



Pfizer Inc
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July 2, 2008

Joseph M. Feczko, M.D.
Senior Vice President
Chief Medical Officer

Dear CME/CE Provider,

Pfizer today announced changes in the way we support continuing medical education/continuing education (CME/CE) for U.S. healthcare professionals.

First, effective immediately, Pfizer is eliminating all direct funding for CME/CE programs by commercial providers including medical education and communication companies (MECCs). We believe this change will significantly address the ongoing criticisms of conflicts of interest in industry-supported CME/CE, which persist despite increasingly high firewalls to protect against conflicts.

Other changes we're making are focused on high standards of educational quality. To qualify for Pfizer support in the future, CME/CE programs will have to meet stricter criteria, which will:

- Initiate a competitive grant review period for grant applicants to encourage more innovative, high quality grant applications;
- Support the medical community's call for balanced funding in CME/CE by establishing financial caps on grant support; and
- Require all major grant applicants to meet criteria equivalent to ACCME's highest level of accreditation^[1].
- In addition, Pfizer will continue to publicly report all CME/CE grants provided in the U.S. at www.pfizer.com.

These changes become effective on July 2, 2008. The company will honor existing commitments to commercial providers.

We continue to believe in the value that industry-supported CME/CE provides to healthcare professionals and ultimately to patients, and we will still support continuing medical education programs at many of the world's leading academic medical centers and teaching hospitals, as well as programs sponsored by associations, medical societies and community hospitals, in keeping with the shared goal of improving public health.

Continuing medical education/continuing education improves healthcare provider understanding of disease, expands evidence-based treatment, and contributes to patient safety. However, we understand that even the appearance of conflicts in CME/CE is damaging and we are determined to take actions that are in the best interests of patients and physicians.

Sincerely,

Joseph M. Feczko, MD

Enc: Announcement

^[1] "ACCME Essential Areas and Elements: 2006 Updated Decision-Making Criteria Relevant to the Essential Areas and Elements -- Accreditation with Commendation."