産学連携の透明化とCOIマネジメント — 透明性ガイドラインの問題点

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Transparency of cooperation between industry and academia and management of conflict of interest (COI)-issues involved in “Transparency Guidelines”

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Abstract
It is critically important to keep transparency of information concerning industry-academia relationships, to promote cooperation between them, especially in the area of medicine. From the side of pharmaceutical industries, “Transparency Guidelines” have been developed and proposed as self-governance regulations, to increase transparency of actual information about industry-academia relationships. However, the contents of the guidelines and the process of their development and implementation contain many serious problems, which we cannot permit. Although the guidelines are self-governance regulations, it is problematic that opinions of medical practitioners, whose personal data are planned to be disclosed, have not been reflected in the process of the guideline development. The bases of these guidelines are somewhat abstract concepts such as “transparency” and it is unreasonable to prioritize such abstract concepts to other important issues such as personal data protection, medical professionals’ peace of mind, etc. From these points of view, the author concludes that the Transparency Guidelines lack fairness and their purpose and contents should be reconsidered.

Key words
industry-academia cooperation, COI (conflict of interest) management, Transparency Guidelines, protection of personal information