cover staff, supervisors, managers, officers and, as applicable, non-employee directors. Every employee is responsible for reading and understanding this Code and its application to the performance of his or her Company responsibilities and duties.

### ***1. Responsibilities for Compliance with this Code***

Officers, managers and supervisors are expected to develop in their assigned staff a sense of commitment to the letter and the intentions of this Code and to ensure that all agents and contractors conform to Code standards when working for or on behalf of the Company. The compliance performance within each manager’s and each supervisor’s assigned areas of responsibility will be a factor in evaluating that individual’s performance. In addition, each individual employee will be expected to commit to and implement this Code in his or her interactions with others and in the performance of his or her responsibilities. The individual’s performance in compliance with this Code will be a factor in the individual employee’s performance evaluation. However, nothing in this Code alters the at-will employment policy of the Company.

### ***2. The Evolving Nature of this Code to Address Changes in Our Environment***

This Code is not intended to be a comprehensive rulebook and cannot address every situation that an employee may face. As such, this Code addresses conduct that is particularly important to proper dealings with the people and entities with whom we interact, but reflects only a part of our commitment. From time to time as deemed necessary, we may adopt additional policies and procedures which our employees are expected to follow, if applicable to them. The Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee in conjunction with the Audit Committee as it relates to Financial issues will review and reassess the adequacy of this Code at least annually, and recommend to the Board any changes the Committee determines are appropriate. All changes must be promptly disclosed as required by law or regulation including posting such updated Code to the Company’s website.

In addition, it is the responsibility of each employee to apply common sense, together with his or her own professional and behavioral ethical standards, and to seek additional guidance from Company managerial staff in making business decisions where there is no stated guideline or the guidelines within the Code are not clearly applicable. The Code is designed to provide key principles and guidelines and does not replace, modify or eliminate any additional obligations or controls in other regulations, laws, policies or agreements.

### ***3. Integrity and Professional Ethical Conduct***

It is the policy of the Company to promote high standards of integrity by conducting our affairs in an honest manner and in accordance with high business and professional standards. The Company must have a collective commitment to integrity which is a core cultural tenet of the Company and a foundation of this Code. The reputation of the Company for integrity and fair and honest dealing depends on the honesty, fairness and integrity brought to the work performed by each person associated with us. Personal integrity is a key foundation of corporate integrity.

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

The Company’s product candidates and its operations are subject to extensive and rigorous regulation by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (the “FDA”) and foreign regulatory agencies. The FDA and foreign regulatory agencies regulate our research, preclinical and clinical testing, and development of therapeutics; the submission of data and other information to support marketing approval; the manufacturing, testing and labeling of therapeutics; the promotion, distribution, sale of therapeutics and the provision of samples to physicians; and the reporting of adverse events and other information to the FDA and foreign regulatory agencies. Violation of these laws and regulations can result in severe civil and criminal penalties, adverse publicity for the Company and various levels of operational actions taken against the Company, including withdrawal of marketing approval.

Obedying the law, rules and regulations both in their written forms and in their related interpretations applicable to the Company's operations is a fundamental foundation of this Code. Our success depends upon each employee operating within these legal parameters and regulations, and openly and honestly cooperating with local, national and international legal and regulatory authorities. We expect employees to understand the legal and regulatory requirements applicable to their business units and areas of responsibility. We hold periodic training/educational sessions to ensure that all employees are well informed on the relevant laws, rules and regulations including relevant interpretations associated with their employment. While we do not expect employees to memorize every detail of these laws, rules and regulations, we do expect our employees to be functionally capable of fully understanding, interpreting, and following the legal requirements of their position and responsibilities. Employees should be able to determine when to seek advice from supervisors and management in areas of relevant responsibility and, when appropriate, from qualified colleagues with applicable experience and training. If employees have questions or concerns in the area of legal compliance, it is important that they do not hesitate to seek answers from their supervisor, manager or the Compliance Officer (as further described in Section 21).

Disregard of or inability to comply with laws, rules or regulations will not be tolerated. Violation of domestic or foreign laws, rules and regulations may subject an individual, as well as the Company, to civil and/or criminal penalties. Employees should be aware that conduct and records, including emails, are subject to internal and external audits and to discovery by third parties in the event of a government investigation or civil litigation. Emails should reflect the full dedication to integrity and proper processes and activities required by this Code. It is in everyone's best interests to know and comply with our legal obligations and to understand how to proceed to determine corrective actions and communications when needed.

## **5. *Insider Trading***

Employees who have access to confidential (or "insider") information are not permitted to use or share that information for stock trading purposes or for any other purpose except to conduct our business. All non-public information about the Company or about companies with which we do business is considered confidential information. To use non-public information in connection with buying or selling securities, including "tipping" others who might make an investment decision on the basis of this information, is unethical and illegal.

Employees must exercise the utmost care when handling material insider information. Employees are required to read and sign the Company's Confidential Insider Trading Policy which among other responsibilities, requires that employees refrain from conducting transactions involving the purchase or sale of the Company's securities during the scheduled "Black-out Periods". In addition to scheduled Black-out Periods, from time to time, the Company may require that employees and others suspend trading because of developments known to the Company and not disclosed to the public. In such event, such persons may not engage in any transaction involving the purchase or sale of the Company's securities during such period and should not disclose to others the fact of such suspension of trading.

The Company has determined that all non-employee directors and employees should refrain from trading in the Company's securities without first complying with the Company's "pre-clearance" process. Each non-employee director and employee should contact the Company's Insider Trading Compliance Officer not less than two (2) business days prior to commencing any trade in the Company's securities. The Insider Trading Compliance Officer must clear or decline each proposed trade by a non-employee director or employee.

