

# FACULTY CME REVIEW

*December 2024*

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# FACULTY CME REVIEW

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This CME Review contains the following information:

- Who's required to complete the CME Review
- Financial Interest Disclosure Requirements
- ASCRS' Policy on the Standards for Integrity and Independence
  1. Ensure Content is Valid
  2. Prevent Commercial Bias and Marketing in CME
  3. Identify, Mitigate, and Disclose Financial Relationships
  4. Commercial Support
  5. Manage Ancillary Activities Offered with CME
- Compliance with the Policies
- Reminders

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## Who is required to complete the ASCRS Faculty CME Review?

- All faculty members who are in control of content for any ASCRS CME activity, including:
  - Planners, chairs, co-chairs, moderators, presenters, and panelists
  - Lead instructors and co-instructors for instructional courses
  - Lead authors/presenters of scientific papers
  - Lead authors of scientific posters
  - Lead creators/presenters of scientific films
  - Leaders of Roundtable Sessions

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## **Financial Interest Disclosure**

ASCRS depends on honest and full disclosure by faculty to ensure balance, objectivity and independence in its program. All financial relationships that you've had in the past 24 months with ineligible companies must be disclosed.

### **What is an ineligible company?**

An Ineligible Company's primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients. Examples include:

- Biomedical startups that have begun a governmental regulatory approval process
- Compounding pharmacies that manufacture proprietary compounds
- Device manufacturers or distributors
- Diagnostic labs that sell proprietary products
- Growers, distributors, manufacturers or sellers of medical foods and dietary supplements
- Manufacturers of health-related wearable products
- Pharmaceutical companies or distributors
- Pharmacy benefit managers
- Reagent manufacturers or sellers

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## Policy on the Standards for Integrity and Independence

As an accredited provider by the Accreditation Council of Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), ASCRS must ensure balance, independence, objectivity and scientific rigor in all its activities. The following are a list of standards that all faculty must adhere to. The full policy can be downloaded at the end of the CME review.

### **Standard 1: Ensure Content is Valid**

It is ASCRS' policy that education is fair and balanced, and that clinical content of accredited educational activities supports safe and effective patient care. Therefore, the following applies:

- All recommendations for patient care in ASCRS CME activities must be based on current science, evidence and clinical reasoning.
- All scientific research referred to, reported, or used in accredited education in support or justification of a patient care recommendation will conform to the generally accepted standards of experimental design, data collection, analysis, and interpretation.
- Although accredited continuing education is an appropriate place to discuss, debate, and explore new and evolving topics, these areas will be clearly identified as such within the program and individual presentations.
- ASCRS' CME activities will not advocate for unscientific approaches to diagnosis or therapy or promote recommendations, treatment, or manners of practicing healthcare that are determined to have risks or dangers that outweigh benefits.
- **Disclosure of Unapproved/Off-Label Use:** If your presentation contains the use of a drug or device that has not been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration or contains an off-label use of a drug or device approved by the FDA for other uses, you **must** disclose that fact verbally or with a slide during the presentation.

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## **Standard 2: Prevent Commercial Bias**

It is ASCRS' policy that its CME activities protect learners from commercial bias and marketing.

- All planning of CME activities are made without any influence or involvement from the owners and employees of ineligible companies.
- Faculty will not actively promote or sell products or services that serve their professional or financial interests during the CME activity.
- All presentations should be free of commercial bias
  - The use of generic names is required whenever possible
  - Company/Brand logos and product packaging images are not allowed.
  - Company slides/marketing slides are not allowed to be used.

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## Standard 3: Identify, Mitigate, and Disclose Financial Relationships

It is ASCRS' policy that all financial relationships between individuals in control of content and ineligible companies are managed so that there is no commercial bias in the education.

- ASCRS will collect information from all individuals in control of content about all their financial relationships.
- ASCRS will exclude owners or employees of ineligible companies from controlling content or participating in CME activities unless one of three exceptions are met:
  - When the content of the activity is not related to the business lines of their employer/company.
  - When the content of the accredited activity is limited to basic science research, such as pre-clinical research and drug discovery, or the methodologies of research, and they do not make care recommendations.
  - When they are participating as technicians to teach the safe and proper use of medical devices, and do not recommend whether or when a device is used.
- ASCRS will review financial relationships to determine whether those reported relationships are relevant or not.
- ASCRS will mitigate relevant financial relationships to prevent individuals from inserting commercial bias into content.
- All faculty are **required** to include a statement of their financial interests as the **first slide** in their presentation and **verbally** at the start of the presentation.
  - For video-based presentations or scientific films, the disclosure must occur during the opening credits.
  - For electronic posters, the disclosure must be listed on the title slide or slide immediately following it.

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## Standard 4: Commercial Support

ASCRS may receive commercial support from ineligible companies in support of some CME activities.

- Faculty may not receive travel expense reimbursement, honoraria, or other compensation directly from an ineligible company for participation in CME activities.

## Standard 5: Manage Ancillary Activities Offered with CME

ASCRS may have non-accredited activities take place at the same time as CME activities and the learners must be able to distinguish between the two. The following will apply:

- Non-accredited education must **not** occur in the educational space 30 minutes before or after a CME activity.
- Ineligible companies may not interfere with the presentation of the CME activity or influence any decisions related to the planning and delivery of the CME activity.
  - If an ineligible company approaches a faculty member to distribute materials or share content during a CME activity, the faculty member must notify ASCRS as soon as possible.
- Educational materials must not contain any marketing produced by an illegible company, including corporate or product logos, trade names, or product group messages.



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## CME Activity Reminders:

- All Faculty **must** include a statement of their financial interests as ***the first slide in their presentation and verbally at the start of the presentation.***
  - For video-based presentations or scientific films, the disclosure must occur during the opening credits.
  - For electronic posters, the disclosure must be listed on the title slide or slide immediately following it.
- All **presentations** should be free of commercial bias
  - The use of generic names is required whenever possible
  - Company/Brand logos and product packaging images are not allowed.
  - Company slides/marketing slides are not allowed.
- **Disclosure of Unapproved/Off-Label Use:** If your presentation contains the use of a drug or device that has not been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration or contains an off-label use of a drug or device approved by the FDA for other uses, you **must** disclose that fact verbally or with a slide during the presentation.
- **Policy on Direct Reimbursement or Payment from an Ineligible Entity:** Faculty are reminded that they may not receive travel expense reimbursement, honoraria, or other compensation directly from an ophthalmic commercial interest for participation within CME activities.

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## **Compliance with the ASCRS CME Policies**

ASCRS has established several ways to ensure adherence to its CME policies, including:

- Mitigation of all relevant Financial Interests by CME Committee/Program Committee/ASCRS Clinical Education staff.
- CME Committee and ASCRS Clinical Education staff content reviews
- Peer review of abstracts and/or final presentations by CME Committee or Program Committees.
- Peer review of poster and film abstracts and/or final presentations/videos by CME Committee or Clinical Committees.
- On-site audit of sessions by CME Committee and/or ASCRS Clinical Education staff.

**Faculty members may be requested to revise content to comply with CME policies. Failure to make the necessary change(s) will result in the faculty member not being allowed to participate in the CME activity.**