Overview and Description of Conflict of Interest

Purpose:
The purpose of the biographical data form is to provide planners, speakers, faculty, author and others involved with the educational product, the opportunity to document their qualifications, relevant to the continuing education process or a specific activity with respect to their education, professional achievements and credentials, work experience, honors, awards, and/or professional publications.

Assessment:
Lead Nurse Planner/Nurse Planners are responsible for ensuring completion and review of this biographical / conflict of interest document by each planning committee member and each faculty/presenter/author to ensure appropriate qualifications and evaluation of actual or potential bias. CPS Instructors must have documented qualifications that demonstrate their education and/or experience in the content area that they are developing or presenting. Expertise in subject matter may be evaluated based on characteristics such as education, professional achievements and credentials, work experience, honors, awards, professional publications or similar. The qualification must address how the individual is knowledgeable about the topic and how the individual gained that expertise.

Commercial Support / Sponsorship:
Organizations providing commercial support or sponsorship may not provide or co-provide an educational activity.

A commercial interest is any entity producing, marketing, reselling or distributing healthcare goods or services consumed by or used on patients, or an entity that is owned or controlled by an entity that produces, markets, resells or distributes healthcare goods or services consumed by or used on patients. Exceptions are made for nonprofit or governmental organizations, non-healthcare-related companies or healthcare facilities.

Commercial support is financial or in-kind contributions given by a commercial interest that are used to pay for all or part of the costs of a CNE activity.

Sponsorship is financial or in-kind contributions from an organization that does not fit the category of a commercial interest and that are used to pay for all or part of the costs of a CNE activity.

Content Integrity:
Content integrity is the quality and nature of the educational product that is evidence-based, founded on the epistemology of truth, unbiased, free from commercial bias, influence and prejudice. Content integrity of the educational activity must be maintained in the presence of commercial support or sponsorship.

The potential for conflicts of interest exists when an individual has the ability to control or influence the content of an educational activity and has a financial relationship with a commercial interest, the products or services of which are pertinent to the content of the educational activity.

Disclosure to Learners:
Relevant relationships must be disclosed to learners during the time when the relationship is in effect and for 12 months afterward. All information disclosed must be shared with participants/learners prior to the start of the educational event. Disclosures to learners must be verbally and in writing. Relevant relationships are relationships with a commercial interest if the products or services of the commercial interest are related to the content of the educational activity.