## **6. *International Business Laws***

Our employees are expected to comply with the applicable laws in all countries to which they travel, in which they operate and where we otherwise do business, including laws prohibiting bribery, corruption or the conduct of business with specified individuals, companies or countries. The fact that, in some countries, certain laws are not enforced or that violation of those laws is not subject to public criticism is not acceptable as an excuse for noncompliance. In addition, we expect employees to comply with U.S. laws, rules and regulations governing the conduct of business by its citizens and corporations outside the U.S.

It is important to note that the Company may not facilitate or encourage a non-domestic company to perform a transaction that it could not perform itself pursuant to sanctions laws. Employees involved in export transactions or international operations must familiarize themselves with the list of countries against

which the U.S. maintains comprehensive sanctions and the rules relating to exporting to or transacting with such countries, either directly or indirectly through foreign subsidiaries or other third parties. In addition, employees must comply with counter-terrorism requirements when engaging in international trade on behalf of the Company.

These U.S. laws and regulations, which extend to all our activities outside the U.S., include:

- The Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, which prohibits directly or indirectly giving anything of value to a government official to obtain or retain business or favorable treatment and requires the maintenance of accurate books of accounts, with all Company transactions being properly recorded;
- U.S. Embargoes, which generally prohibit U.S. companies, their subsidiaries and their employees from traveling to, or doing business with, countries subject to sanctions imposed by the U.S. government (including, for example, Belarus, Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Syria and Venezuela), as well as specific companies and individuals identified on lists published by the U.S. Treasury Department;
- U.S. Export Controls, which restrict exports from the U.S. and re-exports from other countries of goods, software and technology to many countries, and prohibits transfers of U.S.-origin items to denied persons and entities; and
- Anti-boycott Regulations, which prohibit U.S. companies from taking any action that has the effect of furthering or supporting a restrictive trade practice or boycott imposed by a foreign country against a country friendly to the U.S. or against any U.S. person.

If requested to participate in or cooperate with an international boycott that the U.S. does not support (e.g., the boycott of Israel sponsored by the Arab League), you may not agree to or comply with such request.

In addition to examples discussed above, below are examples of prohibited activities, but are not limited to:

- Making illegal facilitation payments to expedite or secure performance of routine actions, even if such actions are customary or considered essential to reasonable performance in certain foreign jurisdictions;
- Influencing, or inducement of, a decision, act or lack of action by a Covered Official in violation of their lawful duty;
- Securing illegal business advantages such as market monopolies, non-competitive market pricing, etc., through blackmail, bribery, kickbacks, non-market commission rates; and
- Threatening personal injury, detention or property damage unless a person makes a payment.

If employees have a question as to whether an activity is restricted or prohibited, they must seek assistance and resolution of uncertainty before taking any action.

## **7. Antitrust Laws**

Antitrust laws are designed to protect the competitive process. These laws are based on the premise that the public interest is best served by vigorous competition and will suffer from illegal agreements or collusion among competitors. Antitrust laws generally prohibit:

- agreements, formal or informal, with competitors that harm competition or customers, including price fixing and allocations of customers, territories or contracts;
- agreements, formal or informal, that establish or fix the price at which a customer may resell a product; and
- the acquisition or maintenance of a monopoly or attempted monopoly through anti-competitive conduct.

Certain kinds of information, such as pricing, sales volumes, production levels and inventory, should not be exchanged with competitors, regardless of how innocent or casual the exchange may be and regardless of the setting, whether business or social. In addition, the U.S. Federal Trade Commission Act (the "FTC Act") declares "unfair methods of competition in commerce, and unfair or deceptive acts or practices in commerce" unlawful. It is a violation of the FTC Act to engage in deceptive, unfair or unethical practices and to make misrepresentations in connection with sales activities.

Participation in trade associations and other professional organizations may serve useful and legitimate purposes, such as exchanging information about government regulations. However, employees must be careful because these meetings also bring together competitors who might discuss matters of mutual concern and potentially cross the line into noncompliance with antitrust and competition obligations. For purposes of this section, co-promotion and research collaboration partners are not considered competitors. Employees should always clear their participation in such activities with their supervisor. As a general rule, if employees have occasion to speak with competitors, they should never discuss competitively sensitive subjects, such as pricing, terms and conditions of doing business, customers, or markets. If a competitor begins to talk about any competitive topics (e.g., rebates), employees should leave the conversation and immediately inform their supervisor and the Compliance Officer.

Antitrust laws impose severe penalties for certain types of violations, including criminal penalties and potential fines and damages of up to millions of dollars, which may be tripled under certain circumstances. Understanding the requirements of antitrust and unfair competition laws of the various jurisdictions where we do business can be difficult, and employees are required to seek assistance from their supervisor or the Compliance Officer whenever employees have a question relating to these laws.

## **8. *Employment Practices***

The Company seeks to pursue fair employment practices in every aspect of its business. We strive to provide equal employment opportunity for all applicants and employees. We do not discriminate on any basis prohibited under federal, state, or local law. This applies to all areas of employment including recruitment, hiring, promotion, compensation, benefits, transfers, disciplinary action, and social and recreational programs. Copies of the Company's detailed policies, including the Monopar Therapeutics Employee Handbook, are available upon request given to an employee's supervisor or manager or to the Compliance Officer. Company employees must comply with all applicable labor and employment laws, including anti-discrimination laws and laws related to freedom of association and privacy. It is an employee's responsibility to understand and comply with the employment laws, regulations and policies that are relevant to their job. Failure to comply with labor and employment laws can result in civil and criminal liability actions against an employee and the Company, as well as disciplinary action by the Company up to and including termination of employment. If employees have questions about the laws, regulations, policies that apply to them, or procedures for specific situations, employees should consult with their supervisor or manager or with the Compliance Officer.

