

## **Charleston Area Medical Center Office of Graduate Medical Education**

### **GME Interactions with Industry Vendors**

Interactions between GME healthcare professionals and industry representatives, including those from pharmaceutical, medical device and research equipment companies, can be beneficial and important to the education, clinical care and research aspects of CAMC training programs. These interactions, however, must be ethical and cannot create conflicts of interest to protect patient safety, data integrity and the integrity of CAMC's education and training programs.

#### **Institutional Compliance**

All interactions with industry representatives must comply with CAMC institutional policies and procedures including:

- Vendor Access and Credentialing and Conflict of Interest policies found on CAMnet in the Document Management System (DMS) policy portal ([DMS policies link](#)); and,
- Code of Ethical Conduct policy found on CAMnet's Compliance Department page ([Code of Conduct policy link](#)).

#### **Professional expectations of CAMC employees**

Residents, fellows, faculty and program leaders are expected to maintain a professional, ethical learning environment, consistent with the core competencies outlined by applicable accrediting bodies. These include prioritizing patient needs over self-interest and maintaining accountability to patients, the profession, and society. Residents, fellows, and faculty must consciously separate clinical care decisions from any perceived or actual benefits expected from any company. It is prohibited for patient care decisions to be influenced by the possibility of personal financial gain.

#### **Professional expectations of industry representatives**

Industry representatives are not permitted in any CAMC patient care areas except to provide in-service training on devices and other equipment and then only in accordance with CAMC policies and procedures.

Industry vendors are permitted in non-patient care areas by appointment only and must be at the invitation or advanced approval of the program director/department management.

Appointments may be made on a per visit basis or as a standing appointment for a specified period of time, with the approval of the program director or department chair, or their designated hospital or clinic personnel issuing the invitation.

#### **Process for engaging industry leaders in continuing education**

All Continuing Medical Education (CME) support must be approved through IAM education processes and comply with accreditation standards. Industry funding for conferences involving residents, fellows, or faculty is allowed only if provided directly to the institution and used for officially sponsored programs. The program director or institutional official must assess the educational value of such events. There must be no expectation of reciprocity, and all industry support must be transparently disclosed. Content must be determined by the speaker, not the sponsor, and must remain objective and balanced. After presenting, industry representatives must leave

so that educational time can continue without influence. Industry-sponsored or provided food is not permitted at any CAMC-approved events. If food needs provided, it would be provided by program or institutional funding.

CAMC does not support or endorse educational meetings with residents/fellows organized outside the training program. Any such event must not occur on CAMC premises or suggest CAMC affiliation. Participation in non-approved industry events is voluntary, must occur on personal time, and is not required by the program. Industry representatives may not use CAMC paging systems to contact residents/fellows

## **Gifts and Compensation**

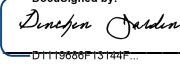
- Acceptance of gifts from industry is discouraged and must comply with the AMA's *Statement on Gifts to Physicians* ([AMA Code of Medical Ethics link](#)) and IRS policies defining de minimis benefits ([IRS policies on benefits link](#))
- Acceptable benefits:
  - Small holiday gift of modest value;
  - Flowers shared within the department;
  - Modest items of educational value (e.g., book).
- Forbidden benefits or practices
  - Cash payments, gift certificates, or gift card payments of any value are strictly prohibited;
  - Gifts, compensation, or incentives for attending sales talks; changing prescriptions; and/or any activity tied to patient care decisions.
  - Any item with a value exceeding \$50.

## **Questions or concerns related to interactions with vendors**

For assistance in obtaining CME credit for any industry presentation or educational activity, programs should contact a member of CAMC's Continuing Education department. For concerns related to industry interactions, program staff, residents, and fellows should contact the GME office or DIO for guidance. Compliance or regulatory concerns may need to be addressed in conjunction with the CAMC Compliance department. Failure to comply with this policy may result in disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

GMEC approved: 12/2025

## **Signatures:**

	DocuSigned by:  CE911BE74E2240...	
GMEC Chair:	Arthur Rubin, DO	12/9/2025
DIO:	DocuSigned by:  D1119050F13144F...	Date
	Dink Jardine, MD	12/18/2025