

**Departmental Policy**

University of Calgary FM Residency  
Programs on Financial Sponsorship of  
Educational and Non-Educational  
Events

**Financial Sponsorship of Educational and Non-Educational Events Policy**

**DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE**

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- Purpose** 1 University of Calgary FM Residency Programs on financial sponsorship of educational and non-educational events.
- Scope** 2 This policy applies to all Residency Programs in the University of Calgary Department of Family Medicine
- Definitions** 3 In this policy
- 1) **Health Care/Pharmaceutical Industry(H/PI)** is defined in detail in Appendix 1
  - 2) **Family Medicine Residency Program** is any Family Medicine Residency Program at the Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary. This includes all Family Medicine Enhanced skills Programs.
- Policy Statement** 4 **4.1** All Family Medicine(FM) Residency Program-organized educational events/activities identified as mandatory to the delivery of any of the FM Residency Programs (Calgary, Rural and Enhanced Skills) *must* be properly and fully funded through the Department of Family Medicine and the

Cumming School of Medicine

- 4.2 Any FM Residency Program-organized or supported non-educational events/activities identified as regular and integral to any of our FM Residency Programs *should* be funded as much as possible through the Department of Family Medicine and the Cumming School of Medicine.
- 4.3 Additional funding support can be sought for non-educational events/activities and (less commonly) educational events/activities where it is identified that available funding may result in the event either not taking place or in a sub-quality experience. This additional funding support can be sought provided the funding meets the permissions detailed below.
- 4.4 The Department of Family Medicine and the FM Residency Programs recognize the risk of adversely influencing current and future patient care decisions made by Residents and Faculty when there is funding support from the Health Care/Pharmaceutical Industry (H/PI-see Appendix 1) for educational or non-educational events/activities.
- 4.5 The Department of Family Medicine, not the Calgary FM Residency Programs, makes decisions about what is permissible within each of its 3 Calgary-academic clinics. However, the University of Calgary FM Residency Programs make it clear to Residents, as physicians entrusted with making both current and future decisions about patient care, that they do not approve of Resident participation in H/PI-sponsored events and activities.
- 4.6 Neither the Department of Family Medicine nor any of its FM Residency Programs can decide upon what is permissible in any clinical setting outwith the 3 academic clinics in Calgary. However, once again, the University of Calgary FM Residency Programs make it clear to Residents, as physicians entrusted with making both current and future decisions about patient care, that they do not approve of Resident participation in HPI-sponsored events and activities.

**Special Situations      5      Additional funding for FM Residency Program-organized/supported educational & non-educational Activities; Permissions**

- 5.1 The use of funding or other forms of support (e.g. advertising materials, event support) provided by H/PI sponsors is not permitted. (See Appendix 1).
- 5.2 The use of funding or other forms of support (e.g. advertising, event support) by “non-profit” and “physician as direct consumer” sponsors is permissible as it is felt that, although there may still be benefit to any of these organizations, such benefits are unlikely to be related to, or influence, current or future patient care.

**Responsibilities      6      Approval Authority; Family Medicine Postgraduate Executive**

Committee(PGEC)

- Ensure appropriate rigour and due diligence in the development or revision of this policy.

*Implementation Authority*

- Ensures that Program Leaders, Residents and Staff are aware of and understand the implications of this policy and related procedures;
- monitors compliance with the policy and related procedures;
- regularly reviews the policy and related procedures to ensure consistency in practice; and sponsors the revision of this policy and related procedures when necessary.

**Appendix 1**

**7 Definitions**

**Health Care/Pharmaceutical industry (H/PI)**

Ref; CFPC statement and task-force report-  
[http://www.cfpc.ca/CFPC\\_Relationship\\_Pharma/](http://www.cfpc.ca/CFPC_Relationship_Pharma/)

H/PI companies/organizations are defined as for-profit entities that develop, produce, market, or distribute drugs, devices, products, services, or therapies that may be prescribed to patients or ordered by doctors to diagnose, treat, monitor, manage, and alleviate health conditions.

Examples of organizations that fall under H/PI definition (i.e. funding or other support not permitted):

- Board of a private clinic
- Private cosmetic surgery clinic
- Trade and generic sectors of for-profit HPI
- Physicians having ownership shares in institutions like nursing homes

Examples of companies/organizations that do not fall under H/PI definition (i.e. funding support permitted);

- Egg marketing board
- EMRs – Not at the moment, but if they communicate directly with patients, then would be considered as HPI organization
- Practice management software
- Government releasing formularies
- Tobacco and alcohol production and marketing companies
- Fast-food marketing production companies-No
- Baby formula manufacturer – No

**Procedures**            **8**    None

**Instructions/Forms**   **9**    None

<b>Standards</b>	<b>10</b>	None	
<b>Parent Policy</b>	<b>11</b>	None	
<b>Related Policies</b>	<b>12</b>	None	
<b>Related Information</b>	<b>13</b>	None	
<b>References</b>	<b>14</b>	None	
<b>History</b>	<b>15</b>	<i>Approved:</i>	2017-12-14 PGEC approved
		<i>Effective:</i>	2017-12-15
		<i>Revised:</i>	2017-12-23 document in policy format