

American Thyroid Association (ATA) Institutional Conflict of Interest Disclosure

The American Thyroid Association (ATA) has external financial and business relationships with partners in the pharmaceutical and medical industry, which are important for its mission. In order to make these relationships transparent to its members and general public, the ATA has created and made available at its web site this complete Institutional Conflict of Interest Disclosure, which will be updated annually.

The ATA funding SOURCES for FY14 along with their UTILIZATION are described below as a % of total revenue:

- (i) Source: Member dues (approximately 21%): regular fees paid by members to the ATA annually. Utilization: “general office support” and “publications and guidelines”.
- (ii) Source: Donations, gifts or grants from individuals, governmental or non-profit organizations (approximately 14%); cash amounts, mostly less than \$500, given by ATA members and few non-members. Utilization: “support for education”, “research funding” and “endowment”.
- (iii) Source: ATA publications (approximately 10%); money paid to the ATA by a publisher as a result of profits obtained from the commercialization of the ATA sponsored journals. Utilization: “thyroid awareness”, “general office support” and “publications and guidelines”.
- (iv) Source: Pharmaceutical and/or medical devices industry, restricted to Continuing Medical Education (CME) activities (approximately 13%). Utilization: CME activities that serve to maintain, develop, or increase the knowledge, skills, and professional performance and relationships that a physician uses to provide services for patients, the public, or the profession. The content of a CME program is that body of knowledge and skills generally recognized and accepted by the profession as within the basic medical sciences, the discipline of clinical medicine, and the provision of health care to the public. This activity is highly regulated by the Accreditation Council for CME (ACCME; <http://www.accme.org/>) so that the sponsor cannot influence or interfere with the contents of the CME activity. The ATA develops and controls all program content without input or approval by funders.
- (v) Source: Annual meeting registration fees and booth rentals (approximately 40%); fee paid by members and non-members to attend ATA meetings; it also includes the rent paid by commercial vendors to showcase their products such as books, pharmaceuticals, medical equipment, in the “Exhibit Hall”, which is an area restricted to such activities during the ATA meetings. Utilization: “support for education” and “costs of annual meeting”.
- (vi) Source: Pharmaceutical and/or medical devices industry via membership in the Corporate Liaison Council (approximately 2%). Utilization: “costs of annual meeting”.