# Hospital & Physician Relationships with Medical Device Companies

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### Agenda

- What is Changing and Why
- AdvaMed Code of Ethics
- Who is a Health Care Professional
- Why Providers Should Care
- High Risk Interactions
- Meals, Lodging, and Travel
- Manufacturer-Sponsored Product Training
- Educational Grants
- Research Grants and Consulting Agreements
- Charitable Contributions
- Reimbursement and Other Economic Information
- Gifts
- Direct Impact on Providers

# What is Changing and Why?

- AMA Code of Ethics onGifts to Physicians from Industry
  - Adopted 1990
- PhRMA Code
  - Effective July, 2002
- HHS Office of Inspector General (OIG)
  - Issued the Compliance Program Guidance for Pharmaceutical Manufacturers April, 2003
- AdvaMed Code of Ethics
  - Published September, 2003, effective January 2004
- California SB 1765 Requiring Pharmaceutical Marketing Compliance Plan (includes medical device companies)
- April 18, 2005 Enacted September on 2004 ceffective July, 2005

## AdvaMed Code of Ethics

- AdvaMed is trade association for 1,100+ medical device manufacturers
- Addresses manufacturer relationships with "Health Care Professionals."
- Why?
  - \$2+ Billion paid by paid by pharma industry in past 4 years.
  - Public statements by federal law enforcement that medical device is next
    - Significant overlap
      - ✓ Reduces law enforcement's learning curve
- 12 Months of Anecdotal Feedback
  - Prohibited interactions are continuing
    - Not all medical device companies are vigorously implementing and enforcing
  - HCPs are confused by changing and different practices
    - Changes in practices within a single manufacturer
    - Differences among multiple manufacturers
  - AdvaMed is an excuse to avoid the costs of sponsorships and grants

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# Who is a Health Care Professional?

- Broad definition
  - Includes any person or entity that purchase, lease, recommend, use, arrange for the purchase or lease of, or prescribe medical devices

Includes:

- ✓ Surgeons
- Purchasing and materials management staff
- ✓ GPOs
- ✓ Operating room nurses
- ✓ Physician staff
- Research sites and investigators are probably always HCPs

- Applies to U.S.-based HCPs
  - Applies to HCPs who's primary place of business is in the U.S., even when they are having the interaction outside of the U.S.
  - Does not apply to non-U.S. based HCPs.
    - Need to comply with the rules from the home country of non-U.S. HCPs
      - Last year Italy initiated prosecution of over 4,000 HCPs for antikickback-like activities by GlaxoSmithKline

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### Why HCPs Should Care?



- Law Enforcement
  - Although law enforcement primary focus is on manufacturers, it says it will continue to prosecute HCPs who receive illegal kickbacks
    - 6 TAP physicians indicated and plead guilty or agreed to civil settlements
    - State attorney general actions
    - Insurance coverage for defense costs and settlements or penalties?
- Good Business Practice
  - What should be basis for making purchase decisions?
    - Quality and Service vs. Holiday Food Basket?

### **High Risk Interactions**

- Educational grants
- Fundraisers and other charitable contributions
- Paying for journals, textbooks, and other educational materials
- Sponsoring fellowships
- Paying for referral dinners and patient brochures
- Sponsoring professional association's annual congress
- Research grants
- Consulting services



# Meals, Lodging, and Travel



- Modest meals and receptions
  - Conducive to underlying purpose of the meeting or gathering
- Reasonable lodging and travel
  - Necessary for intended purpose

# Meals, Travel and Lodging Examples

#### Permitted

- Modest meals during:
  - Meetings to discuss company products, negotiate contracts, and explain sales and service terms
  - Consultant meetings
  - Training programs on company products
- Modest lodging (Marriott vs. Ritz Carlton; Chicago vs. Aspen or Napa Valley)
- Coach airfare
- Taxi or comparably priced car services

#### Prohibited

- "Drop-off" meals
- Meals for spouses and other guests
- "Immodest" meals or lodging
  - \$125 per person vs. \$500 per person
- "Unreasonable" travel
  - Travel that is not necessary for intended purpose
  - Always first class
- Referral dinner, unless
  legitimate co-marketing

### **Manufacturer-Sponsored Product Training**

#### Permitted:

- Providing education and training to HCPs about the effective and appropriate use of products
- Providing modest meals and hospitality and reasonable travel and lodging that is subordinate in time and focus to the training.
- Providing training to an HCP's spouse who is him/herself an HCP appropriate for training, i.e., operating room nurse.

