



The Italian Food Company. Since 1877.

## BARILLA NUTRITION RESEARCH GUIDING PRINCIPLES

At Barilla, we aim to bring people closer to the joy of good food and make quality the choice for a better life, from each individual to the planet. Because this is how we are nurturing the future, today. Food should nourish all aspects of our lives, and we are passionate about spreading wholesome and joyful food habits inspired by the Mediterranean lifestyle. In all that we do, we aspire to bring the pleasure of eating well to people through a wide range of products that are tasty, safe, and offer nutritional benefits.

We also fundamentally believe in the importance of understanding how our products fit into a healthy lifestyle, and we value the power of nutrition and wellbeing science to expand and strengthen our knowledge.

Therefore, in conducting non-proprietary scientific research, Barilla abides by guiding principles that were created to provide guidance to researchers to help minimize the potential for bias due to funding sources. Dedicated to these principles and committed to being the most reputable Italian food company worldwide, Barilla maintains utmost integrity and transparency in research, in full compliance with the Barilla Code of Ethics and Policies.

In creating research partnerships, all relevant parties shall:

1. Conduct or sponsor research that is factual, transparent, and designed objectively, and, according to accepted principles of scientific inquiry, the research design will generate an appropriately phrased hypothesis and the research will answer the appropriate questions, rather than favor a particular outcome;
2. Articulate a clear statement of work, rules, including the respect for Barilla's "Animal Welfare Position" and partner roles, responsibilities, and accountability, to build in trust, transparency, and mutual respect as core operating principles;
3. Require control of both study design and research itself to remain with scientific investigators;
4. Not offer or accept remuneration geared to the outcome of a research project, and encourage all researchers, regardless of study outcomes, to publish findings in peer-reviewed journals;
5. Ensure, before the commencement of studies, that there is a written agreement that the investigative team has the freedom to attempt to publish the findings within some specified time frame;
6. Require, in publications and conference presentations, full signed disclosure of all financial interests;
7. Not participate in undisclosed paid authorship arrangements in industry-sponsored publications or presentations;

8. Be flexible and ensure ongoing transparent communications;
9. Guarantee accessibility to all data and control of statistical analysis by investigators and appropriate auditors/reviewers;
10. Require that academic researchers, when they work in contract research organizations (CRO) or act as contract researchers to make clear statements of their affiliation; and require that such researchers publish only under the auspices of the CROs.

In addition, when public-private partnerships (PPPs) are made to carry out scientific research, in general PPPs should do the following:

1. Ensure that objectives will meet stakeholder partners' needs, with a clearly defined baseline to monitor progress and measure success;
2. Select objective scientific measurements capable of providing common ground for both public- and private-sector research goals;
3. Engage partners who agree upon specific and fundable research question(s) to be addressed by the partnership, and whom are committed to long-term goals as well as to the sharing of funding and research data;
4. Along with government and the private sector, include academics and other members of civil society as partners.

#### **Principles based on:**

- Barilla Code of Ethics
- Barilla Animal Welfare Position
- Rowe S, Alexander N, Clydesdale FM, et al. Funding food science and nutrition research: financial conflicts and scientific integrity. *Am J Clin Nutr* 2009; 89:1285-91.
- Rowe S, Alexander N, Kretser A, et al. Principles for building public-private partnerships to benefit food safety, nutrition, and health research. *Nutrition Reviews* 2013; 71(10):682-681.
- Mozaffarian D. Conflict of Interest and the Role of the Food Industry in Nutrition Research. *JAMA* 2017;317(17):1755–1756. doi:10.1001/jama.2017.3456
- Poli, A., Marangoni, F., Agostoni, C.V. et al. Research interactions between academia and food companies: how to improve transparency and credibility of an inevitable liaison. *Eur J Nutr* 2018; 57:1269–1273. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00394-018-1633-1>