July 28, 2020

Dear Healthcare Professional,

As you may be aware, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation recently entered into a civil and administrative settlement with the United States and the State of New York in connection with Novartis’ promotion of several of its cardiovascular and other products. This letter provides you with additional information about the global settlement, explains Novartis’ commitments going forward, and provides you with access to information about those commitments.

In general terms, the government alleged that Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation violated the Federal Anti-kickback statute and caused the submission of false claims to Federal health care programs through its speaker programs and other interactions with health care practitioners during which the company promoted certain of its cardiovascular and other drugs. To resolve its liability for remuneration, Novartis agreed to enter a civil settlement agreement and pay $678 million. More information about this settlement may be found at the following: https://www.novartis.us, Novartis Press Release, US Attorneys Office - Southern District of New York, US Attorneys Office - District of Massachusetts, and Department of Justice.

As part of the settlement, Novartis also entered into a five-year corporate integrity agreement with the Office of Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The corporate integrity agreement is available at Novartis Corporate Integrity Agreement. Under this agreement, Novartis agreed to undertake certain obligations designed to promote compliance with Federal health care program and FDA requirements. We also agreed to notify healthcare providers about the settlement and inform them that they can report any questionable practices by Novartis’ representatives to Novartis’ Compliance organization or the FDA using the information set out below.

Please call Novartis at 888-NOW-NOVA (888-669-6682) or visit us at www.novartis.us if you have questions about the settlement referenced above. Please call Novartis at 888-436-7001 or visit us at Novartis SpeakUp Office http://www.speakupnovartis.ethicspoint.com to report any instances in which you believe that a Novartis representative inappropriately promoted a product or engaged in other questionable conduct. Alternatively, you may report any improper conduct associated with prescription drug marketing committed by a Novartis Representative to the FDA’s Office of Prescription Drug Promotion at 301-796-1200. You should direct medical questions or concerns about Novartis products to 888-NOW-NOVA (888-669-6682).

Sincerely,

Victor Bulto
President, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation