Disclosure of Relevant Financial or Non-financial/Strategic Business Relationships or Partnerships

ASBrS 2026 Regional Course
Beginner Oncoplastic Surgery Skills Course with Breast Surgery Simulator Lab
The American Society of Breast Surgeons
November 7, 2026

The Society is charged with ensuring its CME activities are balanced, independent, objective, and scientifically rigorous, through, but not limited to, by identifying and mitigating relevant financial relationships or non-financial/strategic business relationships or partnerships (relationships) between individuals in control of educational content and ineligible companies. By identifying and mitigating relevant relationships, we work together to create a protected space to learn, teach, and engage in scientific discourse free from influence from individuals that may have an incentive to insert commercial bias into a CME activity.

As a CME provider accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the ASBrS requires individuals in control of the educational content of a CME activity (including but not limited to, authors, content reviewers, editors, education-based committees, and ASBrS staff) to disclose all financial and non-financial/strategic business relationships or partnerships (relationships) with ACCME-defined ineligible company, within the 24 months prior to their involvement with the CME activity. An ineligible company is a company whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients. Please review the following examples at https://accme.org/rule/eligibility/.

Individuals in control of educational content must review and adhere to the 'ASBrS CME Activity Disclosure Policy' as well as complete the applicable ASBrS Disclosure Form at the time they are invited to participate in a CME activity. ASBrS committee members (volunteers) are also required to review and adhere to the 'ASBrS Volunteer Conflict of Interest Policy'. Participation is not confirmed without the completion of the disclosure form and will be contingent upon mitigation, if necessary.

Owners or employees of ineligible companies are excluded from controlling content or participating as planners or faculty in a CME activity. The ***owners*** and ***employees*** of ineligible companies are considered to have unresolvable financial relationships and must be excluded from participating as planners or faculty and must not be allowed to influence or control any aspect of the planning, delivery, or evaluation of accredited continuing education.

There are three exceptions to this exclusion—owners or employees of ineligible companies can participate as planners or faculty in these specific situations:

a. When the content of the activity is not related to the business lines or products of their employer/company.
b. When the content of the accredited activity is limited to basic science research, such as pre-clinical research and drug discovery, or the methodologies of research, and they do not make care recommendations.
c. When they are participating as technicians to teach the safe and proper use of medical devices, and do not recommend whether or when a device is used.

To assist all CME planners and contributors in identifying relevant relationships, ASBrS staff provides a sample list of typical relevant relationships and possible methods for mitigation –as well as examples of non-compliant actions. However, this list is not an exhaustive list of all scenarios. Participants are required to disclose all possible competing interests, both financial and non-financial, that could interfere with, or could reasonably be perceived as interfering with, their ability to provide objective and valuable contributions to the ASBrS CME activity. All identified relevant relationships are mitigated prior to the education activity being delivered to learners per ACCME Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education. The inability to mitigate an identified relevant relationship results in the participant's withdrawal from participation in the CME activity. A list of disclosures from all CME planners and contributors, as well as all potential and actual mitigation methods (including any instances of non-compliance), are documented and maintained by ASBrS staff. This list is made available to all CME activity planners.

The non-compliance process is initiated when an individual's (in control of educational content of the CME activity) *undisclosed* relationship(s) with an ineligible company is identified or reported during or after the CME activity. The Board of Directors, CME Committee, Ethics Committee, and applicable committee chair(s) will discuss the act of noncompliance and agree upon a resolution.

Oversight

The CME Committee and Ethics Committees ensure that there is no commercial bias or influence in ASBrS CME activities. They work together to ensure proper conflict management. Members of these committees serve as additional oversight, participating and observing ASBrS CME activities to look for any evidence of bias and ensure compliance with the ASBrS policies.

Reporting Conflicts

Participants of any ASBrS CME activity may report any improprieties on the applicable evaluation form and to the CME and Ethics Committee at cme@breastsurgeons.org.

Please note we have advised speakers it is their responsibility to also disclose at the start of their presentation if they will be describing the use of a device, product, or drug that is not FDA approved or the off-label use of an approved device, product, or drug or unapproved usage.

The following individuals and groups have been involved in the planning, review, implementation, approval, evaluation, and/or oversight of this activity. All disclosed relationships are within the 24 months prior to their involvement with the CME activity. <u>All relevant disclosed relationships have been mitigated by a designated CME Committee Official.</u>

The following planners and faculty have no relevant financial disclosures:

Course Planner:
Kristalyn Gallagher, DO

Course Moderators:
Carrine Anderson, MD
Kristalyn Gallagher, DO

Workshop Moderators:
Carrine Anderson, MD
Kristalyn Gallagher, DO

Workshop Faculty:
Patricia Clark, MD
Janie Grumley, MD
Katherine Koplash, MD
Tam Mai, MD
Stephanie Valente, DO

Pre-recorded didactic faculty:
Sadia Khan, DO
Stephanie Valente, DO
Kirstyn Brownson, MD
Patricia Clark, MD
Janie Grumley, MD
Amanda Woodworth, MD
Katherine Kopkash, MD
Kristalyn Gallagher, DO

Program Approver

The following approver has no relevant disclosures.

- Eric Manahan, MD, MBA, FASBrS

CME Committee (Reviewers, Regulatory)

The following committee member has no relevant financial disclosures:

- Jillian Lloyd, MD (Chair)

Ethics Committee (Oversight)

The following committee member has no relevant financial disclosures:

- Cindy Matsen, MD (Chair)

Staff

The following staff have no relevant financial disclosures:

- Tomi Okanlawon, Education Specialist
- Tekoah White, Director, Education and Fellowship Training