



Residents and Industry Guidelines for Training Programs and Residents

Role of Training Program

Training Programs should not facilitate, encourage, or require interactions between residents and representatives of industry.

Training Programs should ensure that their trainees are educated with respect to the many ethical and professional issues that arise in the context of physician-industry interactions.

Day-to-day interactions

Residents should not interact with representatives of industry.*

Teaching rounds

Industry may provide support for food and drinks at teaching rounds so long as these are modest in nature. The Training Program must maintain control over the content, topic, and speaker based on its goals and objectives. Representatives of industry may not attend these teaching rounds. Recognition of support from industry should be limited to naming the company without mention of a specific product, and should include an explicit disclosure statement.

Drug lunches or dinners

Residents should only attend educational sessions organized or endorsed by their Training Program. In particular, residents must avoid attending events in which the social or culinary aspects outweigh any potential educational value.

Conferences

Funding of residents to attend conferences must be through an unrestricted educational grant to the Training Program. Directed industry sponsorship (to a particular individual or for a particular conference) is not permitted. The allocation of any funds raised from industry for this purpose should be through a committee consisting of the Program Director, faculty and resident representatives which functions transparently.

Educational materials

Industry can be a valuable source of educational materials for our residents. Any materials should be reviewed by the Training Program to determine their appropriateness for distribution to residents. Materials favoured include those coming from peer-reviewed sources that do not reflect a product-specific perspective.

Gifts

Residents and Training Programs should not solicit nor accept gifts from industry.

Other relationships

Residents may occasionally be solicited to present or speak at industry-sponsored events. In such situations, the resident should seek advice from their Program Director as to how to proceed. Residents should not solicit funds for research from industry. Funding for research should generally be provided via the residents' supervisor, research-funding agency, hospital, or university.

** There may be exceptional pedagogical circumstances (eg. learning how to use a new medical device) in which such interactions support the goals and objectives of the Training Program, and may consequently be acceptable.*