## **9. *Alcohol, Recreational Marijuana and Illegal Drugs***

The Company is committed to maintaining an alcohol-free, recreational marijuana-free and recreational and illegal drug-free workplace. All Company employees must comply strictly with Company policies regarding the use of alcohol, recreational marijuana and the possession, sale, and use of illegal substances and use of controlled substances which are not supported by a valid prescription held by the employee. Drinking alcoholic beverages, using recreational marijuana and the use of controlled substances which are not supported by a valid prescription held by the employee are prohibited while on duty including Company travel or on the premises of the Company, except alcohol use in strict moderation at business lunches/dinners and at other Company-sanctioned events. Possessing, using, selling, or offering illegal drugs or other controlled substances which are not supported by a valid prescription held by the employee are prohibited under all circumstances while on duty or on the premises of the Company. Likewise, employees are prohibited from reporting for work or driving a Company vehicle or any vehicle while on Company business or on Company premises while under the influence of alcohol, marijuana or any illegal drug or controlled substance which are not supported by a valid prescription held by the employee.

## **10. Conflicts of Interest**

The Company respects the rights of our employees to manage their personal affairs and investments and does not wish to impinge on their non-work personal lives. At the same time, employees should avoid conflicts of interest that occur when their personal interests interfere in any way with the performance of their duties or the best interests of the Company. A conflicting personal interest could result from an expectation of personal gain now or in the future or from a need to satisfy a prior or concurrent personal obligation. We expect our employees to be free from influences that conflict with the best interests of the Company or might deprive the Company of their undivided loyalty in business dealings. Even the appearance of a conflict of interest where none may actually exist can be damaging and is prohibited. Whether or not a conflict of interest exists or will exist can be unclear. Conflicts of interest are prohibited unless specifically authorized as described below.

If employees have any questions about a potential conflict or if they become aware of an actual or potential conflict, and they are not an officer of the Company, they should promptly discuss the matter with their supervisor or manager or with the Compliance Officer. Supervisors or managers may not resolve conflict of interest matters or make determinations as to whether a problematic conflict of interest exists without first seeking the approval of the Compliance Officer and providing the Compliance Officer with a written description of the activity. If the supervisor is involved in the potential or actual conflict, the employee should discuss the matter directly with the Compliance Officer. Officers and non-employee directors may seek authorizations and determinations from the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee of our Board of Directors.

Factors that may be considered in evaluating a potential conflict of interest are, among others:

- whether it may interfere with the employee's job performance, responsibilities or morale;
- whether the employee has access to relevant confidential information;
- whether it may interfere with the job performance, responsibilities or morale of others within the organization;
- any potential adverse or beneficial impact on our business;
- any potential adverse or beneficial impact on our relationships with our customers or suppliers or other service providers;
- whether it would enhance or support a competitor's position;
- the extent to which it could result in financial or other benefit (direct or indirect) to the employee;
- the extent to which it could result in financial or other benefit (direct or indirect) to one of our customers, suppliers or other service providers; and
- the extent to which it might appear improper to an outside observer.

Although this list does not include every possible situation in which a conflict of interest could arise, the following are examples of situations that may, depending on the facts and circumstances, involve problematic conflicts of interests:

- Employment by (including consulting for) or service on the board of a competitor, customer or supplier or service provider. Activity that enhances or supports the position of a competitor to the detriment of the Company is prohibited. Employment by or service on the board of a customer or supplier or other service provider is generally discouraged and employees must seek written authorization from the Compliance Officer in advance if they plan to take such a position. Service on the board of a customer or competitor or service provider must be preapproved by the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee of our Board of Directors.
- Owning, directly or indirectly, a significant financial interest, where the employee can exercise influence, in any entity that does business, seeks to do business or competes with us. In addition to the factors described above, persons evaluating ownership in other entities for conflicts of interest will consider the size and nature of the investment; the nature of the relationship between the other entity and the Company; the employee's access to confidential information and the employee's ability to influence the Company's decisions. If an employee would like to acquire a financial interest of that kind, they must seek written pre-approval from the Compliance Officer in advance of securing a

financial interest.

- Soliciting or accepting gifts, favors, discounts, loans or preferential treatment from any person or entity that does business or seeks to do business with us, except as described in Section 14.
- Soliciting contributions formally or informally for any charity during Company hours or on Company premises or while on Company business without prior written approval.
- Seeking contributions for any political candidate or any political cause from Company employees or from any person or entity that does business or seeks to do business with us.
- Receiving improper personal gain based on the employee's position at Monopar. See Section 11 for further discussion of the issues related to taking advantage of corporate opportunities.
- Employees consulting for another company or accepting employment (even if part time or intermittent) without prior approval of an employee's supervisor or manager or the Compliance Officer.
- Conducting our business transactions with an employee's immediate family, significant others or other persons who live in the employee's household (referred to in this Code as "Family Members") or a business in which the employee has a significant financial interest. Material related-party transactions can be approved in advance (or disapproved) by the Audit Committee of our Board of Directors. Such transactions involving any executive officer or non-employee director will be publicly disclosed as required by applicable laws and regulations.
- Exercising supervisory or other authority or influence on behalf of the Company over a co-worker who is also a Family Member or who is also involved in a dating relationship with the employee. The employee's supervisor and/or the Compliance Officer will consult with the Human Resources manager or an expert consultant and Company policies to assess whether the arrangement is authorized or to determine the advisability of reassignment.
- Loans to, or guarantees of obligations of, employees or their Family Members by the Company could constitute an improper personal benefit to the recipients of these loans or guarantees, depending on the facts and circumstances. Some loans are expressly prohibited by law and applicable law requires that our Board of Directors approve all loans and guarantees by the Company to employees. As a result, all loans and guarantees with these circumstances by the Company must be pre-approved in writing by the Audit Committee of our Board of Directors.
- Action by an employee's Family Members also may potentially result in ethical issues or conflicts of interest to the extent that they involve the Company's business. For example, acceptance of inappropriate gifts by a Family Member from one of our suppliers could create a conflict of interest and result in a Code violation attributable to the employee. Consequently, in complying with this Code, the employee should consider not only their own conduct, but also that of their Family Members.

