

## **POLICYI002 PARTICIPANT PAYMENT AND REIMBURSEMENT**

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### **PURPOSE**

The consent of a person to participate in research must be entirely voluntary. The decision to participate should not result from coercion, pressure or influence as per the National Statement **Sec. 2.2.9, 2.2.10 & 2.2.11.**

### **PARTICIPANT PAYMENT**

1. It is generally appropriate to provide payment for participation when the research can have no possible therapeutic benefit to the participants; this is commonly the case in studies with healthy volunteers.
2. However, payment that is disproportionate to the time involved, or any other inducement that is likely to encourage participants to take on risks is ethically unacceptable.
3. The amount and schedules of all payments should be disclosed to the Bellberry HREC.
4. All information about payments must be clearly stated in the Participant Information Sheet and Consent Form (PICF). They should be described as 'payments' and not as 'compensation' or in any other way that may mislead participants into believing that they are not assessable for taxation. **Payments for services, such as participation in research studies, are assessable for taxation.**
5. Participants should be advised of any payment variation due to withdrawal from the research. It is recognised there are three likely withdrawal scenarios. These are shown below with the expected level of payment:
  - i. Participant withdrawn by Investigator/Sponsor for non-compliance: pro-rata payment
  - ii. Participant withdrawn by Investigator/Sponsor for any reason other than non-compliance: full payment
  - iii. Participant withdraws: pro-rata payment
6. Recruiting advertisements can state that participants will be paid for time and inconvenience, but they must not state dollar amounts. This information should be discretely positioned in the advertisement and should not be in enlarged or emboldened print.

### **PARTICIPANT REIMBURSEMENT**

1. Consistent with the National Statement 2.2.10, Bellberry requires that participants be reimbursed for their costs in taking part in research; including costs such as travel, accommodation and parking.  
**Details on reimbursement for costs should be clearly stated in the PICF.**