

**American College of Surgeons
Joint Sponsorship Program
Division of Education**

ABSTRACT PRESENTER DISCLOSURE OF RELEVANT FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIPS

*American College of Phlebology's 22nd Annual Congress
November 6-9, 2008 – Marco Island, Florida*

PRINT NAME: _____

In order to comply with the ACCME's Updated Standards for Commercial Support, The American College of Surgeons has implemented a disclosure process to ensure that anyone who is in a position to control the content of the education activity has disclosed to us all relevant financial relationships with any commercial interest (see below for definitions) as it pertains to the content of the presentation(s). Should it be determined that a conflict of interest exists as a result of a financial relationship you may have, you will be contacted and methods to resolve the conflict will be discussed with you. In addition, all affirmative disclosures must be revealed by a slide at the beginning of the presentation. **Failure or refusal to disclose or the inability to resolve the identified conflict may result in the withdrawal of the invitation to participate.**

I do not have any relevant financial relationships with any commercial interests as it pertains to my presentation(s).

- List the names of proprietary entities producing health care goods or services, with the exemption of non-profit or government organizations and non-health care related companies with which you or your spouse/partner have, or have had, a **relevant** financial relationship within the past 12 months. For this purpose we consider the relevant financial relationships of your spouse or partner that you are aware of to be yours.
- Explain what you or your spouse/partner received (ex: salary, honorarium etc) and specify your role.

Commercial Interest	Nature of Relevant Financial Relationship (Include all those that apply)	
	What I or spouse/partner received	My role
<i>Example: Company 'X'</i>	<i>Honorarium</i>	<i>Speaker</i>

What was received: 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.

My Role(s): Employment, management position, independent contractor (including contracted research), consulting, speaking and teaching, membership on advisory committees or review panels, board membership, and other activities.

If your presentation describes the use of a device, product, or drug that is not FDA approved or the off-label use of an approved device, product, or drug for unapproved usage, it is your responsibility to disclose this information verbally to the learner during your presentation(s).

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

COMMERCIAL INTEREST

A **commercial interest** is any entity producing, marketing, re-selling, or distributing health care goods or services consumed by, or used on, patients. The ACCME does not consider providers of clinical service directly to patients to be commercial interests.

FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIPS

Financial relationships are those relationships in which the individual benefits 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 employment, management position, independent contractor (including contracted research), consulting, speaking and teaching, membership on advisory committees or review panels, board membership, and other activities from which remuneration is received, or expected. ACCME considers relationships of the person involved in the CME activity to include financial relationships of a spouse or partner.

RELEVANT FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIPS

ACCME focuses on financial relationships with commercial interests in the 12-month period preceding the time that the individual is being asked to assume a role controlling content of the CME activity. ACCME has not set a minimal dollar amount for relationships to be significant. Inherent in any amount is the incentive to maintain or increase the value of the relationship. The ACCME defines "relevant" financial relationships as financial relationships in any amount occurring within the past 12 months that create a conflict of interest.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

When an individual's interests are aligned with those of a commercial interest the interests of the individual are in 'conflict' with the interests of the public. The ACCME considers financial relationships to create actual 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.

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

**PLEASE RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM
VIA FAX TO 510-346-6808 NO LATER THAN AUGUST 15, 2008.**