




CPD Code of Ethics






The Saudi Commission for Health Specialties (SCFHS) strongly encourages healthcare professionals to adhere to the highest ethical standards in all aspects of healthcare practice. In the conduction of Continuous Professional Development (CPD) activities, the SCFHS further requires strict compliance with ethical guidelines. CPD activities are essential to the development and maintenance of the knowledge, skills, and competencies of healthcare practitioners.

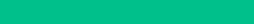
In this document, the SCFHS identifies the best ethical practices that all CPD stakeholders- e.g.; regulators, providers, and participants, must abide by in the reporting, promotion, implementation, and attendance of these activities. Stakeholders are reminded that CPD is not only integral to individual professional development but is also crucial to the delivery of competent, effective, and safe healthcare. These guidelines serve as prerequisite principles necessary for fulfilling compliance requirements.

Ethical Obligations of CPD providers:

All CPD providers, including host organizations, leaders, coordinators, scientific committee members, and speakers must:

1. Ensure that all CPD activities are designed, announced, and presented in accordance with the professional, educational, and ethical standards of the SCFHS.
2. Adhere to the disclosure and compliance standards of the SCFHS.
3. Design CPD content and deliver activities that further the professional development of practitioners, promote understanding of scientific advancements, and support the acquiring of knowledge, skills, and competencies necessary for the delivery of high-quality healthcare.
4. Refrain from conducting CPD activities for the purpose of promoting or benefiting a product or a service, and ensure CPD content that is coherent, consistent, and relevant to the target audience.
5. Recognize and refrain from both direct and indirect plagiarism in the promotion and conduction of CPD activities, including but not limited to, the re-use of scientific programs or content without proper and clear citation, copyright, or authorization from the original source.

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6. Ensure accurate registration and reporting of participant attendance hours.
 7. Promote and invite only credentialed speakers and instructors who have legitimate and relevant expertise to the subject.
 8. Ensure the accurate representation of all requirements reported to the SCFHS for approval or accreditation, including but not limited to, duration, date, scientific content, sponsoring bodies, speaker qualifications, and target audiences. This is especially required by the scientific committee.
 9. Adhere to, promote, and deliver only SCFHS approved programs and content.
 10. Acknowledge the potential for bias- both negative and positive, and ensure delivered content is objective, well-balanced, and free from undue influence.
 11. Prevent funding organizations from interfering in the scientific content of CPD activities and ensure that educational material is free from advertising.
 12. Maintain quality, objective, and beneficial content when conducting CPD activities sponsored or funded by external organizations with a relevant financial interest.
 13. Refrain from partnering with unknown, illegitimate, or unrecognized parties to sponsor, fund, or promote CPD activities.

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14. Avoid all real- or the appearance of- conflict of interest by disclosing all potential incompatible commitments or influences, whether financial, administrative, educational, professional, or otherwise, and make every attempt to recognize and manage the potential for conflict of interest.
 15. Keep accurate and updated records, including those related to all funding and sponsoring activities.
 16. Safeguard equitable learning opportunities and ensure fair and unbiased registration channels and event promotion.
 17. Attend and complete work directly, and refrain from sharing credentials with others, or directing others to finish their tasks or responsibilities.

Ethical Obligations of CPD Participants:

All healthcare practitioners participating in CPD activities must:

1. Recognize their professional and ethical obligations to remain updated with developments in their specialty, improve their skills and competencies, and further their education as appropriate for their practice and to better meet the needs of their patients.
2. Strive to participate in accredited and professionally recognized activities.
3. Exercise critical judgment when registering for and attending CPD activities, particularly regarding the validity and objectivity of the scientific content.
4. Identify and report potential bias or conflict of interest affecting the quality and objectivity of the presented content.
5. Identify and report any willfully false misrepresentation in the promotion of CPD activities.
6. Refrain from seeking credit for uncompleted or unattended activities.
7. Ensure they do not falsify or misreport their attendance or participation in CPD activities.
8. Decline compensation or incentives to complete CPD activities offered by any entity.
9. Limit their participation to CPD activities related to their discipline and benefiting to their practice.
10. Make every attempt to complete and respond to evaluation and feedback forms as required by the SCFHS and individual CPD providers.

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