

AMCP's POLICIES & PROCEDURES REGARDING DISCLOSURES OF FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIPS AND COMPETING INTERESTS WITH INDUSTRY AND OTHERS

The Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy is committed to ensuring balance, independence, objectivity, and scientific rigor in their educational programming activities. Fulfilling this commitment depends in large measure on ensuring member and public confidence in the Academy's integrity. AMCP recognizes that the expertise and involvement of its faculty and members in their practice, research, and other volunteer and private activities, unavoidably will lead to the development of interests and the formation of relationships that could be adverse to or inconsistent with certain Academy interests. Therefore, AMCP has sought to define an appropriate and workable policy and process to identify and address such competing interests and relationships of faculty members involved in activities of the Academy with other outside interests and entities.

Faculty members are asked to complete a "*Statement of Policy Regarding Assurance of Balance, Disclosure & Non-Commercialization*" form. The document asks whether the faculty has a current or recent significant financial interest or affiliation in relation to the educational program and/or a financial interest/arrangement or affiliation with one or more organizations that could be perceived as a real or apparent conflict of interest in the context of the subject of the presentation. AMCP requires that all faculty members must disclose to learners any relevant financial relationship(s), to include the following information:

1. The name of the individual
2. The name of the commercial interest(s)
3. The nature of the relationship the person has with each commercial interest

AMCP also requires that all faculty members complete an Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) approved Conflict of Interest (COI) Form as AMCP also offers continuing medical education (CME) for its educational programs. This form is included in the AMCP Faculty Packet and maintained by AMCP's contracted ACCME accredited provider and AMCP. This three page form requires all faculty members, the AMCP Program Planning & Development Committee member, and AMCP Education staff to verify the disclosure of any potential financial conflicts of interest within the last 12 months, prior to the date of the CPE/CME activity being held.

These disclosures pertain to the following:

1. Faculty and/or their spouse who are an officer, director, partner, trustee, employee, advisory board member of any pharmaceutical manufacturer or medical device company
2. Faculty and/or their spouse are the owner, within the past 12 months, of any percent of voting stock or controlling interest of any pharmaceutical manufacturer or medical device company
3. Salaries and royalties from a commercial interest
4. Consulting fees from a commercial interest
5. Contracted research funds received directly from a commercial interest
6. Fees for non-CME services received directly from a commercial interest or their agents' (e.g., speakers' bureaus)

Additionally, these forms ask if the faculty and/or their spouse have derived income within the past 12 months from any pharmaceutical manufacturer or medical device company. The faculty must also disclose if non-FDA approved uses of pharmaceutical products or medical devices will be included in their presentation.

If the faculty member does disclose a relationship, he/she is asked to indicate the nature of the relationship. This relationship is disclosed to the attendees of AMCP national meetings in the *Final Program*, the conference guide distributed on site and by faculty prior to the start of their educational program. The statement preceding the disclosure statements in the *Final Program* reads: *The Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy (AMCP), an accredited provider of continuing pharmacy education by the American Council on Pharmacy Education (ACPE), is committed to providing the highest caliber of educational programming to its members and other interested parties. To help us meet our goal of providing high-quality independent programs at the [TITLE OF NATIONAL MEETING INSERTED HERE] and to help us satisfy the criteria set forth by our accrediting body, ACPE, AMCP requires that faculty members disclose the existence of any significant interest or other relationship with a manufacturer(s) of any commercial product(s) (i.e., pharmaceuticals, software, medical devices, and equipment) that may be discussed within presentations at an AMCP CPE event.*

AMCP's CME provider, the (NAME OF PROVIDER INSERTED HERE), requires instructors, planners, managers and other individuals who are in a position to control the content of this activity to disclose any real or apparent conflict of interest they may have as related to the content of this activity. All identified conflicts of interest are thoroughly vetted by PIM for fair balance, scientific objectivity of studies mentioned in the materials or used as the basis for content, and appropriateness of patient care recommendations.

Finally, the Academy is very sensitive to perceptions of bias and has taken the following measures to monitor and avoid negative perceptions:

1. As a first line of defense, proposal reviewers assess all proposals against several criteria including the following: "Is this proposal promotional in nature?" If the proposal has a connotation of promotion, the proposal will be denied or will only be accepted upon investigation by the educational staff to resolve any pretense of promotion with the potential faculty.
2. Poster and satellite submissions are blinded for review. The submitting author is blinded for posters and the medical education company and pharmaceutical manufacturer are blinded for satellite symposia. Although these proposals are not accredited for CPE by AMCP, this blinding process is accomplished to avoid any conflict of interest with the reviewing committee.
3. All faculty members must complete the two COI forms.
4. During conversations with faculty leading up to the program, AMCP staff reinforces the importance of developing and delivering a presentation that is free of perceived bias or promotion. This is done throughout the planning process of all educational programs.
5. Before their presentation begins, all faculty must verbally state to the audience, "*I have no financial conflict of interest to disclose*" or "*I have the following financial interest(s) to disclose....*"
6. Topics that carry potential bias are balanced with multiple perspectives and users.
7. Session moderators staff each session. Moderators are AMCP members who are carefully selected to serve the role. AMCP also posts staff monitors who are instructed to monitor for perceptions of bias and relay any such feedback directly to the CE administrator.
8. Members of the AMCP Program Planning & Development Committee talk with meeting attendees to assess any feelings of bias or promotion. This feedback allows us to discuss with faculty any constructive criticism.
9. A thorough review of program evaluations is conducted to specifically address the issue of perception of bias.