Work group session

Assessing conflicts of interest policies in medical faculties

Workshop organised in collaboration with UAEM

Galway, September 2016

Health Action International
Just Medicine Campaign- AMSA

- 2002 PharmFree Campaign ➔ 2014 Just Medicine

- Evidence-based rather than marketing-based prescribing practices
- Removal of conflicts of interest in medicine
- Increase global access to essential medicines

Just Medicine Campaign

No Kick Backs. No Speakers Bureaus. No Free Samples. JUST MEDICINE.

Just Medicine, formerly known as the PharmFree Campaign, continues to reflect AMSA’s values, ambitions and goals in putting patients above profits and ensuring the most objective, evidence-based, affordable healthcare for patients.

Our vision for the practice of medicine is that it is simply based on evidence, not marketing, personal gain, or any interest other than that of the patient.

We seek to facilitate student engagement in work that promotes patient-centered, evidence-based clinical practice, medical education and research.
## AMSA Scorecard

### Conflict of Interest Policies at Academic Medical Centers

| Institution                                                                 | Grade | Gifts | Meals | Speaking relationships | CE | Promotional events | Scholarships and awards | Ghostwriting | Consulting | Sales reps | Device reps | Disclosure | COI curriculum | COI policy extension | Enforcement |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|------------------------|----|--------------------|------------------------|--------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine Blacksburg, VA                  | A     | ●     | ○     | ●                      | ●  | ●                  | ●                      | ●            | ●          | ●          | ●           | ●           | ●           | ●                     | ●                    | ●           |
| Stanford University School of Medicine Stanford, CA                       | A     | ●     | ●     | ●                      | ●  | ●                  | ●                      | ●            | ●          | ●          | ●           | ●           | ●           | ●                     | ●                    | ●           |
| Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences-College of Osteopathic Medicine Yakima, WA | A     | ●     | ●     | ●                      | ●  | ●                  | ●                      | ●            | ●          | ●          | ●           | ●           | ●           | ●                     | ●                    | ●           |
| University of Alabama School of Medicine Birmingham, AL                    | A     | ●     | ●     | ●                      | ●  | ●                  | ●                      | ●            | ●          | ●          | ●           | ●           | ●           | ●                     | ●                    | ●           |
| University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health Madison, WI  | A     | ●     | ●     | ●                      | ●  | ●                  | ●                      | ●            | ●          | ●          | ●           | ●           | ●           | ●                     | ●                    | ●           |
| University of Massachusetts Medical School Worcester, MA                  | A     | ●     | ●     | ●                      | ●  | ●                  | ●                      | ●            | ●          | ●          | ●           | ●           | ●           | ●                     | ●                    | ●           |
| Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine Baltimore, MD                  | A     | ●     | ●     | ●                      | ●  | ●                  | ●                      | ●            | ●          | ●          | ●           | ●           | ●           | ●                     | ●                    | ●           |
| Wake Forest School of Medicine Winston-Salem, NC                           | A     | ●     | ●     | ●                      | ●  | ●                  | ●                      | ●            | ●          | ●          | ●           | ●           | ●           | ●                     | ●                    | ●           |
Scorecard - Methodology (I)

- US medical schools asked to submit policies to the AMSA scorecard for assessment

- Focus: conflicts of interest policies directly related to industry marketing and education

- 14 policy domains (previous slide)

- Ratings:
  3 = Model Policy
  2 = Good Progress toward model policy
  1 = Policy is absent or unlikely to have a substantial effect on behaviour
Scorecard- Methodology (II)

Example of policy domain rating- GIFTS:

• 3 = All gifts funded by industry are prohibited, regardless of nature or value.

• 2 = Gifts allowed but only if value ≤$10 or if the gifts are limited to educational items for physicians such as textbooks.

• 1 = Gifts allowed of value above $10 or no restriction specified.
Determination of Letter Grade:

A ≥ 85% (Excellent, or model COI policies; corresponding to raw scores ≥ 35)

B ≥ 72% (Moderate COI policies, raw scores 28-34)

C ≥ 56% (Poor COI policies, raw scores 20-27)

I ≤ 54% (Incomplete policies, raw scores ≤ 19)

(Raw score X 2) + 16 = Standardized score.
## Stanford University School of Medicine

**City:** Stanford  
**State:** CA

### Updates:
This institution’s COI policies were evaluated on May-20-2014. This institution’s policies were found via online web searches.

### Links:
1. Stanford University School of Medicine Commercial Support.pdf  
2. Stanford University School of Medicine Policy for Interactions with Industry.pdf  
3. Stanford University Medical Center Industry Interactions Policy.pdf  
4. Stanford University Medical Center Code of Conduct.pdf

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Rule Description</th>
<th>Domain Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gifts</strong></td>
<td>No Industry-funded gifts of any nature or value allowed.</td>
<td>Policy 2, p 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Meals</strong></td>
<td>No Industry-funded meals of any nature or value allowed.</td>
<td>Policy 2, p 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Industry-funded promotional speaking relationships (not ACCME-accredited)</strong></td>
<td>Policy effectively prevents faculty from being paid by industry to do promotional speaking, or to be on industry-funded speakers’ bureaus.</td>
<td>Policy 2, p 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Industry-support of ACCME-accredited CME</strong></td>
<td>Industry support to fund specific courses or programs is not permitted.</td>
<td>Policy 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Attendance of industry-sponsored promotional events</strong></td>
<td>Attendance is not explicitly discouraged, but policy states that attendees 'Faculty and medical staff should evaluate very carefully their own participation in meetings and conferences that are fully or partially sponsored or run by industry because of th</td>
<td>Policy 2, p 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Industry support to fund specific courses or programs is not permitted.</strong></td>
<td>Industry may provide scholarships to students and trainees for meeting attendance, but it may not participate in the solicitation of attendees and all funds must be contributed to the university.</td>
<td></td>
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Group Exercise

• Divide class in different groups

• Each group will be assigned a policy from an American medical school

• Assess the policy on conflicts of interest following the AMSA Scorecard methodology; assign policy rating & letter grade

• Presentation of group results & policy discussion