

Society for Health Care Innovation (SHCI)

Conflict of Interests

Version 1.0

April 2020

Adopted by Executive Board 04/2020

The Society for Healthcare Innovation (SCIH) is an innovation leader focused on improving healthcare by providing a uniquely diverse community for academics and professionals.

The principles and requirements that comprise the code and the procedures are based upon, and are designed to ensure, full compliance by SCHI and its members, directors, and volunteers with the fiduciary duties imposed upon such individuals by state corporate law, the federal tax code's prohibition on private inurement and private benefit and other requirements of federal tax exemption, common law due process requirements, federal and state antitrust and unfair competition law, state tort law, and other legal precepts and prohibitions.

Volunteers affirm their endorsement of the Code and acknowledge their commitment to upholding its principles and obligations by accepting and retaining membership. Volunteer members must exercise a duty of loyalty that requires the performance of duties in good faith and in the best interests of the Society, rather than in their own interests. Volunteer members must exercise a duty of obligation when they agree to serve as an SCHI representative to external organizations or to represent the Society in an official capacity with individuals, members, vendors, companies, nonprofit groups, or other entities. The members acting in the name of the organization shall act in a balanced and impartial way aligned with the mission of SCHI. The duty of obligation requires Society volunteer representatives to articulate and support the decisions of the Society's leadership and to represent the reasons for such decisions, irrespective of any individual interests, opinions, or positions.

The duty requires that all volunteers be conscious of the potential for conflicts of interest (COI) and act with candor and care in dealing with such situations and that all volunteers treat as confidential all matters involving the Society until there has been public disclosure.

This duty is not meant to preclude or dissuade one from voicing concerns to the Society's elected leadership or from participating in deliberative processes for which one may have been elected, but rather to ensure that a Society representative provides a clear message to others stating the Society's official position and reviewing the deliberative processes that lead to such decisions, without regard to one's own personal opinions or bias. If at any time, a representative of the Society is unclear on the Society's official position on a matter or is uncomfortable carrying out this duty, the matter should be discussed with the Society's president.

Not abuse their position by improperly using their volunteer position or the Society's staff, services, equipment, materials, resources, or property for their personal or third-party gain or pleasure, and shall not represent to third parties that their authority as a volunteer member extends any further than it actually extends;

- Not engage in any outside business, professional, or other activities that would directly or indirectly materially adversely affect SCCM;
- Not engage in or facilitate any discriminatory or harassing behavior directed toward SCCM staff, members, officers, directors, meeting attendees, exhibitors, advertisers, sponsors, suppliers, contractors, or others in the context of activities relating to SCCM;
- Not solicit or accept gifts, gratuities, trips, honoraria, personal property, or any other item of material value from any person or entity as a direct or indirect inducement to provide special treatment to such donor with respect to matters pertaining to SCCM without fully disclosing such items to the Society's director of organizational affairs;
- Not provide goods or services to SCCM except as detailed in the policy on Member Participation as Vendor to the Society in this policy manual;
- Not persuade or attempt to persuade any employee of SCCM to leave the employ of SCCM or to become employed by any person or entity other than SCCM;
- Not persuade or attempt to persuade any member, exhibitor, advertiser, sponsor, subscriber, supplier, contractor, or any other person or entity with an actual or potential relationship with the Society to terminate, curtail, or refrain from entering into a relationship with the Society or in any way to reduce the monetary or other benefits to the Society of such relationship;

- Not publicly endorse or promote a company's product, directly or indirectly unless directed explicitly by the Executive Board.

Works created on behalf/for SHCI, either individually, through committees, and/or in conjunction with SCHI staff and/or outside consultants, participate in the creation and development of works that are subject to copyright protection. Volunteers agree that all such works created, in whole or in part, in connection with Society membership (collectively, the "Works") shall be considered specially commissioned works of SCHI and shall be owned by SCHI. Content creators assign to SCHI ownership of all right, title and interest in the Works. The original author will receive full credit for the contribution and will have editorial control over the final version, authorization for which will not be reasonably withheld. President and Executive Board should be the ultimate body rendering decision

As the development of and need for close, constructive, and effective collaborative relationships between the healthcare profession and the pharmaceutical, device, and medical equipment industries become essential for research and education, the Executive Board, volunteer members and/or Society staff may be subject to potentially compromising ethical situations and/or potential COI. These collaborative relationships should not only be impartial but should be honest and far beyond the reach of suspicion. It is the responsibility of the SHCI members to recognize, identify, disclose, and resolve actual or potential COI involving matters that come before them or bodies on which they sit. Such individuals shall disclose all relevant information to the body regarding the COI and shall remove themselves from all discussion and voting on.

SCHI may not have direct financial or uncompensated relationships with companies during their terms of service. Members may accept support from companies as long as grant money is paid to the SCHI for services rendered in order to reimburse them for expenses.

Secretary will bring COI to the Executive Board if needed or whenever there has been a complaint by an individual member (whistleblower). Members of EC shall avoid serving on the boards of a similar minded societies. In case of question potential conflict should be signaled to Executive Board for prior examination and decision.