



Paul L. Foster School of Medicine

CME Operating Policy and Procedure

OP: Content Validation and Fair Balance

PURPOSE: The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to activity directors, CME staff, planning committee members, and presenters regarding validation of content and fair balance in continuing medical education activities.

REVIEW: This policy will be reviewed on September 1st of each odd-numbered year by the Senior Director for Continuing Medical Education. If a revision to the policy is recommended, the CME Committee will review and approve changes.

POLICY/PROCEDURE:

- 1. Policy.** It is the policy of the Department of Continuing Medical Education to comply with Standard 5 of the ACCME Standards for Commercial Support to ensure that patient care recommendations made during CME activities are accurate, reliable, and based on scientific evidence.
- 2. Procedures.** The planning and delivery of content of CME activities shall be in accordance with the ACCME's Content Validation Statements:
 - *All recommendations involving clinical medicine in a CME activity must be based on evidence that is accepted within the profession of medicine as adequate justification for their indications and contra-indications in the care of patients.*
 - *All scientific research referred to, reported or used in CME in support or justification of a patient care recommendation must conform to the generally accepted standards of experimental design, data collection and analysis.*
 - *Providers are not eligible for ACCME accreditation or reaccreditation if they present activities that promote recommendations, treatment, or manners of practicing medicine that are not within the definition of CME, or known to have risks or dangers that outweigh the benefits or known to be ineffective in the treatment of patients. An organization whose program of CME is devoted to advocacy of unscientific modalities of diagnosis or therapy is not eligible to apply for ACCME accreditation.*
- 3. Restrictions.** Presentations and course materials must give a balanced view of therapeutic options. presenters should use generic names rather than trade names.