

## **Amgen Guidelines**

### **Understanding our Interactions with Healthcare Professionals**

Amgen's mission is to serve patients. Our belief is that the provision and support of high quality education to healthcare professionals about medicines and disease areas is not only our responsibility as a leading human therapeutics company but is also fundamental to the assurance of high quality patient care and patient safety, particularly for those patients with serious illnesses.

Our medicines are prescribed by specialists working in complex disease areas. Data about disease therapies evolves quickly and it is vital that healthcare professionals remain informed and up to date on latest practice as this will ultimately benefit Australian patients.

In June 2007, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) required Medicines Australia to make publicly available on its website reports provided by Medicines Australia member companies detailing the costs associated with medical education events held or sponsored by each member. These reports from member companies are now submitted to Medicines Australia biannually.

Amgen recognises that community and stakeholder expectation of our industry is changing and we support the need for greater transparency regarding medical education events.

Amgen is committed to the Medicines Australia Code of Conduct. As the environment in which we operate changes, we will continue to review and update our internal policies to ensure we maintain stakeholder and public confidence in our meetings.

At Amgen, we place great value on the continuing education of healthcare professionals and we strive to ensure that our educational events and those we support are conducted in an ethical and accountable manner.

Amgen supports and provides funding for a range of educational meetings. These meetings may be conducted by Amgen or run independently of Amgen via hospitals and/or professional medical or scientific societies. They can include meetings, weekend conferences or support for physicians to attend global conferences.

#### **Journal Club**

A journal club is a group of healthcare professionals (usually within a hospital setting) who meet regularly to critically evaluate recent articles in scientific literature. Journal clubs are usually organized around a defined subject in basic or applied research and provide an opportunity for participants to reflect on their teaching and learning practices in relation to educational literature.

#### **Regional Clinical Lectures**

National or international clinical opinion leaders provide updates on the latest medical advances and clinical data insights to Australian healthcare professionals.

#### **Multi-disciplinary meetings**

The Hospital department, Area Health Service or Medical Organisation provides the medical education content and invites the healthcare professional attendees.

#### **In-service meetings**

This involves a set of lectures, tutorials or other formalised teaching within the healthcare professional practice setting (e.g. hospital).

**Satellite Meeting**

These are educational meetings held in conjunction with international or Australasian Congresses, under the auspice of a non-company entity.

**Symposium (local or International)**

A meeting between a number of experts in a particular field at which papers are presented by academic and specialists on particular subjects followed by a discussion. Symposia may be organised by a pharmaceutical company as a separate educational event or as a satellite to another congress or conference.

**Medical Colleges or Society educational meetings**

A meeting conducted on behalf of a medical College, Society or Institution who independently determines the educational content, selects the speakers and invites the attendees. A pharmaceutical company can sponsor these types of meetings however, the meeting is organised by a Third Party (non pharmaceutical company) who may acknowledge sponsorships by allowing some or all of the following - trade display, short company/product presentation and attendance of a company representative to provide promotional materials to healthcare professionals.

**Education Material**

Any representation or literature which is intended to provide information about a medical condition or therapy which does not include promotional claims.

***Further Information***

To view the details of the educational events with which Amgen has been involved, please use the link below. For all media enquiries please contact:

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**Related Links**

<http://www.medicinesaustralia.com.au/pages/page136.asp>