Business dealings with Family Members, if executed at arms-length, can be determined not to be a conflict of interest, but would be considered related party transactions. All related party transactions must be pre-approved in writing by the Company's Audit Committee of our Board of Directors.

## **11. Corporate Opportunities**

Employees may not take personal advantage of opportunities related to the Company that are presented to them or discovered by them as a result of their position with us or through their use of corporate property or information, unless authorized by their supervisor or manager, the Compliance Officer or the Audit Committee of our Board of Directors as described in Section 21. Even opportunities that are acquired privately by an employee are questionable if they are related to our existing or proposed lines of business. Significant participation in an investment or outside business opportunity that is directly related to our lines of business must be pre-approved in writing by the Compliance Officer. Employees may not use their position with us or corporate property or information for improper personal gain, nor can they compete with the Company in any way.



## **12. Development of and Maintenance of Corporate Books, Records, Documents and Accounts**

The integrity of our records and public disclosure depends upon the validity, accuracy and completeness of the information supporting the entries to our books of accounts. Therefore, our corporate and business records must be completed accurately and honestly. The analysis and interpretation of our financial and accounting data requires impartial and objective compilation of summaries of the data and related information. The making of false, incomplete, or misleading statements and entries, whether they relate to financial results or other business measurements or facts, is strictly prohibited. Our records serve as a basis for managing our business and are critical in meeting our obligations to governments, regulators, customers, investors, suppliers, creditors, employees and others with whom we do business. As a result, it is important that our books, records and accounts accurately and fairly reflect, in required detail, our assets, liabilities, revenues, costs and expenses, cash flows, equity records as well as all transactions and changes in assets and liabilities. This is also essential to determining the accuracy and reliability of our financial statements and financial reports required as a public company. We require among many accounting rules and procedures that:

- no entry be made in our books and records that intentionally hides or disguises the nature of any transaction or of any of our liabilities, or misclassifies any transactions as to accounts or accounting periods;
- transactions be supported by appropriate documentation and internal approval;
- the quantitative details, terms of sales and other commercial transactions be accurately, completely, and timely reflected in the documentation for those transactions and all such documentation be reflected accurately in our books and records;
- employees comply with our system of internal controls;
- no cash or other assets be maintained for any purpose in any unrecorded or “off-the-books” fund;
- no employee may take or authorize any action that would cause our financial records or financial disclosures to fail to comply with generally accepted accounting principles, the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) or other applicable laws, rules and regulations;
- all employees must cooperate fully with our Finance department and Audit Committee of our Board of Directors, as well as our independent registered public accounting firm and legal counsel, respond to their questions with candor and provide them with complete and accurate information to help ensure that our books and records, and reports filed with the SEC and other government agencies, are accurate and complete;
- no employees shall, directly or indirectly, take any action to coerce, manipulate, mislead or fraudulently influence any representative or employee of an independent registered public accounting firm engaged in the performance of an audit or review of the Company’s financial statements; and
- no employee should knowingly make (or cause or encourage any other person to make) any false or misleading statement in any of our reports filed with the SEC or knowingly omit (or cause or encourage any other person to omit) any information necessary to make the disclosures in any of our reports accurate in all material respects. Neither shall any employee knowingly add or embellish data, materials, descriptions or other sources which may tend to lead an investigator to an incorrect conclusion or explanation.

Our accounting records are also relied upon to produce reports for our management, stockholders and creditors, as well as for governmental agencies. In particular, we rely upon our accounting and other business and corporate records in preparing the periodic and current reports that we file with the SEC. Securities laws require that these reports provide full, fair, accurate, timely and understandable disclosures and fairly present our financial condition and results of operations. Employees who collect, provide or

analyze information for or otherwise contribute in any way in preparing or verifying these reports should strive to ensure that our financial disclosures are accurate and transparent and that our reports contain all of the information about the Company that would be important to enable stockholders and potential investors to assess the soundness and risks of our business and finances and the quality and integrity of our accounting and disclosures.

The Company will develop and maintain a records management system which meets the regulations and requirements of government and other relevant organizations.

Any employee who becomes aware of any departure from these standards, including but not limited to: (a) significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of the Company's internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the Company's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial information or (b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the Company's internal control over financial reporting, has a responsibility to report his or her knowledge promptly to their supervisor or manager, the Compliance Officer, the Audit Committee of our Board of Directors or one of the other compliance resources described in Section 21.

Employees with concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters or complaints regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters may confidentially, and anonymously if they wish, submit such concerns or complaints to the Chairman of the Audit Committee, the Chief Executive Officer or the Chief Financial Officer through the Company's whistleblower hotline procedures.

All such concerns and complaints will be forwarded to the Audit Committee, unless they are determined to be without merit by the Chairman of the Audit Committee, the Chief Executive Officer and/or the Chief Financial Officer. In any event, a record of all complaints and concerns received will be provided to the Audit Committee at each quarterly Audit Committee meeting. The Audit Committee will evaluate the merits of any concerns or complaints received by it and authorize such follow-up actions, if any, as it deems necessary or appropriate to address the substance of the concern or complaint. The Company will not discipline, discriminate against or retaliate against any employee who reports a complaint or concern, unless it is determined that the report was made with knowledge that it was false or based on grossly negligent processes which were incomplete and/or unprofessional.

### **13. Fair Dealing**

We strive to outperform our competition fairly and honestly. Advantages over our competitors are to be obtained through superior performance of our products, services, research and development processes, science and technology developments and pharmaceutical expertise among other factors, but not through unethical or illegal business practices. Acquiring proprietary information from others through improper means, possessing trade secret information that was improperly obtained, or inducing improper disclosure of confidential information from past or present employees of other companies is prohibited, even if motivated by an intention to advance our interests. If information is obtained by mistake that may constitute a trade secret or other confidential information of another business, or if employees have any questions about the legality of proposed information gathering, they must consult their supervisor, manager or the Compliance Officer, as further described in Section 21.

