

Perioperative Anesthesia Clinical Trials (PACT) Industry Relations Policy

1. Purpose

During the course of program development, opportunities to engage the Health Care Industry may arise. This may take many forms including the opportunity to provide financial support for the program, in kind support, or other incentives. The Perioperative Anesthesia Clinical Trials (PACT) group is committed to the avoidance of real or perceived conflicts of interest with pharmaceutical and/or health related supply industries during the design, implementation, conduct and reporting of investigator-initiated and investigator – led clinical trials.. Thus, the overall aim of this policy is to establish guidelines concerning the acceptable interaction between Industry and PACT sponsored clinical programs. This policy applies to all PACT members¹.

2. Definitions

Conflict of Interest (COI) exists where there is a potential or actual divergence between the personal interests of a PACT member and that member’s obligation to uphold the interests and mission of the organization.

PACT Member is defined as an individual who is associated with a PACT approved protocol/project.

Gift refers to items of any value given by Industry to PACT members and may take many forms including the provision of financial aid or in kind support.

Health Related Industries: shall refer to pharmaceutical, medical devices, health suppliers, advocacy groups, government, not-for-profits organizations, disease related funding agencies and health services.

Relationship with industry is defined as any personal or family financial or proprietary interest in any particular manufacturer of pharmaceuticals, devices or equipment, or any provider of services.

3. Policy

- **PACT** as an organization is committed to the conduct of investigator-initiated investigator-led clinical trials and as such does not participate in industry-initiated industry-sponsored clinical trials.
- However, it is recognized that within the conduct of investigator-initiated investigator-led clinical trials there may be an opportunity for collaboration with industry. This may take the form of unrestricted grants, provision of equipment for study purposes, provision of comparative pharmaceutical agents etc. This relationship is acceptable provided there are no restrictions placed on the investigator as to how the funds etc. will be used, or restriction of publication rights. Where such agreements exist they must be approved by the PACT Steering Committee and placed in writing as part of the study agreements between the parties.
- PACT members may participate in industry-initiated industry –funded trials but any reference to PACT under these circumstances is not permitted.

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- Participation in industry-sponsored programs, advisory boards, and consulting is permitted provided no reference to PACT is made and it is clear that the relationship involves an individual and they are not acting on behalf of PACT.
- Full transparency and disclosure of a members participation in Industry –sponsored programs is required when participation in such a relationship may place the individual in a perceived or actual conflict of interest when placing potential programs before PACT for approval

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