GUIDELINE: Participation of Employees of Companies in ASCO CE Activities
(3/14/18)

In accordance with ACCME Standards for Commercial SupportSM and the CMSS Code for Interactions with Companies, employees of Companies (defined below) are not permitted to serve as planners or speakers in CE activities if the content relates to a business line or product of the employer (defined below). In implementing this rule, ASCO will operate under the following guidelines:

- Employees of companies will NOT be permitted to participate as:
  - Members of CE activity planning committees, including, but not limited to:
    - Cancer Education Committee
    - Scientific Program Committee
    - Thematic Meeting Steering & Program Committees
    - ASCO University course planning committees
  - Faculty/Authors/Oral Presenters/Peer Reviewers of product-related content

- Employees of companies MAY be permitted to participate as:
  - Faculty/Authors/Oral Presenters/Peer Reviewers of non-product-related content
  - Examples: educational sessions on working in industry, clinical trial design, content outside of company scope

- When spouses/partners of a company employee are participating as Faculty/Authors/Oral Presenters/Peer Reviewers of product-related content, their content maybe subjected to additional management:
  - Educational Meeting: session audit or slide review
  - Educational Product: additional peer review

- Spouses/partners of a company employee who are participating in the planning of a CE activity will recuse themselves from any discussion relating to the products or services of their spouse’s/partner’s company

- When relevance of an employment relationship is unclear, ASCO staff will be asked to advise on the employee’s eligibility to participate in a particular CE activity in accordance with ACCME Standards. ASCO reserves the right to restrict participation of individuals with employment or other relationships with commercial interests as it deems appropriate, including to protect ASCO’s reputation and accreditation status.

- NOTE: It is in ASCO’s discretion to restrict the participation of company employees consistent with the CMSS Code even if these companies are not “commercial interests” as defined by ACCME. This allows ASCO to more consistently address the potential for conflict that can arise where an employee is in a position to control CE content related to the employer’s commercial products.

- For more information, please visit the ACCME FAQ on employee participation:
  http://www.accme.org/ask-accme/commercialemployees
Definitions

**Employee:** a person in a paid staff position, receiving a W-2 from the named company

**Company:** as defined in the CMSS Code for Interactions with Companies, is, “a for-profit entity that develops, produces, markets, or distributes drugs, devices, services or therapies used to diagnose, treat, monitor, manage, and alleviate health conditions. This definition is not intended to include non-profit entities, entities outside of the healthcare sector, or entities through which physicians provide clinical services directly to patients.”

**Products:** should be considered agents, devices or services currently or potentially available (in development)