



EACCME RULES concerning Commercial Sponsorship and Event Organisation (from Document D9908 2007rev)

Potential conflict of interest:

Disclosure of potential conflict of interest (e.g. paid consultant, significant investments, research grants) should be made in the printed programme (or at least orally before the presentation begins). Disclosure should also be made by members of the Planning Committee.

Individual responsibility of providers:

Providers will only be awarded accreditation for CME activities that they organise themselves. Providers cannot transfer their accreditation to other parties or let other parties organise the CME activity on their behalf.

Commercial interest:

Providers often receive financial and other support from non-accredited commercial organizations. Such support can contribute significantly to the quality of CME activities. This support should be subjected to standards.

The provider must assure that the educational programme approved for international CME credits is not influenced or biased by commercial organizations.

Commercial support may be provided to conferences in a variety of ways: exhibits, advertising, industry meetings and presentations, payment of expenses of faculty or participants (travel, hotel etc), educational grants.

Industry-represented education must be clearly distinguished from CME activities under the control and supervision of the provider's CME planning committee. These events cannot be recognised for ECMEC presented credits. Standard uniform terminology should be used to identify industry-presented education. Industry-presented education should not be scheduled to compete with CME activities.

Educational grants must always be made with "no strings attached" and should always be acknowledged in the printed programme.

Non-biased education:

Providers have to guarantee that non-biased education is given.

Attendance:

Verifying the actual attendance of physicians at events whilst difficult to implement must be addressed. Providers of CME should only be accredited if they address themselves to this point.

Physicians can only claim credit proportional to the actual time spent either in participating in a CME activity or in studying self-directed long distance-learning material.

Report:

Providers of internationally accredited CME activities should submit a short report of each CME activity including the analysis of the participant's feedback forms. Apart from the personal data of foreign participants, information including the final programme, the development of the CME activity and the actual attendance should be reported.

Feedback:

Arrangements must be made to facilitate feedback concerning the learning process from the participants to the provider of the CME activity.