#### Prohibited:

- Paying an HCP to attend
- Using lavish locations and providing immodest meals and other hospitality
- Training HCPs and/or staff who do not need the training
- Offering training, particularly involving travel, to reward a HCP for past or future business
- Paying for HCP's spouse or other guests who are not themselves HCPs qualifiedto attend

### **Educational Grants**

- Unrestricted educational grants are (or should be) a thing of the past
- Three permissible types of educational grants under AdvaMed Code:
  - Financially supporting Third Party Educational Conferences (Article III)
    - Bona fide independent, educational, scientific, or policymaking conference that promotes scientific knowledge, medical advancement and the delivery of effective health care
  - Charitable donation to advance medical education (Article VIII)
  - Scholarships for health care professionals in training to attend Third Party Educational Conferences



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# **Educational Grant Examples**

#### Permitted

- Financial support to reduce overall costs resulting in lower registration fees
- Sponsoring \$75/person reception
- Reasonable and modest travel and lodging for a grand rounds speaker
- Scholarships to training institution or meeting organizer for HCPs in training
- Charitable organization public disease state education program
- Fellowships at academic medical institutions

### Prohibited

- Paying honorarium or travel costs to third party conference faculty (as opposed to conference organizer)
- Paying registration and/or travel costs to third party conference attendee not in training
- Sponsoring private
  practice fellowship
- Sponsoring \$500/person reception
- Paying registration fees and travel costs directly to HCP in training

# **Research Grants and Consulting Agreements**



- Unrestricted research grants are (or should be) a thing of the past
- Consulting agreements with little or no value to the medical device company are (or should be) a thing of the past
- Requirements:
  - Legitimate need and purpose for research and/or consulting services
  - Compensation for consulting services is consistent with fair market value
    - May have different mechanisms for establishing FMV
    - May be asked to provide income information

# **Charitable Contributions**

- Typical types of charitable contribution requests:
  - Fundraisers
  - Products for charitable missions and indigent patients
  - Medical research
  - Educational activities, including fellowships
  - Purchasing educational materials
- Requirements
  - Cannot be for purposes of inducing business with customer
  - Requires a charitable organization, unless individual is engaged in genuine charitable mission.
    - Typically, a charitable organization is involved in charitable missions.



# **Charitable Contribution Examples**

### Permitted

- Fundraiser for tax-exempt charitable organization
- Free products for charitable mission to provide free health care in other countries
- Travel and shipping costs related to charitable mission
- Fellowship at an academic institution
- Buying or subscribing for scientific journals, medical textbooks, and other educational materials for charitable hospital library

### Prohibited

- Paying a private practice physician's marketing costs
  - Legitimate co-marketing arrangements permitted
- Paying a private practice's administrative or operational costs, i.e., free medical practice consulting services
- Sponsoring a fellow at a private practice
- Purchasing textbooks for a private practice or noncharitable hospital, unless qualifies as a gift.

# Reimbursement and Other Economic Information

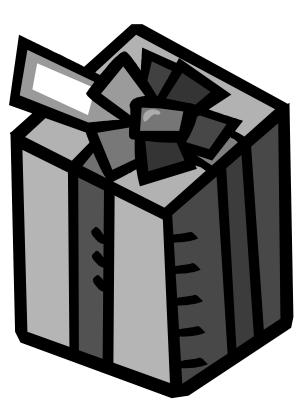
#### Permitted

- Accurate and responsible third party billing information about the Company's products:
  - Coverage
  - · Coding
  - Billing
- Technical or other support that aids in the appropriate and efficient use of the Company's products

#### Prohibited

- Providing broad base consulting services beyond third party billing information, i.e.,
  - General revenue enhancement
  - Practice management
- Use such information to induce an HCP to purchase the Company's products

### Gifts



- The holiday gift basket and dropoff lunch for staff are (or should be) a thing of the past
- Requirements for gifts:
  - Occasional; and
  - No cash or cash equivalents; and
  - Benefits patients, or
  - Services a genuine educational function, and
  - Under \$100, except for text books or anatomical models, or
  - Branded promotional items related to the HCP's work or benefits patients.

