I. Introduction
The organizations participating in the Global Vascular Guidelines are committed to the precept of developing trustworthy clinical practice guidelines through transparency and full disclosure by those participating in the process of guideline development.

The tenets of the policy as set forth below are reflective of the desire to maintain a balanced approach in the guidelines development process. Ensuring that industry will have no influence on the clinical content and recommendations of the clinical guideline is fundamental to a trustworthy and independent document. Conversely, it is acknowledged that a healthy relationship between content experts and industry when properly managed and transparent may bring value to the process and the final document.

II. Scope
All co-editors, steering committee members, and authors are required to disclose relationships with industry and other relevant entities as defined in Section III.

III. Disclosure Categories
The required categories for disclosure and their respective examples are as follows:

- **Industry income** – Monies received from biomedical companies, device manufacturers, pharmaceutical companies or other companies producing products related to the field.

- **Industry relationships** –
  - Serve as an officer, board member, trustee, owner or employee of a company;
  - Direct owner of stock, stock options, or bonds of a company (excludes diversified mutual funds);
  - Consultancy, scientific advisory committee membership, or lecturer for a company (required to disclose regardless of income; if income must disclose amount; please note that disclosure is not required for an honorarium paid by a university, hospital, or medical society for a lecture that has received an unrestricted funding);
  - Investigator for a company, including holding research grants from the company (disclosure of research funding paid directly to your institution is not required as it does not constitute industry income);
  - Personal income from patents (intellectual property).

IV. Reporting Timeframe and Disclosure Timing
Disclosure is required from all members of the writing group for the past 12 months. Authors are discouraged from adding new relationships during the guideline development process; if relevant relationships are added, they must be disclosed immediately to the co-chairs and verbally disclosed during any
conference calls or meeting, and added to the author disclosure grid. In the event that the required balance is not met, additional members may be added or removed to achieve balance.

Disclosures are made in writing or online prior to the writing initiative to determine eligibility of members to serve and throughout the guideline development process to ensure transparency.

V. COI Requirements by Role
The co-editors of the Global Vascular Guidelines should have less than $10,000 USD in industry income per annum during their work on the guidelines or subsequent revisions.

The majority (>50%) of the steering committee members and guideline authors should have less than $10,000 USD per annum in industry income during their work on the guidelines or subsequent revisions.

The minority of steering committee members and authors allowed additional industry income may have no more than $50,000 per annum (USD) during their work on the guidelines or subsequent revisions.

Guideline reviewers are required to adhere to the same criteria for conflict of interest as the steering committee members and guideline authors.

VI. Review of Disclosures
The Conflict of Interest Committee for each sponsoring organization will review disclosures for relevant conflicts of interest. A member of the steering committee will be appointed to ensure ongoing compliance by committee members and authors.

VII. Industry Involvement
Industry involvement in the development and review process is not permitted.

- Direct industry funding will not be accepted by participating societies to support the Global Vascular Guidelines initiative.
- Part-time, full-time, and paid industry consultants (i.e. advocacy, government affairs, and lobbyists) are prohibited from serving as members of the guidelines writing group and as document reviewers.

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