

# Terms and Conditions

The signatory understands and accepts the following rules as required by the General Thoracic Surgical Club in conformance with the Essential Areas and policies of the ACCME and the rules of the American Medical Association:

- A. **Independence.** GTSC, as a CME provider, must ensure that the following decisions were made free of the control of a commercial interest.
- Identification of CME needs;
  - Determination of educational objectives;
  - Selection and presentation of content;
  - Selection of all persons and organizations that will be in a position to control the content of the activity;
  - Selection of educational methods; and
  - Evaluation of the activity.
- B. **Disclosure.** Planners must complete and submit a Disclosure Statement prior to planning the activity and that Statement shall be complete and truthful to the best of the planner's knowledge. Planners are required to disclose any financial relationship they may have with the manufacturer of any product or class of products to be discussed in an educational activity as well as with the commercial supporter(s) of that activity. As the commercial supporter is usually not known at the time planning commences, GTSC recommends disclosing all financial relationships with any proprietary entity producing health care goods or services, with the exemption of non-profit or government organizations and non-health care related companies.
- C. **Commercial Supporter Influence.** GTSC defines "commercial supporter" as any commercial entity that supports the CME Activity with money or in-kind donations. *Planners are not permitted to receive any direct remuneration or gifts from the commercial supporter(s) of this CME activity, nor should they be subject to direct input from a commercial supporter regarding the content of any presentation.* Inherent in any direct remuneration is the incentive to maintain or increase the value of the relationship. ACCME focuses on financial relationships with commercial interests in the 12-month period preceding the time that the individual is being asked to assume a role controlling content of the CME activity.
- D. **Resolution of Personal Conflicts of Interest.** Planner disclosures will be reviewed by the Chair of the Scientific Program Subcommittee and/or the President of the Board of Directors. If a Planner is perceived to have a potential conflict of interest, that individual will be asked not to be involved in the specific topics with which they have a conflict. This does not remove them from planning other topics or sessions of the CME activity. For example, a Planner who is on the speaker's bureau for a specific drug, cannot be involved in planning a program where the use of that drug is likely to be discussed. In addition, a Planner will be asked to recuse themselves from discussions to select topics that are related to a product or commercial entity.
- E. **Content Validation Statement.** It is expected that all presentations will comply with the following content validation statement:
1. All the recommendations involving clinical medicine in a CME activity are based on evidence that is accepted within the profession of medicine as adequate justification for their indications and contraindications in the care of patients.
  2. All scientific research referred to, reported or used in a CME activity in support or justification of a patient care recommendation conforms to the generally accepted standards of experimental design, data collection and analysis. Presentations must not present activities that promote recommendations, treatment or manners of practicing medicine that are not within the highest standards of practice, or known to have the risks or dangers that outweigh the benefits, or known to be ineffective in the treatment of patients.