

Purpose

The International Society for Clinical Densitometry (ISCD) is guided by what is in the best interest of the public and patients which means remaining independent of all commercial interests and assuring that Board, committee and continuing medical education (CME) activities are conducted with the highest integrity, scientific objectivity and with absence of bias. The conflict of interest (COI) disclosure policy exists to provide information for officers, staff, committee members and instructors/planners of CME activities (Responsible Persons) regarding potential COI.

Definition of Conflict of Interest

A definite conflict of interest exists when a Responsible Person or an immediate family member is employed by industry (i.e., a company that produces a product or service that relates to skeletal health) or is employed by a company engaged in activities that compete with those of ISCD. These persons may be allowed to serve, but only in specific areas.

A potential conflict of interest exists when a Responsible Person or a family member:

- Serves as an officer, Board member, employee, consultant, or agent of a for-profit or nonprofit entity.
- Holds an equity interest in a for-profit or nonprofit entity.
- Directs institutional research funded by a for-profit or nonprofit entity.
- Has direct research funding from a for-profit or nonprofit entity.
- Has received compensation (gifts, gratuities, honoraria, educational grants, consulting fees) during the prior twelve months, or has contracted to receive compensation during the next twelve months, from a for-profit or nonprofit entity.
- Competes with the ISCD in the rendering of like services.

Procedures

- A. All persons involved in ISCD activities (Board, committees, planners, instructors, etc) will complete a disclosure form at least yearly and more frequently if significant changes occur. The ISCD Ethics Committee will confidentially review information from Responsible Persons on the COI Disclosure Reporting Form, and alert the Board or appropriate Committee of any serious conflicts. The form discloses financial relationships with commercial interests associated with the educational activity **of any amount** over the past 12 months. In accordance with Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), failure to provide disclosure information will result in the disqualification of the person from the designated activity.
- B. Prior to Board or Committee action on a transaction involving a potential conflict of interest, the person shall disclose all facts material to the potential conflict of interest. Such disclosure shall be reflected in the minutes or notes of the meeting.
- C. A person who has a conflict of interest shall not participate in or be permitted to hear the Board or Committee's discussion of the matter except to disclose material facts and to respond to questions. Such person shall not attempt to exert their personal influence with respect to the matter, either at or outside the meeting.

- D. A person who has a conflict of interest with respect to a transaction that will be voted on at a meeting shall not be counted in determining the presence of a quorum for purposes of the vote. The person having a conflict of interest may not vote on the transaction and shall not be present in the meeting room when the vote is taken, unless the vote is by secret ballot. Such person's ineligibility to vote shall be reflected in the minutes or notes of the meeting.
- E. When the ISCD Board determines that an individual's conflict of interest between their duties to the ISCD and to themselves or another organization is significant, the member is expected to avoid involving themselves in the conflict, or apparent conflict. A conflict of interest may not disqualify an individual from rendering service to the ISCD, but may necessitate an alteration in the member's duties or full disclosure of the apparent conflict so that the words, judgment or deeds of the member can be openly evaluated by others.
- F. This policy shall be reviewed annually by the Ethics Committee. Any changes to the policy shall be communicated immediately to all Responsible Persons.

The list below denotes committees on which employees of companies that provide pharmaceuticals, diagnostic equipment and products are not eligible to serve.

List of Committees	Permitted to Serve (Bylaws and Recommendation Above)
Awards Committee	Yes
Board of Directors	No
Bylaws Committee	No
Certification Council	No
Communications Committee	Yes
Corporate Advisory Council	Yes
Education Council	No
Clinician Bone Densitometry Course Committee	No
Technologist Bone Densitometry Course Committee	No
VFA Course Committee	No
Faculty Committee	No
Faculty Update	No
Introduction to Densitometry Course Committee	No
2007 Annual Meeting Committee	No
Ethics Committee	No
Executive Committee	No
Facility Accreditation Council	No
Finance Committee	No
Fracture Risk Task Force	Yes
International Relations Committee	Yes
Asia-Pacific Panel	Yes
Canadian Panel	Yes
Iberian-American Panel	Yes
JCD Editorial Board	Yes
Membership Committee	Yes
Nominating Committee	No
Positions Committee	No
Public Policy Committee	Yes
Publications Committee	No
Regional representatives	No
SCAN	Yes
Scientific Advisory Committee	Yes

Standards of Bone Measurement Committee	Yes
Web Content Committee	Yes