# **Gift Examples**

#### Permitted

- Medical textbooks and anatomical models
  - Undefined maximum, may be established by individual companies
- Minimal value branded pens, post-its, pad folios, etc.
  - Undefined "minimal value," may be established by individual companies
- X-ray bags costing less than \$100
- Computer memory sticks with educational information costing less than \$100

### Prohibited

- Anything valued at more than \$100, except for medical textbooks and anatomical models.
- Food for staff not provided as part of a legitimate meeting or training program.
- Food, wine, etc. gift baskets
- Golf balls and other golfing or sports related items
- Non-medical related clothing
- Sports tickets
- Computers, PDAs, etc.

### **Direct Impact on HCPs**

- Limitations on Sales Rep Authority
  - Sales reps will have less authority to offer, authorize or agree to contributions, grants, consulting agreements, etc.
    - By removing from Sales budget and authority, looks less like a sales inducement.
      - Law enforcement perception of contribution reviewed and authorized by non-sales staff vs. contribution offered by sales rep.
    - Companies will vary on what sales reps can and cannot offer, authorize or agree to.



# **Direct Impact on HCPs (cont)**

- Limitations on meals
  - What constitutes "modest" meals?
    - \$\$ value differences
    - Geographic differences
    - Customers paying excess amounts
  - Limited to customer staff appropriate to attend meeting or training
    - Drop-off meals are prohibited gifts
  - No spouses or other guests who are not appropriate to attend
    - Spouse customers ok if appropriate for meeting or training
      - ✓ Office manager spouse
      - ✓ Operating room nurse spouse
    - Invitations prohibiting spouses/guest or establishing \$\$ for spouse/guest

- Lodging and Travel
  - What constitutes "reasonable" lodging and travel?
    - Airfare
      - ✓ Fare class differences
      - ✓ Customer arranged and paid upgrades
    - Meeting locations
      - ✓ Resort vs. non-resort locations
    - Hotel accommodations
      - ✓ Upgrades
      - ✓ Spouse accommodations
      - ✓ Limits on room charges
- Gifts
  - Gift type restrictions
    - No gifts that do not benefit patients or have educational purpose
  - \$\$ value differences among companies
    - Annual limits
    - Limits on textbooks and anatomical models
    - \$\$ value limit on branded promotional items

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# **Direct Impact on HCPs (cont)**



- Increased formality in relationships
  - Application or request form requirements
    - Charitable contributions
      - ✓ Defined purpose
      - ✓ Establishing charitable organization status
    - Third party conference sponsorship and scholarships
      - ✓ Agenda and budget
    - Research funding
      - ✓ e.g., requiring research protocol and other information to substantiate research legitimacy
  - Establishing consultant qualifications
  - Agreements (vs. "hand shakes")
  - Periodic reporting, e.g.,
    - Detailed time and work reporting for consulting agreements
    - Expense reporting
    - Periodic fellowship reporting
    - Research progress reporting

# **Direct Impact on HCPs (cont)**



- Fair market value compensation
  - More objective and independent mechanisms for establishing consultant, researcher, and other compensation amounts
    - Compensation surveys
    - HCP income information W-2s
    - Fixed rate services
  - Restrictions on pre-service payments
  - Compensation not tied to past
    or future use or purchases

# **Direct Impact on Providers (cont)**

- Financial Support for Marketing Programs
  - Referral Dinners and Patient Brochures
    - Qualify as "Co-Marketing Activity"
      - Does not just market the physician's practice, but also markets the manufacturer's product
      - Companies may establish criteria or requirements for co-marketing activities, e.g.,
        - ▶ Limiting payment to 1/2 of costs
        - Requiring representation in agenda/brochure roughly equal to customer's
        - Meal/reception limits

#### Practice Newsletter/Magazine Advertising

- Legitimate advertising that markets the manufacturer's products to potential purchasers or purchase decision-makers.
  - May make non-sales marketing personnel responsible for decision based on use of overall marketing budget



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# **Questions?**