



# Sponsor Influences on the Quality and Independence of Health Research: A Workshop

December 14-16, 2022, 11:00 am – 2:00 pm (ET)

## PURPOSE

Human health and medical research is funded by governments, philanthropic organizations, and private industry. Research may be biased by the source of the funding through the research portfolio scope; specific questions asked; experimental design; choice of principal investigator; result reporting, analysis, dissemination, and communication; data availability, and re-analysis and replication. This workshop will explore structures, processes, and principles to ensure high quality health research independent of the influence of research sponsors.

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**Wednesday, December 14, 2022**

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## SESSION 1 – DO SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS INFLUENCE RESEARCH?

**Session Moderator: Lonnie King, The Ohio State University**

**11:00**

### Welcome

LONNIE J. KING, THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

**11:15**

### Overview of the Evidence on Sponsor Influence

LISA BERO, UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO

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## SESSION 2 – PROTECTION OF RESEARCH INTEGRITY

**Session Moderator: Aaron Kesselheim, Harvard**

- 12:15**      **Research Integrity in Extramural Research at the National Institutes of Health**  
PATRICIA VALDEZ, NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH
- 12:35**      **Gaining Sponsor Support, While Maintaining Scientific Independence**  
DANIEL GREENBAUM, HEALTH EFFECTS INSTITUTE
- 12:55**      **Application of Corporate Ethical Policies and Governance Processes, with a Focus on Bioethics**  
CLIVE GREEN, ASTRAZENECA UK
- 1:15**      **Panel Discussion: Where are the Points of Influence on Scientific Research**  
SESSION SPEAKERS ABOVE; NICHOLAS CHARTRES, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO; GARY RUSKIN, U.S. RIGHT TO KNOW

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**Thursday, December 15, 2022**

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## SESSION 3 – EXAMPLES OF SPONSOR INFLUENCE OF HEALTH RESEARCH

**Session Moderator: Ross McKinney, Association of American Medical Colleges**

- 11:05**      **Protecting Public Health in the Face of Corporate Disinformation**  
DAVID MICHAELS, GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
- 11:25**      **The Intended and Unintended Consequences of Health Technology and Observational Real-World Evidence**  
ADRIAN HERNANDEZ, DUKE
- 11:45**      **Industry Funding Bias in Nutrition Science on Ultraprocessed Foods: A Cautionary Tale**  
LAURA SCHMIDT, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO
- 12:05**      **It's What You Don't See That Counts: A Peek Behind the Smokescreen**  
MARTIN MCKEE, LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE AND TROPICAL MEDICINE
- 12:25**      **Can Data and A.I. Make it Easier to Manage the Impacts of Conflicts of Interest?**  
ADAM DUNN, UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY
- 12:45**      **Sponsor Influence in Diabetes Research: An Industry Case Study**  
DEAN SCHILLINGER, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO
- 1:05**      **Panel Discussion**  
SESSION SPEAKERS ABOVE; CARY GROSS, YALE UNIVERSITY
- 2:00**      **Adjourn**

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## SESSION 4 – MODELS, PROCESSES, AND PRINCIPLES USED TO PROTECT THE INDEPENDENCE AND QUALITY OF RESEARCH

Session Moderator: C. K. Gunsalus, National Center for Professional Research Ethics

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| <b>11:00</b> | <b>Welcome</b><br>C.K. GUNSALUS  |
| <b>11:05</b> | <b>A Deep Dive into Professionalism: Policy Solutions to Conflicts of Interest</b><br>SUNITA SAH, CORNELL  |
| <b>11:30</b> | <b>Role of the Sponsor (Funder) in Research Studies</b><br>RITA REDBERG, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO   |
| <b>11:55</b> | <b>Alternatives to Industry: Seeking Independence in Biopharmaceutical Research</b><br>QUINN GRUNDY, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO   |
| <b>12:20</b> | <b>Protecting the Scientific Integrity of the IARC Monographs</b><br>VINCENT COGLIANO, CALEPA OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT   |
| <b>12:45</b> | <b>Addressing Conflicted Research in Evidence Synthesis</b><br>CRAIG UMSCHIED, AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY  |
| <b>1:10</b>  | <b>Panel Discussion: How to Protect Independence of Research</b><br>SESSION SPEAKERS ABOVE, TRACEY WOODRUFF, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO; JOEL LEXCHIN, YORK UNIVERSITY TORONTO CANADA |
| <b>2:00</b>  | <b>Adjourn</b>   |