



## Policy 9.0

**Policy Name:** Disclosure of Relevant Financial Relationships

### Policy

All persons involved in the development of a CPD educational activity must disclose all relevant financial relationships.

### Procedures

- 1) CPD shows that everyone who is in a position to control the content of an educational activity has disclosed all relevant financial relationships with any commercial interest. The ACCME defines "relevant financial relationships" as financial relationships in any amount occurring within the past 12 months that create a conflict of interest. This includes a spouse, partner or immediate family member.
- 2) An individual who refuses to disclose relevant financial relationships will be disqualified from the planning committee, presenter, teacher, or an author of a CPD educational activity, and cannot have control of, or responsibility for, the development, management, presentation or evaluation of the educational activity.
- 3) CPD discloses to the learner prior to the educational activity any relevant financial relationship(s) and includes the name of the individual, the name of the commercial interest and the nature of the relationship the person has with each commercial interest. This includes a spouse, partner or immediate family member.
- 4) For an individual with no relevant financial relationship(s), CPD discloses to the learner that the individual has no relevant financial relationship(s).
- 5) The source of all support from commercial interests is disclosed to learners. When commercial support is "in-kind" the nature of the support is disclosed to learners.
- 6) Disclosure will not include the use of a corporate logo, trade name or a product-group message of an ACCME-defined commercial interest.
- 7) CPD discloses the above information to learners prior to the beginning of the educational activity.
- 8) CPD has implemented the ACCME flowchart to identify and resolve all conflicts of interest prior to the educational activity being delivered to learners.

The ACCME defines **relevant financial relationships** as financial relationships in any amount, which occurred in the twelve-month period preceding the time that the individual was asked to assume a role controlling content of the CME activity, and which relate to the content of the educational activity, causing a conflict of interest.

The ACCME considers **financial relationships** to create conflicts of interest in CME when individuals have both a financial relationship with a commercial interest and the opportunity to affect the content of CME about the products or services of that commercial interest. The potential for maintaining or increasing the value of the financial relationship with the commercial interest creates an incentive to influence the content of the CME—an incentive to insert commercial bias.

The ACCME defines **financial relationships** as those relationships individuals benefit by receiving a salary, royalty, intellectual property rights, consulting fee, honoraria, ownership interest (e.g., stocks, stock options or other ownership interest, excluding diversified mutual funds), or other financial benefit. Financial benefits are usually associated with roles such as independent contractor (including contracted research), consulting, promotional speaking and teaching, membership on advisory committees or review panels, board membership, and other activities for which remuneration is received or expected. ACCME considers relationships of the person involved in the CME activity to also include financial relationships of a spouse or partner.