

SAPI Code 2016	SAPI Code 2018
<p>7.2 Sponsorship Member companies may sponsor healthcare professionals to attend Events provided such sponsorship is in accordance with the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Event complies with the requirements in this Code as described in 7.1; • The event is primarily dedicated, in both time and effort, to objective scientific and educational activities • When a Congress/Symposium is organised, a minimum of 75 per cent of time should be spent on core activities of the Congress/Symposium and a maximum of 25 per cent of time devoted to hospitality, entertainment activities in relation to food and drinks limited to entertainment of modest nature which is secondary to refreshments and/or meals • Sponsorship to healthcare professionals is limited to the payment of travel, meals, accommodation and registration fees. • No payments are made to compensate healthcare professionals for time spent in attending the Event • Any sponsorship provided to individual healthcare professionals must not be conditional upon an obligation to prescribe, recommend, purchase, supply, administer or promote any pharmaceutical product. • All SAPI Members/Associates and their affiliates and members should only provide Economy Class tickets for air travel of less than 6 hours. This should apply to all faculty members e.g. speakers, members of Advisory Boards as well as attendees. • When a Congress/Symposium sponsored by a pharmaceutical company based in Singapore is to be held in an overseas location, majority of the attendees should be from the country in which the Congress/Symposium is held. • Any activities that have an element of chance should not be part of Symposia/Exhibitions. 	<p>7.2 Sponsorship</p> <p>7.2.1 The Code recognises the contribution of the pharmaceutical industry to the quality use of medicines in Singapore through sponsorship of HCP to attend local and international Events.</p> <p>7.2.2 Sponsorship of HCPs must always be relevant to the practice of the HCPs and in line with the primary objective of upgrading scientific and clinical knowledge and improving the quality use of medicines in Singapore. These activities may be broadly categorised under Third Party Educational Events (Article 7.2.4) and Company Standalone Events (Article 7.2.5).</p> <p>7.2.3 Member Companies may sponsor HCPs to attend Events, provided such sponsorship is in accordance with the following requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Event complies with the requirements in the Code as described in Article 7.1; ii. The Event is primarily dedicated, in both time and effort, to objective scientific and educational activities; iii. Sponsorship may be provided to a HCP to attend an Event provided the Event is directly related to the HCP’s area of expertise; iv. Sponsorship must not be conditional upon any obligation by the HCP to recommend, prescribe, dispense, purchase, supply or administer or promote a Member Company’s product(s). Nothing should be offered or provided in a manner, or on conditions, that would interfere with the independence of a HCP’s professional practice; v. Where Member Companies undertake the sponsorship of a HCP such sponsorship must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have a fair and independent selection process and not give any potential appearance of inappropriateness or bias, and avoid any issue of conflict of interest; • conform to applicable laws, professional and community standards of ethics and good taste; and • enhance the quality use of medicines. vi. Where applicable, all Member Companies and their affiliates should only provide economy class tickets for air travel of less than 6 hours. This should apply to all faculty members (e.g. speakers, members of Advisory Boards as well as attendees); vii. No payments may be made to compensate HCP for time spent in attending the Event; viii. Any activities that have an element of chance should not be part of the

Event; and

- ix. When a congress/symposium is organised, a minimum of 75 per cent of time should be spent on core activities of the congress/symposium and a maximum of 25 per cent of time devoted to hospitality, entertainment activities in relation to food and drinks limited to entertainment of modest nature which is secondary to refreshments and/or meals.

7.2.4 Third Party Educational Events

- i. A "Third Party Educational Event" is any scientific conference, professional program, or event sponsored or conducted by a third party/independent professional association, including but not limited to, events of an educational or scientific or policy-making nature and for the purpose of promoting scientific knowledge, medical advancement or delivery of effective healthcare.
- ii. Member Companies may support such Third Party Educational Events through sponsorships to hospitals, medical associations/institutions and independent professional associations (collectively "Organisers") to support individual HCP's attendance at the event as delegates, subject to the following conditions:
- (a) The support preserves the independence of medical education and any such sponsorship provided to Organisers must not be conditional upon any obligation to prescribe, recommend, purchase, supply, administer or promote any Pharmaceutical Product;
 - (b) As far as possible, industry sponsorship should be objectively disbursed and managed by the applicable governing institutions and professional bodies;
 - (c) Sponsorships may be made either following a written offer by the Member Company, or a request for support from the Organisers, including sufficient information to allow Member Companies to evaluate the scientific and educational merit of the event as well as the appropriateness of the venue and agenda;
 - (d) Sponsorship funding provided is proportionate to the overall costs of the event;
 - (e) The event agenda is detailed and does not include standalone entertainment, side trips, or other inappropriate activities, and the venue complies with Article 7.1.4;
 - (f) The support is consistent with relevant guidelines established by the Organiser and any accrediting body;
 - (g) **The Organiser independently controls and is responsible for the selection of program content, faculty, educational methods and materials;**
 - (h) Member Companies must not offer or directly pay for, or reimburse, the expenses of any individual HCP delegates to