Employees are expected to deal fairly with our customers, suppliers, service providers, competitors, government agencies and officials, third parties, employees and anyone else with whom they have contact in the course of performing their job. Be aware that the FTC Act provides that "unfair methods of competition in commerce, and unfair or deceptive acts or practices in commerce, are declared unlawful." It is a violation of the FTC Act to engage in deceptive, unfair or unethical practices and to make misrepresentations in connection with sales or business development activities.

To this end, non-employee directors, officers, and employees shall not:

- Make false or misleading statements regarding our products or services;
- Make potentially false or misleading statements about our competitors or various business, scientific situations or statements that are not supported by fair evaluation of public information including starting rumors or spreading misinformation;

- Solicit or accept from any person that does business with us or offer or extend to any such person gifts, gratuities, meals, cash or entertainment that could influence or reasonably give the impression of influencing our business relationship with that person or goes beyond common courtesies associated with accepted business practices;
- Solicit or accept any fee, commission, or other compensation for referring customers to third-party vendors;
- Otherwise take advantage of our customers, suppliers, or other third parties through manipulation, concealment, abuse of privileged information or other unfair practices.

Employees involved in procurement have a special responsibility to adhere to principles of fair competition in the purchase of products and services by selecting suppliers based exclusively on normal commercial considerations, such as quality, cost, availability, service and reputation, and not on the receipt of special favors or other advantages.

#### **14. Gifts, Hospitality, Entertainment and Other Benefits**

Gifts, hospitality, entertainment and other benefits may not be offered, provided or accepted by any employee in the course of business without the express written permission of the Compliance Officer, the Chief Executive Officer, or the Audit Committee of our Board of Directors and must be consistent with customary business practices and not:

- (a) of more than token or nominal monetary value as defined by the Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Inspector General (currently a \$75 annual limit);
- (b) in cash or cash equivalents;
- (c) susceptible of being construed as a bribe or kickback;
- (d) made or received on a regular or frequent basis;
- (e) pose a potential conflict of interest; or
- (f) in violation of any laws, regulations, or industry guidance.

This principle applies to our transactions everywhere in the world, even in a country where a more lucrative practice is widely considered “an acceptable way of doing business.” Employees should not accept gifts or entertainment that may reasonably be deemed to affect their judgment or actions in the performance of their duties. Our customers, suppliers and the public at large should know that our employees’ judgment is not susceptible to influence.

The Company is further committed to interacting with healthcare professionals in an ethical and professional manner, in compliance with all applicable laws, rules and regulations. Offering anything of value to a healthcare professional intended to influence that person to recommend or purchase a product or service that may be reimbursed through a government-funded system is strictly prohibited by law and Company policy. Employees must avoid engaging in any activity that would inappropriately influence a healthcare professional’s medical judgment or treatment decisions. Business meals and other nominally-valued items allowable under Company policy must be entered into our expense management system for accurate tracking and reporting purposes.

Under some statutes, such as the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (further described in Section 6), giving anything of value to a government official to obtain or retain business or favorable treatment is a criminal act subject to prosecution and conviction. Employees should discuss with their supervisor, manager, or the Compliance Officer any proposed entertainment or gifts if they are uncertain about their appropriateness.

#### **15. Political Contributions and Activity**

Political contributions are highly regulated, and violations are subject to serious penalties. Accordingly, employees should not make any political contributions with their own funds or with Company funds on behalf of the Company anywhere in the world. This prohibition includes financial and in-kind contributions made by the Company. If employees engage in personal political activity, they must do so on their own time with their own resources. Employees should not use Company communications and IT resources or facilities to aid their activities. Employees must be careful to separate their own political activities from any association with the Company and not to use Company personnel, events, property or equipment for personal political purposes, because a Company contribution of time or resources could be viewed as a violation.

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

All employees are expected to protect our assets and ensure their efficient use. Theft, careless losses and waste have an effect on our financial resources and profitability. Our property, such as office supplies, lab equipment, computer equipment, cell phones, buildings and products, are expected to be used only for legitimate business purposes, although incidental personal use in minimal amounts may be permitted. Employees may not, however, use our corporate name, any brand name or trademark owned by or associated with the Company or any letterhead stationery for any personal purpose.

### **Management of Computer Based Information Systems**

Employees may not, while acting on behalf of the Company or while using our computing or communications equipment or facilities:

- visit pornographic websites, download or take sexually explicit photographs or videos, send sexually explicit emails or texts;
- access confidential systems (also known as “hacking”) or other resource of another entity without express written authorization from the entity responsible for operating that resource; or
- commit any unlawful or illegal act, including harassment, libel, fraud, sending of unsolicited bulk email (also known as “spam”) in violation of applicable law, trafficking in contraband of any kind or espionage.

If employees receive authorization to access another entity’s internal computer system or other resource, they must make a permanent record of that authorization so that it may be retrieved for future reference, and they may not exceed the scope of that authorization. Before any action is taken under this authorization, employees must first obtain a written approval signed by their supervisor or manager and the Compliance Officer to proceed with this authorization.

Unsolicited bulk email is regulated by law in a number of jurisdictions. If employees intend to send unsolicited bulk email to persons outside of the Company, either while acting on our behalf or using our computing or communications equipment or facilities, they should contact their supervisor, manager or the Compliance Officer for approval.

All data residing on or transmitted through our computing and communications facilities, including email and word processing documents, are the property of the Company and subject to inspection, retention and review by the Company, with or without an employee’s or third party’s knowledge, consent or approval, in accordance with applicable law. Any misuse or suspected misuse of our assets must be immediately reported to the employee’s supervisor, manager or the Compliance Officer.

