	Continuing Medical Education Program (CME)			
	Chapter	N/A	Effective Date	August 15, 2013
	Policy	Conflict of Interest (COI); Identification and Resolution	Approved By	CME Committee and Medical Executive Committee
			Policy #	4

1.0 Purpose and Scope

This policy defines Conflict of Interest (COI) as it relates to continuing medical education and explains the resolution process that the RWMC CME program employs to achieve compliance with the ACCME's [SCS 2.1 – 2.3](#).

2.0 Background

The ACCME considers financial relationships to create actual **conflicts of interest** in CME when individuals have both a financial relationship with a commercial interest *and* the opportunity to affect the content of CME about the products or services of that commercial interest.

Financial relationships are those in which the individual benefits by receiving a salary, royalty, intellectual property rights, consulting fees, honoraria for promotional speakers' bureau, ownership interest (e.g. stocks, stock options or other ownership interest, excluding diversified mutual funds), or other financial benefit.

Financial benefits are usually associated with roles such as employment, management position, independent contractor (including contracted research), consulting, speaking and teaching, advisory committee membership or review panels, board membership, and other activities from which remuneration is received, or expected.

The ACCME considers relationships of the person involved in the CME activity *to include* financial relationships of a *spouse* or *partner*.


4.0 Policy Statement

The RWMC CME Program requires Disclosure be made by every speaker, planner, author or other individual associated with the planning, development and execution of an accredited CME activity. When disclosure creates a conflict of interest the CME Program takes steps to resolve the conflict(s).

An individual refusing to disclose or is unresponsive to a disclosure request will be disqualified from participating in the CME activity in their respective capacity.

5.0 Procedures

Every effort is made to resolve conflicts that arise as a result of financial relationships.

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In the event a potential conflict of interest, the following mechanisms may be used to resolve that COI.

1. All financial relationships are disclosed prior to an activity alerting participants of the potential for COI. Participants are asked to evaluate the objectivity of the presentation and to identify any perceived commercial bias.
2. Peer review of presentation materials, if necessary faculty will be required to revise content based on recommendations from the review
3. Choose someone else to control that part of the content
4. Change the content or topic of the individual's educational assignment so that it does not relate to the products or services of the commercial interest
5. Ask the individual to alter the financial relationship
6. Recuse the speaker, author or planner and select a replacement

6.0 Revision History

N/A

Date	Description of Change

5.0 Appendices

N/A