



**DISCLOSURE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
COL.ASCO.ORG**

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the ASCO Conflict of Interest Disclosure Management System (coi.asco.org)?

ASCO has used its own database to record and store information about relationships with companies since 2014, known as the ASCO COI Disclosure Management System. The Disclosure Management System serves as a centralized place for volunteers, members and participants in ASCO activities to manage their disclosures of financial relationships with for-profit health care companies and other relationships that may impact their ASCO activities. If a disclosure established in the Disclosure Management System is current (within 2 years), it will be used for all ASCO activities that require conflict of interest disclosure, including volunteer service, meeting faculty roles, abstract submission, ASCO journal manuscript submissions, editorial roles, and others.

2. What is the purpose of the Disclosure Management System?

The purpose of this system is to provide participants in ASCO activities with a place to keep their conflict of interest disclosures “on file” to be used for multiple activities. The Disclosure Management System is designed for convenience, so disclosures can be accurately completed and stored electronically.

The Disclosure Management System requests “general” or universal disclosure of all relationships with for-profit health care companies, regardless of the subject matter. General disclosure allows participants in ASCO activities to disclose one time, instead of filling out a separate form for each ASCO activity. In addition to providing convenience for the discloser, this improves transparency across activities. General disclosure is easier to administer because ASCO has just one format for receiving and storing disclosures. In addition, general disclosure leaves the determination of relevance up to the audience rather than the discloser themselves.

3. If I’m not an ASCO member, can I establish a disclosure in the Disclosure Management System?

Yes. If you have an account on ASCO.org, you can establish a disclosure in the Disclosure Management System.

All users of the Disclosure Management System must access it through their ASCO.org account. If you do not already have an ASCO account, you must create an account on ASCO.org. Once you are logged in, select “COI” to establish a disclosure in the system. If you already have an account but need assistance logging in, please contact ASCO Customer Service at customerservice@asco.org or at 888-282-2552 for assistance.

4. What relationships do I have to disclose in the Disclosure Management System?

The disclosure questions ask about your financial relationships with healthcare companies that could be perceived to influence your work or your professional activities. You will be prompted to answer questions about your relationships in 11 required categories and offered 2 optional categories for further disclosure. Disclose interactions and relationships with any company that could be considered broadly relevant to your work in oncology, regardless of the particular subject matter. You are required to report relationships with companies that you or your immediate family member/s currently hold or have held for the past 2 years.

ASCO uses the definition of a “Company” as defined in the [Council of Medical Specialty Societies Code](#) as “a for-profit entity that develops, produces, markets, or distributes drugs, devices, services, or therapies used to diagnose, treat, monitor, manage, and alleviate health conditions. The definition is not intended to include non-profit entities, entities outside of the healthcare sector, or entities through which physicians provide clinical services directly to patients.”

Additionally, there are two optional categories where disclosers can provide more information if they wish: 1) any relationship that is Uncompensated but otherwise meets the disclosure criteria; and 2) an option to include one’s personal link to the US federal Open Payments database.

5. What is the Open Payments database? Why should I include my Open Payments link?

Open Payments is a US government database of industry reported payments and other transfers of value made to US-licensed physicians. Industry reported information in the Open Payments database is available to the public, and some individuals choose to provide links to their personal Open Payments page. ASCO publishes the personal links of those who choose to provide the links.

ASCO publishes this information for convenience only and does not warrant the accuracy of Open Payments information. Because Open Payments information is reported by drug and device companies, you may be unaware of payments that have been posted in your name. While providing your link is optional, ASCO encourages all disclosers to consult their Open Payments record to make any necessary updates to their ASCO disclosure. Providing your Open Payments link does not replace your responsibility to complete the other questions in ASCO’s disclosure form.

6. Should I disclose financial relationships with government or non-profit entities?

You can but you are not required to. When disclosing relationships in accordance with the ASCO Policy for Relationships with Companies, required disclosure is limited to for-profit health care companies. This does not include government agencies, charitable foundations, academic institutions and other non-profit entities.

7. What if I want to disclose an oncology-related financial relationship that does not fit into any of the disclosure categories?

The “Other Relationship” category gives you the opportunity to report other relationships or activities that could be perceived to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, your work or your professional activities.

8. Who can view my disclosure?

Disclosures are not available to the public, unless you set your disclosure to “Public” using the Share Disclosure feature on the COI Dashboard that appears when you log in to the Disclosure Management System. Disclosure reports are published with manuscripts and abstracts and can be seen by anyone with access to the journal or abstract, and are viewable by anyone with the link. Review of disclosures for volunteer activities will depend upon the activity and are always available to ASCO staff. If you have questions, please contact ASCO staff or email coi@asco.org.

9. I can't remember the last time I updated my disclosure. How can I tell?

The date of when you last updated your disclosure is displayed directly on the dashboard and at the top of your disclosure report.

10. I filled in all the categories where I have a relationship, but the disclosure appears incomplete.

You must select "NO" for the mandatory categories where you have nothing to disclose. You must click Confirm at the bottom of the disclosure in order to save your changes.

11. Do I have to use the disclosure in the Disclosure Management System (coi.asco.org) for all ASCO activities? Can I opt not to?

Disclosers are strongly encouraged to use the Disclosure Management System to maintain consistency and accuracy of disclosure. However, abstract authors can opt not to use the Disclosure Management System for meeting abstract submissions and disclose directly within the submission website. Any information you enter into the abstract submission will *not* be transferred back to the Disclosure Management System.

In the interest of preventing duplicate accounts, which can result in inaccurate disclosures, ASCO strongly encourages disclosers to use the same email address for all disclosures.

12. Is additional assistance available if I have any questions about coi.asco.org?

Yes, please contact coi@asco.org with any questions or concerns regarding the Disclosure Management System.