## **17. Protection of Proprietary and Confidential Information**

One of our most important assets is our confidential information. Employees of the Company may learn of information about the Company that is confidential and proprietary before that information is released to the general public. Employees who have received or have access to confidential information must take special care to keep this information confidential. Confidential information includes non-public information that might be of use to competitors or harmful to the Company or its customers if disclosed, such as business, marketing and service plans, financial information, product architecture, source codes, inventions, chemical structures, designs, databases, customer lists, pricing strategies, personnel data, personally identifiable information pertaining to our employees, customers or other individuals (including, for example, names, addresses, telephone numbers and social security numbers), and similar types of information provided to us by our customers, suppliers and partners. This information may be protected by patent, trademark, copyright and trade secret laws.

In addition, because we interact with other companies and organizations, there may be times when

employees learn confidential information about other companies before that information has been made available to the public. Employees must treat this information in the same manner as they are required to treat our confidential and proprietary information. Employees should assume that before public disclosure they must treat as confidential the fact that we have an interest in, or are involved with, another company.

Employees are required to keep confidential and proprietary information confidential unless and until that information is released to the public through approved channels (usually through a press release, an SEC filing or a formal communication from a member of senior management, as further described in Section 18). Every employee has a duty to refrain from disclosing to any person or outside organization confidential or proprietary information about us or about any other company learned in the course of employment here, until that information is disclosed to the public through approved channels. This policy requires employees to refrain from discussing or communicating by any means confidential or proprietary information with outsiders or with other Company employees, unless those fellow employees have a legitimate need to know the information in order to perform their job duties. This restriction extends to other organizations or companies who are engaged in a contractual relationship with the Company and may be under a restrictive confidentiality agreement with us. Family Members are not authorized to know proprietary information and there are numerous, highly embarrassing incidents with adverse consequences of improper use of confidential information gained through talk within families. Unauthorized use or distribution of this information could also be illegal and result in civil liability and/or criminal penalties.

Employees must take care not to inadvertently disclose confidential information. Materials that contain confidential information, such as memos, notebooks, thumb drives, computer disks and laptop computers, should be stored securely. Unauthorized posting or discussion of any information concerning our business, information or prospects on the Internet is prohibited. Employees may not discuss confidential information about our business, information or prospects in any public “chat room,” web log (“blog”), or other similar electronic environment or social media, regardless of whether they use their own name or a pseudonym. Be cautious when discussing sensitive information in public places like elevators, airports, restaurants and “quasi-public” areas within the Company. All Company emails, voicemails and other communications are presumed confidential and should not be forwarded or otherwise disseminated outside of the Company except where required for legitimate business purposes.

In addition to the above responsibilities, if employees are handling information protected by any privacy policy published by us, then they must handle that information in accordance with the applicable policy including complying with Confidential Disclosure Agreements or Nondisclosure Agreements which they have executed with the Company or with other entities as a representative of the Company.

Upon termination, of employment with the Company, an employee shall return and not take or exploit any Company property, including but not limited to (a) any inventories, materials, cell phones, computers, external hard-drives, printers, back-up drives, supplies, communications, correspondence, documents, plans or other properties, (b) any ideas, inventions, and/or processes that were developed while working for the Company, (c) any form of reproductions/copies/descriptions of any of (a) or (b) above, including without limitation any electronic (e.g. email) versions, and/or any proprietary or confidential information of the Company as defined in the Company’s Employee Invention Assignment And Confidentiality Agreement.

#### **18. Public Disclosures of Proprietary and Confidential Information**

It is our policy to provide complete, accurate, timely and understandable disclosures in reports and documents filed with, or submitted to, the Securities and Exchange Commission and in other public communications.

And it is our policy to disclose material information concerning the Company to the public only through specific limited channels to avoid inappropriate publicity and to ensure that all those with an interest in the Company will have equal access to information.

All disclosures of financial information to security analysts, current investors, potential investors, or media organizations and all organizations outside the Company must be pre-approved by the Chief Executive Officer. Earnings press releases, earnings conference call scripts and the financial information within public presentations (for example: investor conferences or industry meetings and such), informational brochures and other channels must be reviewed and approved by the Audit Committee of our Board of Directors before public release.

All inquiries or calls from the press, investors and financial analysts should be referred to the Chief Executive Officer, or in his absence, the Chief Scientific Officer or Chief Financial Officer or the Executive Chairman of our Board of Directors. We have designated these individuals as our official spokespersons for financial matters, and marketing, technical and other related information. Unless the Chief Executive Officer has made a specific limited exception, these officers are the only individuals who may communicate on behalf of the Company with the press, security analysts, investors, media, or others who analyze and report on companies. Employees also may not provide any information to the media about us off the record, for background, confidentially or secretly.

Care must be taken to ensure that there is no communication of material Company information (financial, scientific or otherwise) outside of the Company before the disclosure of such information via the filing of financial reports, periodic quarterly or annual reports, other current reports or press releases in the public domain.

## **19. Healthcare Industry Standards**

### ***A. Quality of Company Operations and Products***

The Company is committed to quality and integrity in all its research, development, manufacturing and quality product testing, distribution and related operations. Each employee is responsible for knowing and abiding by the laws and regulations that apply to these activities, including without limitation, good laboratory practices, good clinical practices, good manufacturing practices, good distribution practices, and applicable country-specific regulations. The Company will not tolerate the falsification, inaccuracy or fabrication of research, clinical, manufacturing or quality testing data.

### ***B. Ethical Clinical Research***

The Company is committed to the safety of the patients and healthy volunteers who take part in our clinical trials and to upholding the highest ethical, scientific, and clinical standards in all of our research initiatives. To ensure appropriate protection and respect for the rights of study participants, all Monopar-sponsored clinical trials are designed and conducted in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. Our policies on conducting ethical research are regularly reviewed and updated to keep pace with the increasing complexity, sophistication, and evolution of clinical trials. We have adopted detailed internal procedures to rigorously ensure ethical and top-quality research design, conduct, and follow-up. These procedures demonstrate the Company's respect for the health, well-being, and safety of research participants as well as for the cultures, laws, and regulations of the countries in which studies are conducted. We also have an established monitoring and review system including appropriate use of independent data monitoring committees, both during and following our research initiatives. All Company-sponsored clinical trials are prospectively reviewed by a qualified Institutional Review Board ("IRB") or Independent Ethics Committee ("IEC").

