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Title: Further Conflict of Interest Management
Introduced by: James Szocik, MD
Original Author: James Szocik, MD
Referred to: Reference Committee C
House Action: **DISAPPROVED**

Whereas, MSMS has previously recognized conflict of interest (COI), and

Whereas, commercial funding and pharmaceutical funding are specifically mentioned, and

Whereas, MSMS recognizes that not all COI is financial, and

Whereas, Nobel laureate Milton Friedman stated in his February 9, 1977, address to Pepperdine University entitled "The Future of Capitalism:"

"I asked my colleagues, suppose I take a professor from a medical school whose research and training is largely being financed by the National Institutes of Health. Do you suppose he wouldn't think three times before he gives a speech against socialized medicine? Suppose I take one of my colleagues in economics who has been supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation. I personally happen to think there is no justification for the National Science Foundation. (As it happens, I have never received a grant from them though I might have. It isn't that they have turned me down; I haven't asked them!) But nonetheless, do you suppose my colleagues would not be inhibited in speaking out? In fact, I have often said about the only people who have any real freedom of speech left are people who are in the fortunate position of myself: tenured professors at major private universities on the verge of retirement," and

Whereas, an entire issue of JAMA was dedicated to COI (Vol 317, no 17, pp 1705-1812, May 2, 2017) and in this issue on p. 1765, the statement was made that COIs be explicit, public, and applied evenhandedly; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS acknowledges that no one is free of conflict of interest; and be it further

RESOLVED: That MSMS endorses all funding sources and employment information be declared as potential conflict of interest; thereby, allowing transparency and evenhanded application.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE

CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

I have the following conflict of interest to disclose:
Doctor Szocik is employed by Michigan Medicine, which receives federal funding from Medicaid, Medicare; and for resident training; as well multiple private insurance agencies. Doctor Szocik has consulted in the past with MPRO, a peer-review organization.

Relevant MSMS Policy:

Conflict of Interest Policy (pending final approval at 2018 MSMS HOD)

All members of the Michigan State Medical Society Board of Directors should act in the best interest of MSMS, **MSMS members and patients**. Any conflict of interest, **including regulatory capture*** should be ~~avoided~~ **disclosed and managed**.

MSMS considers a potential conflict of interest to exist when a Director has a relationship with, or engages in any activity, or has any personal financial interest that might impair his or her independence or judgment or inappropriately influence his or her decisions or actions concerning MSMS matters. It is expected that conflicts of interest will be disclosed to the Board. The Board in its discretion will determine what, if any, limitations on activities with regard to the Director's conflict are required to protect MSMS.

The Board shall report any matter it has found to be a conflict of interest to the House of Delegates annually.

(Board Action Report #8, 1993 HOD)

- Edited 2017

The MSMS Board Chair, after reviewing officers' and directors' conflict of interest statements each year shall provide a formal report to the MSMS Speaker on the information disclosed.

Members at committee meetings shall identify themselves by geography, specialty, and any affiliations related to agenda topics that might constitute a conflict of interest.

(Board Action Report #6, 1995 HOD, re Res47-94A)

- Edited 1998

House of Delegates Conflict of Interest Policy (pending final approval at 2018 MSMS HOD)

All members of the Michigan State Medical Society House of Delegates should declare any conflict of interest, **including regulatory capture*** to the House of Delegates and its Reference Committees prior to testimony.

The MSMS House of Delegates considers a potential conflict of interest to exist when a Delegate, Alternate Delegate, other physician member or non-member testifying on the floor of the House of Delegate or in Reference Committee has a relationship, or engages in any activity, or has any personal financial or commercial interest that might impair his or her independence or judgment or inappropriately influence his or her decisions or actions concerning MSMS matters.

(Board Action Report #4, 2000 HOD, re Res10-99A & Res13-99A)

- Edited 2017

****Regulatory capture refers to the corruption of the regulatory process such that the public good is sacrificed in favor of the commercial interests of the regulated entity. Retrieved at <https://www.cfapubs.org/doi/pdf/10.2469/ccb.v2016.n5.1>.***