



Relevant Financial Relationship Disclosure Form

Dear Prospective Planner/Faculty Member:

We are looking forward to having the opportunity to include you as a potential planner and/or instructor/faculty, in the accredited continuing education program.

The South Carolina Medical Association (SCMA) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME). We appreciate your help in partnering with us to follow accreditation guidelines and to help create a high-quality education that is independent of industry influence. In order to participate as a person who will be able to control the educational content of this accredited CME activity, we ask that you disclose all financial relationships with any ineligible companies that you have had over the past twenty-four (24) months. We define *ineligible companies as those whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients*. There is no minimum financial threshold; you must disclose all financial relationships, regardless of the amount, with ineligible companies. We ask you to disclose regardless of whether you view the financial relationships as relevant to the education to be provided. For more information on the Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education, please visit acme.org/standards.

Why do we collect this information?

Since healthcare professionals serve as the trusted authorities when advising patients, they must protect their learning environment from industry influence to ensure they remain true to their ethical commitments. Many healthcare professionals have financial relationships with ineligible companies. By identifying and mitigating relevant financial relationships, we work together to create a protected space to learn, teach and engage in scientific discourse free from influence from organizations that may have an incentive to insert commercial bias into education.

What are the next steps in the process?

After we receive your disclosure information, we will review it to determine whether your financial relationships are relevant to the education. Please note: the identification of relevant financial relationships does not necessarily mean that are unable to participate in the planning and implementation of this educational activity. Rather, the accreditation standards require that relevant financial relationships are mitigated before you assume your role in this activity.

To help us meet these expectations, please use the form we have provided to share all financial relationships you have had with ineligible companies during the past 24 months. This information is necessary in order for us to be able to move to the next steps in planning this continuing education activity.

If you have any questions or concerns about these expectations, please contact Necole Stinson at nstinson@scmedical.org.

Thank you.

Name of Individual:	Title of Continuing Education:
Date and Location of Education:	Individual prospective role(s) in education – choose all that apply <input type="checkbox"/> Planner <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher, Instructor, Faculty <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

To be completed by Planner, Faculty, or Others Who May Control Education Content

Please disclose **all financial relationships** that you may have had in the past twenty-four (24) months with ineligible companies. For each financial relationship, enter the name of the ineligible company and the nature of the financial relationship(s). There is no minimum financial threshold; we ask that you disclose all financial relationships, regardless of the amount, with ineligible companies. You should disclose all financial relationships regardless of the potential relevance of each relationship to the education.

Print the Name of Ineligible Company	Enter the Nature of the Financial Relationship	Has the Relationship Ended?
<p>An ineligible company is any entity whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients. For specific examples of ineligible companies visit https://accme.org/accreditation-rules/standards-for-integrity-independence-accredited-ce</p>	<p>Examples of financial relationships include employee, researchers, consultant, advisor, speaker, independent contractor (including contracted research), royalties or patent beneficiary, executive role, and ownership interest. Individual stocks and stock options should be disclosed; diversified mutual funds do not need to be disclosed. Research funding from ineligible companies should be disclosed by the principal or named investigator even if that individual's institution received the research grant and manages the funds.</p>	<p>If the financial relationship existed during the last 24 months, but has now ended, please check the box in this column. This will help education staff to determine if any mitigation steps need to be taken.</p>

Name of Company:	Nature of Relationship:	Relationship ended? Yes or No

As a prospective planner or faculty member, we would like to ask for your help in protecting our learning environment from industry influence. Please complete the form below and return to the CME Office.

The ACCME Standards for Integrity and Independence require that we disqualify individuals who refuse to provide this information from involvement in the planning and implementation of accredited continuing medical education.

Accredited education must be free of marketing or sales of products or services. Faculty must not actively promote or sell products or services that serve their professional or financial interests during accredited education.

Section 1

In the past 24 months, I have not had **any** financial relationships with any ineligible companies.
Please go to section 3.

Section 2 - Mitigation of Conflict of Interest

If you have relevant financial relationships as indicated in section 1, please choose one of the following ways you choose to mitigate any potential conflict of interest in the educational program.

1. I will refrain from making recommendations regarding products or services of ineligible companies. I will limit my presentation to valid pathophysiology, diagnosis and/or research findings. I will ensure my recommendations are evidence-based and free of commercial bias.
2. I will submit my presentation to the CME Office 2 weeks before the educational program to allow for adequate peer review by a person without relevant financial relationship.
3. I will divest my financial relationships to the learner BEFORE I begin my educational presentation.
4. I will recommend an alternative speaker for this topic for the planning committee's consideration.
Please list alternative presenter: _____

Section 3 - Guidance for Planners, Authors, and Faculty: Ensuring that Clinical Content is Valid

As an important contributor to our accredited education, we would like to enlist your help to ensure that educational content is fair and balanced, and that any clinical content presented supports safe, and effective patient care. This includes the expectations that:

1. All recommendations for patient care in accredited continuing education must be based on current science, evidence, and clinical reasoning, while giving a fair and balanced view of diagnostic and therapeutic options.
2. All scientific research referred to, reported, or used in accredited education in support or justification of a patient care recommendation must conform to the generally accepted standards of experimental design, data collection, analysis, and interpretation.
3. Although accredited continuing education is an appropriate place to discuss, debate, and explore new and evolving topics, these areas need to be clearly identified as such within the program and individual presentations. It is the responsibility of accredited providers to facilitate engagement with these topics without advocating for, or promoting, practices that are not, or not yet, adequately based on current science, evidence, and clinical reasoning.
4. Presentations cannot be accredited if they advocate for unscientific approaches to diagnosis or therapy, or if their education promotes recommendations, treatment, or manners of practicing healthcare that are determined to have risks or dangers that outweigh the benefits or are known to be ineffective in the treatment of patients.

Please check the box below to acknowledge the understanding of clinical content validation.

- As a planner, author and/or faculty member to the program, I will ensure the clinical content is valid for the educational activity.

I attest that the above information is correct as of the date of submission:	
Signature:	Date:

Please return this completed form to Necole Stinson at nstinson@scmedical.org

Thank you.

