Investigator Training Program

Research Integrity

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SUNY Upstate Medical University
Today I will address these two issues

1. Why should we be concerned about conflicts of interest?

2. The new Upstate Policy on Relations with the Pharmaceutical, Medical Device, and Biotechnology Industries
1. Why should we be concerned about conflicts of interest?
Ghostwriters in the Sky
At the request of John Kromer, Jr., I am providing you with an update on development and estimated delivery dates for various publications related to VIOXX that STI is working on.

1) Rofecoxib for the Treatment of Pain: Role of COX-2 Inhibitors for the Treatment of Nonmalignant Pain
   - intended author: Nomi Sogin, MD
   - intended journal: Analgesia
   - estimated delivery of Draft 2 to Merck: 10/22

2) Clinical Implications of Drug Interactions with COX-2 Inhibitors
   - intended author: William Gion, PharmD
   - intended journal: Pharmacotherapy
   - estimated delivery of Draft 2 to Merck: 10/22 (John Romankiewicz recently e-mailed you Draft 1 of this manuscript)

3) Overview of Clinical Pharmacology and Clinical Experience with Rofecoxib
   - intended author: Adrian Weaver, MD
   - intended journal: American Journal of Medicine or Archives of Internal Medicine
   - estimated delivery of Draft 1 to Merck: 11/5

4) Review of Pharmacology and Clinical Experience with Rofecoxib for Osteoarthritis
   - intended author: Mark Rosenblatt, MD
   - intended journal: Journal of Rheumatology
   - estimated delivery of Draft 1 to Merck: 10/29
“Drug companies now finance most clinical research on prescription drugs, and there is mounting evidence that they often skew the research... to make their drugs look better...

“[S]ponsoring companies... often design the studies; perform the analysis; write the papers; and decide whether, when, and in what form to publish the results.”

“In addition to grant support, faculty investigators often have other financial ties to the sponsors of their research. They serve as paid consultants and members of speakers’ bureaus and advisory boards and sometimes even have equity interest.”
Investigators, educators, and clinicians have similar commitments to the integrity of their work.

I will not allow conflicting interests to come between me and the integrity of

- my research
- my teaching
- my duties to my patient
2. Policy on Relations with the Pharmaceutical, Medical Device, and Biotechnology Industries

Full policy and summary on the Upstate iPage under “Policy on Industry Relations”

or go to

Organization of the Document

Section 1. Patient Care and Education

Section 2. Research and Training of Scientists

Section 3. Personal Financial Interests of University Leadership in Industry

Section 4. Conflict of Commitment

Section 5. Policy Implementation
This policy establishes expectations for behavior in relations with [Industry] in accordance with the expressed values of SUNY Upstate Medical University.

It is intended to guide interactions with Industry so that... integrity is maintained while we care for patients, teach clinicians, scientists, and students, and carry out biomedical research.

We also interact with other industries that are not named specifically in this policy. With regard to those interactions, we should maintain a standard of reasonable conduct that is consistent with the intent of this policy.
Gifts

- Gifts from research sponsors are prohibited.
- Travel related to conducting research is not considered a gift.
All inventors and developers of intellectual property must declare their personal financial interests and those of their family (spouse, domestic partner, or child) prior to the start of licensing.
Research and Sponsored Projects

Anyone involved in the conduct or reporting of Industry-sponsored research must report:

- any conflict related to the research
- any money they receive from sponsors

Incentives for enrolling subjects are prohibited.
Effects of prolonged recumbency on integumentary hypertrophy in students of medicine.

Intended author: We need a SUNY Upstate grad
Intended journal: J Remarkable Results 2010
Faculty should inform students of their relations with industry
Faculty must report...

- financial arrangements that exceed $1,000 from any single company annually

- equity interests in Industry

- service as an officer, director, advisor, etc., of an Industry entity
And now,

Dr. Nancy Nussmeier