



Veena Rawat <veenarawat2011@gmail.com>

Fwd: Danone and Neonatologists

1 message

Veena Rawat <veena@bpni.org>
 To: veenarawat2011@gmail.com

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 10:57 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Arun Gupta <arun.ibfan@gmail.com>
 Date: 18 Apr 2021 11:10
 Subject: Fwd: Danone and Neonatologists
 To: Veena Rawat <veena@bpni.org>
 Cc:

Please add in violations list

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Arun Gupta** <arun.ibfan@gmail.com>
 Date: Sun, 18 Apr 2021 at 10:42
 Subject: Danone and Neonatologists
 To: ranjan pejaver <rpejaver@yahoo.com>
 Cc: Dr S Ramji <siddarthramji@gmail.com>, <ashokdeorari_56@hotmail.com>, <drkbharti2011@gmail.com>, <secnfn@nnfi.org>, <finance@nnfi.org>, <dchirla@gmail.com>, <neoashish2008@gmail.com>, <arjtm@yahoo.com>, <au.lirm@gmail.com>, <manojvaranattu@gmail.com>, <dramitpaediatrician@gmail.com>, <swazir21@gmail.com>, <satish1962@hotmail.com>, <drusjagdishchandra@yahoo.com>, <karthiknagesh@yahoo.co.in>, <somu_somu@yahoo.com>

Dear Dr Ranjan and EB members of NNF,
 NNF got to be serious !

As Covid surges Danone finds it way again through association with neonatologist.
 Happens today and try if you can halt it . I just received and thought you guys can help and talk to the concerned.
 I don't know him .

Look forward to an urgent action to keep the commercial influence away , we already have had enough of it .

Best regards

Arun

Pasted below is today's event

"Dear Doctor,

Greetings from Danone!!!

It is our endeavour to bring the latest scientific updates, I am pleased to invite you for the virtual scientific interaction on 18th April'2021 with renowned consultant.

Speaker- Dr Sunil Agrawal MD DM (Neonatology).
 Senior Consultant and Head, Depart of Neonatology, Fortis Hospital, Mohali, Punjab.

Topic- 1. Latest Guidelines on Neonatal resuscitation 2020.
 2. Role of Prebiotics in preterm care

Date- 18th April'21, Sunday
 Time- 3 pm to 4 pm

Please block your time.

Please favour by joining through WebEx virtual platform for making this event successful.

Link for meeting-

<https://mydanone.webex.com/mydanone/j.php?MTID=m445814af7179a67db16e8f359d649358>

Meeting code: 163 895 2078

Thanks & Regards."

Dr Arun Gupta (MD Ped)
 Central Coordinator BPNI,
 MD, World Breastfeeding Trends Initiative (WBTi) Global Secretariat .
 Regional Coordinator, IBFAN South Asia .

Convener-Alliance Against Conflict of Interest(AACI),
 Nutrition Advocacy in Public Interest(NAPi)

Mobile 9899676306
 Skype: arungupta1696

E-mails
arun.ibfan@gmail.com; wbtigs@gmail.com

Tweet me @moveribfan

On 02-Apr-2021, at 7:44 PM, ranjan pejaver <rpejaver@yahoo.com> wrote:

Dear Dr Arun Gupta,
 Greetings from NNF India

Thank you for your E-mails. Our former President Dr Ashok Deorari had already issued just a few months ago, a letter to all the members and also put on the website about NNFs India's position requesting them to abstain from providing any form of encouragement to Neolacta life Sciences. This was after a discussion at the EB meeting.

As current President I fully endorse it and abide by that decision. Regarding your other suggestions, it will have to be discussed further in the EB before any decisions can be taken. I would like to remind you that NNF like many other organizations is a professional body and not a regulatory body. I will definitely keep you informed about results of any further discussion and decisions as and when it happens.

With regards,
 Yours sincerely,
 Dr Ranjan Kumar Pejaver
 President NNF India.

On Friday, 2 April 2021, 11:02:30 GMT+5:30, Arun Gupta <arun.ibfan@gmail.com> wrote:

To: The President/s and Executive Committee members of NNF,

I, as a member of NNF, would like to request your combined wisdom to my mail of 18 February and a gentle reminder of 14 March sent to the president NNF(not yet acknowledged)

Hope to hear from you on the 2 points raised my letter to the President.

