

## Frequently Asked Questions regarding Disclosure of Financial Relationships...

### 1. Why do I have to fill out 2 separate disclosures if I am a Planner and a Speaker?

*Activity directors and members of the Planning Committee are in a position to control content of a CME activity both by allowing or excluding certain information and therefore are asked to provide a global disclosure to disclose all financial relationships. If you are also a Speaker for the activity and have any relationships, you are asked whether or not any of those relationships are relevant to the products or services discussed in your specific lecture and if they are, we must also have the relationships identified for that specific lecture.*

### 2. What are some examples of 'financial relationships'?

*According to the ACCME, financial relationships are any relationships with industry in which you benefit financially. Some examples are:*

- ▶ *Contract from industry to provide funds or gifts-in-kind to you (or your spouse, partner or immediate family) in any amount during the past 12 months or in the upcoming months*
- ▶ *Principal Investigator or named in grant/research funding whether funds are paid to you or your institution, employer or hospital*
- ▶ *Patent royalties whether funds are paid to you or your institution, employer, or hospital*
- ▶ *Stock holder of directly purchased stock – excluding diversified mutual funds*

### 3. What is a 'gift-in-kind'?

*A gift-in-kind is any gift of material value given in lieu of financial remuneration for your services by industry (i.e. mailing labels, audio equipment, travel, etc)*

### 4. What is meant by 'industry'?

*Industry refers to any proprietary, for-profit commercial entity producing, marketing or distributing health care goods or services consumed by or used on patients. Non-profit or government organizations or non-health care related companies are not considered industry.*

### 5. I have a pending grant application from Pfizer for which I will be the Principal Investigator but it has not been finalized yet. Is this the type of relationship that should be disclosed as one I 'expect to have'?

*Yes, any relationship you expect to have within the next few months is one that should be disclosed even though the relationship isn't an existing one at the present time.*

### 6. What constitutes participation in a 'Speakers' Bureau'?

*Activities with any of the following characteristics are considered participation in a Speakers' Bureau whether or not it is labeled as such:*

- ▶ *A company has the contractual right to dictate what you say*
- ▶ *A company (not you) creates the slide set (or other presentation materials) and has the final approval for all content and edits*
- ▶ *You receive compensation from the company and act as the company's employee or spokesperson for the purposes of dissemination of company-generated presentation materials*

### 7. I do not receive money directly but I am named in a grant for which my employer receives funds from industry for my research activities. Does this qualify as a financial relationship for me?

*Yes. Whether you are the Principal Investigator or a named individual in a grant, you are considered to have a conflict of interest that requires disclosure and management whether the funds were received directly by you or by your institution, employer or hospital.*

8. My salary is paid with grant funds from industry but I am not the Principal Investigator on the grant nor am I named in the grant. Does this qualify as a financial relationship?

*No. If you are compensated for research or clinical trials that are part of your employment with a medical institution or medical university/school but you are not named in a grant funding those activities, this is not considered a conflict of interest and will not need to be disclosed.*

9. I am the Principal Investigator on a grant from the National Cancer Institute for funding of a clinical trial. Is this a financial relationship with industry?

*No. Government entities providing funds or other support are not considered industry.*

10. Who qualifies as an 'immediate family member'?

*At a minimum, 'immediate family member' includes your spouse or partner and dependent children. When filling out the form, you should be more encompassing if you believe a potential relevant conflict exists.*