### ***C. Patient Advocacy Groups***

Patient advocacy groups provide patients with important support and information on how to live with their disease, represent patient views, and campaign for change on issues that affect patient lives. The Company is convinced that an open dialogue and transparent exchange of information with patient advocacy groups is vital to proper patient care. Building and sustaining relationships with patient advocacy groups is an effective way to gain valuable insights into the Company's activities from drug development to regulatory approval and reimbursement to product launch and marketing. The Company fully supports the need for integrity and public transparency, and consistently applies high standards of conduct in its interactions with patient advocacy groups.

### ***D. Product Promotion and Advertising***

The Company is committed to complying with all applicable laws, rules and regulation for the countries in which it does business and/or markets products. No employee, or consultant acting on behalf of the Company, may promote a product for use before the product is approved for such use. This limitation, however, does not restrict the appropriate exchange of scientific information in

medical forums and upon specific unsolicited request for such information. The promotion of approved Company products shall be done in a factually accurate and balanced manner, shall not be false nor misleading in any way, and facilitated by only those unaltered materials reviewed and approved by an internal cross-functional committee.

#### ***E. Environmental and Safety Compliance***

The Company is committed to supporting a healthy and safe environment and to maintaining sound environmental controls, programs and facilities. The Company works to fully comply with applicable environmental and safety laws and regulations.

Federal law imposes criminal liability on any person or company that contaminates the environment with any hazardous substance that could cause injury to the community or environment. Violation of environmental laws can involve monetary fines and imprisonment. We expect employees to comply with all applicable environmental laws.

It is our policy to conduct our business in an environmentally responsible way that minimizes environmental impacts. We are committed to minimizing and, if practicable, eliminating the use of any substance or material that may cause environmental damage, reducing waste generation and disposing of all waste through safe and responsible methods, minimizing environmental risks by employing safe technologies and operating procedures, and being prepared to respond appropriately to related accidents and emergencies.

#### ***F. Workplace Safety and Productive Environment***

We are committed to the following:

- Providing a workplace that is free from sexual harassment. Sexual harassment in the workplace is against the law and will not be tolerated. When the Company determines that an allegation of sexual harassment is credible, it will take prompt and appropriate corrective action.
- Providing a safe, violence-free workplace. Violent or threatening behavior is strictly prohibited by anyone on Company premises or engaged in Company business or on a Company-related activity. This behavior includes, but is not limited to, threats of any kind; intimidating or physically aggressive actions; excessive arguing or swearing; defacing Company property; sabotage; demonstrated pattern of refusing to follow Company policies; and possession of weapons or firearms on Company premises or in any vehicle on Company business. This is true even if employees have obtained legal permits to carry weapons. The only exception to this policy applies to security personnel who are specifically authorized by Company management to carry weapons. All reports of workplace violence or other restricted or prohibited behavior will be taken with the utmost seriousness and will be investigated promptly and thoroughly.
- Providing a workplace that is free from unlawful harassment, bullying and discrimination. Harassment is unwelcome conduct that is based on race, color, gender, gender-identity, gender reassignment, pregnancy, age, national origin, religion, disability, political preferences or affiliations, genetic information, sexual orientation, veteran status, or other classes protected by applicable law. We will not tolerate conduct that is severe or pervasive enough to create a work environment that a reasonable person would consider intimidating, hostile, or abusive. No employee will be disadvantaged for reporting this type of conduct in good faith to his/her supervisor, manager or the Compliance Officer.
- Providing an environment free from combative, verbally abusive or disrespectful behavior. These behaviors can create a climate of fear, hostility, distraction and isolation and thereby reduce productivity. Such incidents should be reported to a supervisor or the Compliance Officer. All reports will be investigated thoroughly and, if found to be valid, may lead to disciplinary action up to and including termination for the parties responsible for the unacceptable behavior.
- Creating a fully inclusive and stimulating environment in which our workforce is free to innovate to meet the needs of our customers and collaborators around the world. We respect employment

laws wherever we operate in the world, including international labor standards, laws governing freedom of expression and rights of association, privacy and equal opportunities.

## **20. Waivers**

Any waiver of this Code for executive officers (including, where required by applicable laws, our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller (or persons performing similar functions)) or non-employee directors may be authorized only by our Board of Directors or, to the extent permitted by the rules of Nasdaq, a committee of our Board of Directors and will be disclosed to stockholders as required by applicable laws, rules and regulations.

## **21. Compliance Standards and Procedures**

To facilitate compliance with this Code, we have established the position of Compliance Officer to oversee this program. The Compliance Officer is a person to whom employees can address any questions or concerns. Our Chief Financial Officer serves as our Compliance Officer. In addition to fielding questions or concerns with respect to potential violations of this Code, the Compliance Officer is responsible for:

- investigating possible violations of this Code, both autonomously and in partnership with other functions as needed (e.g., external or internal human resources expertise on matters of workplace violence, harassment or discrimination);
- training new employees on the Code and supporting policies;
- maintaining access to an electronic version of the Code and ensuring that each employee receives annual refresher training and annually certifies to their reading and understanding of and compliance with this Code;
- collaborating with management, and other departments and providing external or internal human resources expertise as needed on corrective actions to ensure consistent enforcement of disciplinary measures;
- updating this Code, as needed, and alerting employees to any updates, with appropriate approval of the Audit Committee or the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee of our Board of Directors, to reflect changes in the law, Company operations, in recognized best practices, to reflect Company experience; and otherwise promoting an atmosphere of responsible and ethical conduct.