1. NNF could take appropriate action at the level of professional association and document its position for association with companies such as Neolacta, who knows tomorrow more of such companies may come up. **This is to keep up NNF's reputation and integrity.**

2. NNF could send a clear message to **all its members to dissociate from Neolacta** in any manner, may be research, awards or any other form of association as clear as said in 9.2 of IMS Act. Why we think it is necessary because we continue to hear from members about not knowing about what should be done and Neolacta is telling them that it's products are not under the purview of IMS Act.

Your response would be useful, whatever it is.

Looking forward to hear from you,

Best regards to you all,

Arun

.....
 Reminder on 14 March

Dear Dr Ranjan,

This is to remind you just in case you didn't get my mail . Maybe it landed in spam, that does happen when one gets mail from an unknown source.

I would appreciate your response in this matter.

With my best regards

Arun

.....

On 18-Feb-2021, at 11:59 AM, Arun Gupta <arun.ibfan@gmail.com> wrote:

BPNI/2021/030/18 Feb 2021

**Dr Ranjan Kumar Pajaver,
President NNF 2021,
India**

Dear Dr Ranjan,

Allow me to introduce myself a, a pediatrician of 1976 batch from Punjab, later left clinical work to be a founder of Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India (BPNI) and ever since working for protection of breastfeeding from commercial factors, as BPNI is mandated by the law *Infant Milk Substitutes Feeding Bottles, and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act 1992, and Amendment Act 2003*. I have been a member of NNF since its inception. I am writing to you on behalf of BPNI.

This is to bring to your kind attention 2 very important facts about Neolacta Lifesciences as they are involved in exploitation of women for extracting their breastmilk and selling it off, the link to the recent article that carried out this investigation is here for your kind perusal. Commodification of human breastmilk is happening. Website of Neolacta has more information.

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09692290.2020.1864757>

Second it a response from FSSAI to our RTI enquiry, clearly saying Human milk cannot be used for Food Business. That makes it even illegal, and we have asked FSSAI why the licence has been issued. (Attached-Reply Document 2)

This is further to our analysis that Neolacta products do come under the purview of the IMS Act as per the opinion we sought from a senior lawyer. Current activities of Neolacta are a known marketing tactic as "manipulation by association" or "manipulation by assistance" and co-opting the doctors working in Neonatology.

BPNI appreciates the NNF's letter to the branches post EB decision of 6th September. It is a wonderful action of NNF. I like to suggest and appreciate it if you could strengthen this action further with the following two actions. This is likely to enhance the level of protection of breastfeeding which is a dire need in spite of the legal frameworks available; and also protect integrity and reputation of NNF.

1. NNF could take appropriate action at the level of professional association and document its position for association with companies such as Neolacta, who knows tomorrow more of such companies may come up. **This is to keep up NNF's reputation and integrity.**

2. NNF could send a clear message to **all its members to dissociate from Neolacta** in any manner, may be research, awards or any other form of association as clear as said in 9.2 of IMS Act. Why we think it is necessary because we continue to hear from members about not knowing about what should be done and Neolacta is telling them that its products are not under the purview of IMS Act.

I hope to hear a positive action from your end in the best interests of India's women and children. I am happy to talk to you if you have any clarification to seek. My phone number is 9899676306.

With my kind regards,

Sincerely,
Arun

<ReplyDocument (2) (1).pdf>

<Screenshot 2021-02-10 at 4.00.22 PM.png>

Begin forwarded message:

From: "BPNI India" <bpni.india@gmail.com>
Subject: FW: To seek your attention towards violation of Section 3 (a) and 9 (2) of "Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply & Distribution) Act 1992, and Amendment Act 2003" (IMS Act) by "Neolacta Lifesciences P
Date: 10 February 2021 at 4:53:40 PM IST
To: "Arun Gupta" <arun.ibfan@gmail.com>

From: BPNI India [<mailto:bpni.india@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, September 03, 2020 1:40 PM
To: 'ashokdeorari_56@hotmail.com'; 'secnnf@nnfi.org'; 'drkibharti2011@gmail.com'
Subject: To seek your attention towards violation of Section 3 (a) and 9 (2) of "Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply & Distribution) Act 1992, and Amendment Act 2003" (IMS Act) by "Neolacta Lifesciences Pvt L

To,
Prof. AK Deorari,
The President,
National Neonatology Forum of India,
803, GD-ITL Tower, 8th Floor,
Netaji Subhash Place, Delhi, 110034

Sub: To seek your attention towards violation of Section 3 (a) and 9 (2) of "Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply & Distribution) Act 1992, and Amendment Act 2003" (IMS Act) by "Neolacta Lifesciences Pvt Ltd" and National Neonatology Forum of India.

