



**CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION DISCLOSURE  
OF RELEVANT FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIPS BY SPEAKERS,  
AUTHORS AND PLANNERS OF CME ACTIVITIES**

The intent of this disclosure is to allow Mercy Hospital St. Louis the opportunity to resolve any potential conflicts of interest to assure balance, independence, objectivity and scientific rigor in all of its CME activities. All **faculty** and **planners** of Mercy Hospital, St. Louis sponsored activities are expected to disclose any relevant financial relationships with any commercial interest that produces health care goods or services related to the **content of the educational presentation** in which they are involved.

**Conflict of interest:** Circumstances create a conflict of interest when an individual has an opportunity to affect CME content about products or services of a commercial interest with which he/she has a financial relationship.

**Commercial interest:** A commercial interest is any entity producing, marketing, reselling, or distributing health care goods or services, consumed by, or used on, patients.

**Financial relationships:** 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, teaching, membership on advisory committees of review panels, board membership, and other activities for which remuneration is received or expected. Relevant financial relationships would include those within the past 24 months of the person involved in the activity. Relevant financial relationships are those of which you are aware at the time of this disclosure.

**PLEASE COMPLETE, SIGN AND DATE ON THE SIGNATURE LINE BELOW**

PLEASE CHECK ONE:     Planning Committee Member     Presenter/Faculty/Author

Name & Credentials of Speaker or Planner: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Activity/Program: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Activity: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Individual Presentation(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Nature of Relevant Financial Relationship  
(Include all those that apply to this activity)**

Commercial Interest	What was received?	For What Role?
<i>Example: Company 'X'</i>	<i>Honorarium</i>	<i>Speaker</i>

**I do not have any relevant financial relationships with any commercial interests.**

**SAFEGUARDS AGAINST COMMERCIAL BIAS AND CONTENT VALIDATION**

Mercy Hospital St. Louis expects that the content or format of CME activities and related materials will promote improvements or quality in healthcare and not a specific proprietary business interest of a commercial interest. We also remind you that CME must give a balanced view of therapeutic options. Use of generic names will contribute to this impartiality. If your CME educational material or content includes trade names, trade names from several companies should be used where available, not just trade names from a single company. Please also ensure that participants understand when you are discussing an off-label use. This can be done at the beginning of your presentation or at an appropriate time during your presentation.

Mercy Hospital St. Louis expects all CME to adhere to the ACCME's content validation value statements. Specifically, all the recommendations involving clinical medicine in a CME activity must be based on evidence that is accepted within the profession of medicine as adequate justification for their indications and contraindications in the care of patients. All scientific research referred to, reported or used in CME in support of justification of a patient care recommendation must conform to the generally accepted standards of experimental design, data collection and analysis.

I declare that my presentation will be fair and unbiased, evidence-based, will include a balanced presentation of therapeutic options available, and that I will use generic terminology in references to specific products and will indicate if a product is not approved by the FDA for a specific purpose. I agree to fully disclose, where applicable, any unlabeled use of a commercial product or investigational use of a product, process or procedure discussed in my presentation.

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

## **MERCY HOSPITAL ST. LOUIS CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION POLICY ON DISCLOSURE OF RELEVANT FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIPS, SAFEGUARDS AGAINST COMMERCIAL BIAS AND CONTENT VALIDATION**

As an accredited CME sponsor, Mercy Hospital St. Louis abides by MSMA and ACCME expectations with regard to CME. To that end, Mercy Hospital St. Louis requires anyone in a position to control the content of CME to disclose any relevant financial interest or other relationships with commercial entities occurring in the past 24 months. A significant financial interest or other relationship includes such things as grants or research support, receipt of a salary or consulting fees, major stockholder, membership on a speakers bureau, etc.

The disclosure policy is not intended to prevent a speaker with a financial or other relationship from making a presentation, but rather to resolve conflicts of interest before the activity when those involved in CME are in a position to control content.

If a potential speaker or CME planner is not willing to disclose this information he/she will not take part in the development, management, presentation, or evaluation of CME activities at Mercy Hospital St. Louis.

Disclosure must be made to the CME activity audience through an acknowledgement in the faculty listing of the program announcement and/or syllabus. In situations where this is not possible, such as grand rounds, the disclosure may be made by posting on the door into the lecture room or made along with the introduction of the speaker, and documented on the CME sign-in form.

### **EXAMPLE:**

If Dr. Smith has an affiliation:

James Smith, MD, Professor of Surgery  
XYZ University Medical Center, City, State  
Research consultant, ABC Laser, Inc., City, State

Or if Dr. Smith has no financial interest/arrangement:

James Smith, MD, Professor of Surgery  
XYZ University Medical Center, City, State  
Has no significant financial interests or affiliations with any commercial products or services to be discussed in his presentation.

### **SAFEGUARDS AGAINST COMMERCIAL BIAS**

Mercy Hospital St. Louis expects that the content or format of CME activities and related materials will promote improvements or quality in healthcare and not a specific proprietary business interest of a commercial interest. We also remind you that CME must give a balanced view of therapeutic options. Use of generic names will contribute to this impartiality. If your CME educational material or content includes trade names, trade names from several companies should be used where available, not just trade names from a single company. Faculty presenting at CME activities must disclose to the CME activity audience, unlabeled uses of products during presentations.

### **CONTENT VALIDATION**

Mercy Hospital St. Louis adheres to the ACCME content validation value statements. That is, all the recommendations involving clinical medicine in a CME activity must be based on evidence that is accepted within the profession of medicine as adequate justification for their indications and contraindications in the care of patients. All scientific research referred to, reported or used in CME in support of justification of a patient care recommendation must conform to the generally accepted standards of experimental design, data collection and analysis.