Employees' most immediate resource for any matter related to this Code is their direct supervisor or manager. He or she may have the information employees need or may be able to refer the question to another appropriate source. There may, however, be times when employees prefer not to go to their supervisor or manager. In these instances, employees should feel free to discuss their concern with the Compliance Officer. If employees are uncomfortable speaking with the Compliance Officer, they should contact the Chief Executive Officer. If employees' concerns involve potential misconduct by another person or relate to questionable financial controls, accounting or auditing matters, or suspected fraud, they may report that violation directly to the Audit Committee of our Board of Directors.

## **22. Questions and Concerns; Interpretations of this Code; and Reporting Possible Violations**

Employees should not hesitate to: ask questions; voice concerns; or clarify uncertain areas as to whether any particular conduct or action may violate this Code. Section 21 above details the compliance resources available to employees. Employees should be alert to possible violations of this Code and report suspected violations, supported by reasonable evidence, without fear of any form of retaliation as further described in Section 21.

If employees encounter a situation or are considering a course of action and its appropriateness is unclear, they should discuss the matter promptly with their supervisor or manager or the Compliance Officer; delays provide uncertainty as to the Company's positions or processes and even the appearance of impropriety can be very damaging and should be avoided.



Since we cannot anticipate every situation that will arise, it is important that we have a way to approach a new question or problem. These are the steps for employees to keep in mind:

***Make sure you have all the facts. In order to reach the right solutions, we must be as fully informed as possible.***

- ***Ask yourself: What specifically am I being asked to do? Does it seem unethical or improper?*** This will enable you to focus on the specific question you are faced with, and the alternatives you have. Use your judgment and common sense; if something seems unethical or improper, it probably is.
- ***Clarify your responsibility and role.*** In most situations, there is shared responsibility. Are your colleagues informed? It may help to get others involved and discuss the problem.
- ***Discuss the problem with your supervisor.*** This is the basic guidance for all situations. In many cases, your supervisor will be more knowledgeable about the question and will appreciate being brought into the decision-making process. Remember that it is your supervisor's responsibility to help solve problems. Seek help from Company resources. In the rare case where it may not be appropriate to discuss an issue with your supervisor, or where you do not feel comfortable approaching your supervisor with your question, you may also discuss the situation with the Compliance Officer.
- ***Always ask first, act later.*** If you are unsure of what to do in any situation, seek guidance before you act.

If employees are aware of a suspected or actual violation of Code standards by others, employees have a responsibility to report it. They are expected to promptly provide the Company with a specific description of the violation that they believe has occurred, including any information they have about the persons involved and the time of the violation. Whether they choose to speak with their supervisor or manager or the Compliance Officer, or report the suspected violation anonymously through the Company's whistleblower hotline, they should do so without fear of any form of retaliation. We will take prompt disciplinary action including possible termination of employment against any employee who retaliates against another employee.

Employees may conduct preliminary investigations if specifically authorized in advance, in writing to do so by the Compliance Officer.

Supervisors or managers must promptly report any complaints or observations of suspected Code violations to the Compliance Officer. If employees believe their supervisor or manager has not taken appropriate action, including the timeliness of the action, they should inquire of their supervisor or manager as to the status of the investigation of the violation. If the response is not satisfactory, the employee should contact the Compliance Officer directly. The investigating supervisor or manager may set a reasonable duration for an investigation and determination of corrective action, if appropriate, that includes consideration of the time required for the investigation versus other duties and responsibilities. This time estimate should be reviewed with the Compliance Officer and the reporting individual so they are made aware of the expected timing of the process.

## **23. Investigation of Possible Violations**

The Compliance Officer and employees designated in advance, in writing by the Compliance Officer, will investigate all reported possible Code violations as soon as practicable and with the highest degree of confidentiality that is possible under the specific circumstances. Neither the employee nor their supervisor or manager may conduct any preliminary investigation, unless specifically authorized in advance, in writing to do so by the Compliance Officer. Employee cooperation in the investigation will be required and expected. As needed, the Compliance Officer will consult with external or internal human resources expertise, and/or the Audit Committee of our Board of Directors. It is our policy to employ a fair process by which to determine and adjudicate violations of this Code.

With respect to any complaints or observations of violations that may involve accounting, internal accounting controls, auditing concerns, improper public disclosure of Company confidential financial information and other related issues, the Compliance Officer shall promptly inform the Audit Committee of our Board of Directors, and the Audit Committee shall be responsible for supervising and overseeing the inquiry and any investigation that is undertaken.

If any investigation indicates that a violation of this Code has possibly occurred, we will take such action as we believe to be appropriate under the circumstances. If we determine that an employee is responsible for a Code violation, he or she will be subject to disciplinary action up to, and including, termination of employment and, in appropriate cases, civil action or referral for criminal prosecution. Appropriate action may also be taken to deter any future Code violations. A mistake, oversight or non-deliberate violation should be reported to alert management to allow for corrections which, if not corrected, could be in danger of repeating the same non-deliberate violation.

#### **24. Retention of Complaint Records**

The Compliance Officer will maintain a log of all complaints, tracking their receipt, investigation and resolution. Each member of the Audit Committee and the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee of our Board of Directors, as appropriate, and at the discretion of the Compliance Officer, other personnel involved in the investigation of complaints, shall have access to the log. Access to log records may be restricted to those records that have relevance and usefulness to the current complaint under investigation. Copies of the log and all documents obtained or created in connection with any investigation will be maintained in accordance with our document retention policy.

#### **25. Possible Consequences of Code Violations**

Deliberate or reckless or patterns of repeated violations of this Code by an individual employee will not be tolerated. Any employee who violates the standards in this Code may be subject to disciplinary action, which, depending on the nature of the violation and the history of the employee, may range from a warning or reprimand up to termination of employment and, in appropriate cases, civil legal action or referral for regulatory or criminal prosecution.