Dear Prof. Deorari,

India enacted the "Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply & Distribution) Act 1992, and Amendment Act 2003" (IMS Act), which came into force on August 1993. An offence committed under the law is cognizable. The Government of India notified "Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India (BPNI)"wide No G.S.R. 540 (E), dated the 27th June 1994, to monitor the compliance with the above Act.

We want to bring to your kind attention about the company "Neolacta Lifesciences Pvt Ltd" that has three products i) Neolact MMF (sachets), ii) Neolact MMF (liquid), iii) Neolacta Pasteurized human breastmilk (PHBM) 70 cal. **These three products are under the purview of the IMS Act, as these are "infant milk substitutes" (as per the legal opinion obtained by BPNI).**

Neolacta is aggressively marketing these products through the following strategies.

(a) Advertisement of the products in the Journal of Neonatology (Vol. 33 No.3 September 2019) (Annex-1): Infringes section 3 (a) of the IMS Act.

(b) Sponsorship of the conferences of National Neonatology Forum (NNF). (Annex-2) we also have information about sponsorship of other conferences by this company. Infringes Section 9(2) of the IMS Act.

As per the section 3 (a) of the IMS Act, "No person shall- "advertise, or take part in the publication of any advertisement for the distribution, sale or supply of infant milk substitutes, feeding bottles or infant foods".

As per the section 9(2) of the IMS Act, "No producer, supplier or distributor referred to in sub-section (1), shall offer or give any contribution or pecuniary benefit to a health worker or any association of health workers, including funding of seminar, meeting, conference, educational course, contest, fellowship, research work or sponsorship".

Activities of Neolacta and National Neonatology Forum of India mentioned in (a) and (b) above infringe Sections 3(a) and 9(2) of the IMS Act as per the legal opinion obtained by BPNI.

Please find attached the evidence to these two alleged violations of the section 3 (a) and section 9 (2) of the IMS Act. (Annex-1,2)

BPNI has reported these violations to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and waiting for a response from the Ministry.

It is important to note that Neolacta has been involved in commercializing human milk even as the guiding principles for using donor human milk in India in the MOHFW's 'National Guidelines on Lactation Management Centers in Public Health Facilities' clearly states, "DHM cannot be used for any commercial purpose".

Therefore, we would like to request you to Kindly:

1. Refrain in future from accepting advertisements, sponsorship or any other support from this company, manufacturing and marketing infant milk substitutes for NNF's journal, conferences or any other activity.
2. Inform all your members about NNF's position of not collaborating/ entertaining sponsorship from Neolacta Lifesciences Pvt Ltd directly or indirectly.
3. Adopt a firm position to in the form of a GBM/EB resolution stating that NNF shall not accept the sponsorship in any form from any industry connected directly or indirectly with the products covered by the Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant food (Regulation of Production and Distribution) Act 1992 and amendment Act 2003.

We look forward to an urgent action and hearing from you. We would be happy to clarify if there are any questions.

With regards,

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. Arun Gupta
Central Coordinator
Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India (BPNI)
BP-33, Pitampura | Delhi- 110034
Email id : bpni.india@gmail.com, bpni@bpni.org
Website:www.bpni.org
Landline: +91-11-27312705 +91-11-42683059 |

Our Ethical Policy- As a policy BPNI does not accept funds of any kind from the companies manufacturing baby foods, feeding bottles etc. and from organization/industry having conflict of interest.

<image001.jpg>

<image003.jpg>

<image005.jpg>

Connect with us on -

<image007.jpg>

<image009.jpg>

<image011.jpg>

<Letter to Prof. AK Deorari, President, NNF.pdf>

<Annex -1.pdf>

<Annex -2.pdf>

Dr. Arun Gupta MD FIAP
Central Coordinator, BPNI <https://www.bpni.org/>

MD, World Breastfeeding Trends Initiative(WBTi)<https://www.worldbreastfeedingtrends.org/>

Regional Coordinator- IBFAN South Asia,
Advisor, IBFAN Global Council,

Convener
Alliance Against Conflict of Interest(AACI) <http://www.aaci-india.org/>
&
Nutrition Advocacy in Public Interest(NAPi)<http://www.napiindia.in/>

BP-33, Pitampura | Delhi- 110034.

Email id : arun.ibfan@gmail.com
Mobile: 9899676306
Tweet : @moveribfan
Skype: arungupta1696

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<logo wbt2.png>

Dr. Arun Gupta
Central Coordinator BPNI, and Director

Initiatives of Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India (BPNI)
BP-33, Pitampura | Delhi- 110034
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