

**American College of Chest Physicians Health and Science Policy
Committee
Consolidated Conflict-of-Interest Policy Statement and
Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Form
For Clinical Practice Guideline Development Panel Members and
Reviewers**

The American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP) and the Health and Science Policy (HSP) Committee find it imperative to include in guideline development panels, as members and reviewers, individuals who are experts in their respective fields relative to the guideline topic. Recommendations, publications, and products that are the resulting from these panels will have far reaching significance that may affect multiple aspects of the practice of chest medicine throughout the world. Therefore, it is imperative that the ACCP and the HSP Committee have full disclosure of outside interests from those individuals serving as members of evidence-based guideline panels or reviewers of guidelines or products resulting from those panels.

The ACCP and the HSP Committee believe that experts serving on evidence-based guideline panels act honestly and with integrity when making recommendations and formalizing evidence-based guidelines. However, conflicts of interest may actually or appear to affect decisions that should be impartial or objective. These real or potential conflicts include, but are not limited to, relationships with industry, vendors, governmental entities, and other organizations or associations. These relationships may involve research (basic science and/or clinical), lecture honoraria, time commitments, or material financial interests.

It is also important, to avoid confusion to the profession and the public, that each person appointed to serve on a guideline development panel refrain from providing or endorsing pronouncements or positions using their ACCP titles if the statements contained in those pronouncements or positions are contrary to positions that have been adopted by the ACCP.

Examples of possible Conflicts of Interest

Real or potential conflicts of interest include, but are not limited to, an individual's (which term, under Section 4958(f)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, includes an individual's spouse; brothers and sisters; spouse of brothers and sisters; children; grandchildren; great grandchildren; spouses of children, grandchildren and great grandchildren) involvement in any of the following:

- a. Membership on the Board of Directors, officership, editorial position, business partnership, or academic positions, or status as a paid employee, lobbyist, paid or non-paid consultant to any organization that affects health care, or who has testified either in court or before an arbitrator or mediator, or before a governmental body for or against any health care related organization, product, or practice related to the subject matter under discussion by the committee.

- b. Personal holdings of any amount in any commercial entity that provides products or services related to the subject matter under discussion by the applicable evidence-based guideline topic. Investments entirely managed by a third party, such as mutual funds, are excluded.
- c. University grant monies provided to supplement funding to support any type of professional-related activity or research.
- d. Grant monies from non-industry and industry related sources.
- e. Consultant fees, speaker bureaus, advisory committees, etc.
- f. Conflict of responsibilities of another organization.
- g. Fiduciary Position (of any organization, association, society, etc., other than ACCP)
- h. Other (as one example: could decisions that you make in your employment position be perceived as a conflict of interest)?

The aforementioned interests or commitments are listed as examples only and should not be considered as inclusive as to the types of activities that must be disclosed. Disclosures of real or perceived potential conflicts of interested do not preclude an individual from serving on a guideline development panel. However, it should be noted that under certain circumstances, individuals might be asked to recuse themselves from specific topic discussions, from voting on a motion, or participation in general.

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All individuals serving on an evidence-based guideline development panel of the American College of Chest Physicians must sign and submit a Consolidated Conflict-of-Interest Policy Statement, and Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Form prior to appointment to a guideline panel, at the beginning of each face-to-face meeting, and prior to publication of the final guideline document. Once the consolidated Conflict-of-Interest Policy Statement, and Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Form is signed and submitted it will be evaluated to determine if a conflict of interest was disclosed that would impose a bias affecting the integrity of the guideline. Failure to disclose any real or potential conflicts of interest warrants removal from the guideline panel as a member or reviewer. New disclosures should be revealed at each committee face-to-face meeting and prior to publication of the clinical practice guideline.

Name: **INSERT**

Name of Evidence-based Guideline Development Panel:

INSERT

- I have read the ACCP and HSP Consolidated Conflict-of-Interest Policy Statement, and Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Form and to the best of my knowledge at present, do not have a real or potential conflict of interest or commitment. (please check the box above and sign and date below)**

Signature

Date

-
- I have read the ACCP and HSP Consolidated Conflict-of-Interest Policy Statement, and Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Form and disclose the following potential or real conflicts of interest. I also agree to provide a fair and balanced presentation of the evidence in the development of this evidence-based clinical practice guideline.

If above is checked, please indicate the appropriate source of the commercial entity or other party below and describe, in detail, the nature of the relationship (**list all that apply and sign and date below**):

University grant monies _____

Grant monies (*from sources other than industry*) _____

Grant monies (*from industry-related sources*) _____

Shareholder _____

Employee (*of any industry related sources*) _____

Consultant fee _____

Speaker bureau _____

Advisory committee _____

Fiduciary Position (of any organization, association, society, etc., other than the ACCP) _____

Other (as one example: could decisions that you make in your employment position be perceived as a conflict of interest)

Signature

Date

I understand that I am free as an individual to express my opinions, however, without the express written consent of the ACCP committee members I am not authorized in any manner to make any statement, directly or indirectly, on any subject, either medical or otherwise, on behalf of the ACCP or HSP Committee or using a ACCP title or designation. Nor can any panel member sign a document, using that person's ACCP or HSP Committee title, which asserts or implies that any statement contained in that document is being made on behalf ACCP or HSP Committee.

Signature

Date

Send to:

Insert Project Coordinator

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