- attend the event and the sponsorship must not inappropriately benefit any individual HCP or provide for any private side trips, recreation, entertainment or lavish meals and accommodation;
- (i) **Member Companies must not directly and/or indirectly select or influence the selection of any HCPs to attend the event. All HCPs from both the public and private sectors should be independently selected by a decision making committee, professional body or medical association whereby selection criteria and processes are legitimate;**
 - (j) **No Member Company or any representative/agent acting on its behalf may make registration, accommodation and/or travel arrangements for any attending individual HCP. Payment of any sponsorship must be paid only to the Organisers;**
 - (k) All sponsorship arrangements must be appropriately documented before and after the Third Party Educational Event. It is recommended that Member Companies collaborate with the Organisers to put in place monitoring processes for the proper disbursement of sponsorship in accordance with the Code; and
 - (l) Meals and refreshments provided to HCPs by Member Companies in connection with a Third Party Educational Event must comply with Article 7.1.

7.2.5 Company Standalone Events

A "Company Standalone Event" is any educational conference, professional program, meeting or event for the enhancement of medical knowledge, drug experience and the quality use of medicines, which is sponsored or conducted by a Member Company. Company Standalone Events are important for the dissemination of knowledge and experience to HCPs. The primary purpose of an educational meeting under this category must be the enhancement of medical knowledge, drug experience and the quality use of medicines. Objective evidence of the educational value of the Company Standalone Events is required (i.e. an invitation or agenda that clearly describes the educational purpose, content, start and finish times and duration of Company Standalone Events).

- i. Member Companies may provide or support Company Standalone Events for HCPs in appropriate venues within Singapore to advance the standards of healthcare and must have the primary objective of enhancing medical knowledge and improving the quality use of medicines in Singapore.
- ii. Member Companies must not organise or sponsor Company Standalone Events for HCPs that take place outside of Singapore where the majority (i.e. more than 51%) of the attendees are Singapore residents.
- iii. Due to regional clustering and efficiencies, Member Companies may support regional Company Standalone Events held outside of Singapore and may directly facilitate HCP's attendance including arrangement of

	<p>reasonable travel and accommodation support.</p> <p>iv. A Member Company may sponsor Company Standalone Events which are in-hospital/institutional, such as journal clubs, grand rounds, multidisciplinary and in-service meetings held within the HCP’s workplace. To qualify for sponsorship, the primary purpose of the Company Standalone Event must be the provision of medical education. Sponsorship of Company Standalone Events which are in-hospital/institutional but lack medical education are therefore not permitted.</p> <p>v. Company Standalone Events must comply with meals limits, venue appropriateness.</p>
<p>7.5.3 Educational Material & Items of Medical Utility</p> <p>Text or reference books/information, subscription to on-line journals and other educational materials may be given to health care providers if they serve a genuine educational function as follows:</p> <p>i) Private Specialists/General Practitioners/Public Hospital Doctors – less than \$1000 per HCP per year.</p> <p>ii) Public/Restructured Hospital Clinical Departments e.g. NUH Cardiology, SGH Endocrinology, etc. and Private Medical centres/Hospitals – less than \$1,000 per Clinical Department/Private Medical Centre/Hospital per year. However, this is limited to “Healthcare” or “Biomedical” Journals only</p> <p>iii) Items of medical utility may be loaned or provided free of charge provided such items are of modest value and are beneficial to the provision of medical services and for patient care; value of such items should be limited to less than \$200.</p>	<p>7.5.3 Items of Medical Utility</p> <p>i. Both educational materials and items of medical utility should not be offered on more than an occasional basis (i.e. not more than 2 occasions per HCP per year), even if each individual item is appropriate. Items of medical utility are items that:</p> <p>(a) are intended for the direct education of HCPs and/or patients and are beneficial to the provision of medical services and for patient care; and</p> <p>(b) do not have value to HCPs outside of the scope of their practice and educational need.</p> <p>ii. Items of medical utility may be provided free of charge provided such items do not offset and/or subsidise routine business expenses that a HCP might otherwise incur and the value of such items should be limited to less than S\$200 per item.</p> <p>iii. Medical related text or reference books/information, subscription to on-line journals and other educational materials may be given to HCPs if they serve a genuine educational function, but subject to the following limits:</p> <p>(a) Private Specialists/General Practitioners/Public Hospital Doctors – less than S\$1000 per HCP per year. However, this is limited to healthcare or biomedical journals only.</p> <p>(b) Public Hospitals and Private Medical Centres/Hospitals – less than S\$1,000 per Clinical Department/Private Medical Centre/Hospital per year. However, this is limited to healthcare or biomedical journals only.</p>