

MAD-ID Policy on Conflicts of Interest

(section X.C. of CE Policy and Procedures)

C. Resolution of Personal Conflicts of Interest

All parties involved in the planning, development and delivery of MAD-ID continuing education programs (i.e., Planning Committee members, Scientific Committee members, independent reviewers, and presenters) must submit a completed Disclosure Form either annually, in the case of planners and prior to planning and/or participation in any upcoming continuing education program (in the case of planners and presenters). On this form, all relevant financial relationships (see Glossary of Terms at the end of this section) occurring within the previous 12 months must be disclosed. Further, members of the Planning and Scientific Committees must submit an updated form prior to the commencement of the actual planning for an upcoming event and if they are asked to also serve as a presenter.

Via completion and signing of this form, all above individuals must agree not to suggest or promote any specific proprietary or commercial business interest as part of their role in the planning and/or delivery of the relevant CE activity. They further agree that, as a planner and/or presenter, that they will suggest or provide a well-balanced, evidence-based and unbiased approach to diagnostic and therapeutic options related to quality patient care.

1. Responsible Parties

For presenters: Relevant conflicts must be resolved prior to the event. A member of the Planning Committee shall review a potential presenter's completed disclosure of relevant financial relationships in reference to the presenter's intended role/content. The reviewing party will ascertain whether a real (relevant to topic/learning objectives) conflict exists and, if so, take action to resolve the conflict. Possible actions include disqualifying the potential presenter from participation in the planned program (i.e., the conflict cannot be reasonably resolved), instructing presenter to avoid focused information on products produced and marketed by the commercial entity with which the presenter has a relevant financial relationship which would result in favored or biased information on the commercial entities product(s). The potential faculty member/speaker must agree to these requirements (see/use Resolution email template). Further, when reviewing the presenter's educational materials (e.g., slide presentation, handout, etc), the responsible Planning Committee member (or independent peer reviewer) must ensure that the content is based upon best available evidence, free from commercial bias and reflect a fair balance of material for similar products in the marketplace. This process must be fully documented (see/use MAD-ID COI resolution form).

For Scientific and Planning Committee members: Relevant conflicts must be resolved prior to in-depth planning*. A member of the Planning Committee or Independent Reviewer with no relevant financial relationships will be responsible for review of disclosed conflicts of interest of all other Planning Committee members prior to the commencement of in-depth planning for a continuing education event. A member of the MAD-ID Board of Directors will review disclosures of Scientific Committee members. If a Planning Committee member or

Scientific Committee member has a potential or real conflict of interest, the reviewing individual will evaluate the apparent conflict of interest and, if real, take similar action to that described above for presenters' conflict resolution. This may include barring the Committee member from participating in the planning of specific content areas in the proposed continuing education event or instructing the Committee member that their recommendations in that content area must be based on best available evidence and fair balanced and to avoid specific recommendations focusing on products manufactured and marketed by each commercial entity with which they have a relevant financial relationship. The Committee Member must agree to such conditions and the entire process must be documented (see/use Resolution email template and MAD-ID COI resolution form). At a minimum, an email record of this process, including the agreement of the Committee Member must be created and maintained.

*The term "in-depth planning" refers to specific content of a given program/presentation. A member of the Scientific or Planning Committees may suggest or vote on a session on new antibiotics or treatment of a specific infection but cannot develop learning objectives or specific content unless any relevant conflict(s) has/have been adequately resolved.

For independent reviewers: MAD-ID may, when necessary, engage the services of an independent party to assess the relevant financial relationships of those persons responsible for the planning or delivery of an educational program determining whether disclosures are complete and that they have been resolved, when necessary. Such reviewers may also be engaged to review educational materials to ensure that they are evidence-based and free of commercial bias. Such reviewer must, themselves, complete and submit a conflict of interest disclosure and one or more members of the Planning Committee will review to ensure that the independent reviewer has no relevant financial associations for the educational program being planned.