



Conflict of Interest Policy

This Conflict of Interest Policy of the American Society for Preventive Cardiology: (1) defines conflicts of interest; (2) identifies classes of individuals within the Association covered by this policy; (3) facilitates disclosure of information that may help identify conflicts of interest; and (4) specifies procedures to be followed in managing conflicts of interest. Covered individuals should recognize that this policy does not replace, but rather is in addition to, any and all Conflict of Interest policies adopted by the ASPC to which they may be subject to including industry relationships, medical education, or continuing medical education (CME), or other regulatory authority.

Definition of conflicts of interest. A conflict of interest arises when a person in a position of authority over the Association may benefit financially from a decision, he/she could make in that capacity, including indirect benefits such as to family members or businesses with which the individual is closely associated. A conflict of interest is present when the individual both has a financial relationship with a commercial interest within the past 12 months and has the opportunity to affect content relevant to products or services of the commercial interest. The ASPC agrees with the definition defined by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) a commercial interest “is any entity producing, marketing, re-selling, or distributing health care goods or services consumed by, or used on, patients.”

Individuals covered. It is the policy of the American Society for Preventive Cardiology to require that all Board members, Committee members, CME planners, key staff, and faculty submit signed financial disclosure forms. The ASPC will provide the information upon request and on any education programs in accordance with this policy.

Facilitation of disclosure. Persons covered by this policy will annually disclose or update to the Board of Directors of the Association on a form provided by the Association their interests that could give rise to conflicts of interest, such as direct and indirect financial relationships with a commercial interest within the past 12 months.

Procedures to manage conflicts. For each interest disclosed to the Board of Directors, the Board will determine whether to: (a) take no action; (b) assure full disclosure to related entities beyond the Board of Directors and/or other individuals covered by or related to this policy; (c) ask the person to recuse from participation in related discussions or decisions within the Association; or (d) ask the person to resign from his or her position in the Association or, if the person refuses to resign, become subject to the bylaws pertaining to removal of officers and directors. The Association’s Executive Director will monitor Association activity pursuant to this policy and is responsible for reporting any potential or the status of ongoing conflicts of interest to the Board of Directors in order to correctly adjudicate the matters in question and or seek the counsel of the Association attorney to guide in such matters.

Adopted by Board of Directors: November 2019