



## **Policy for Sponsored Sessions**

### **Preamble**

The Dental Prosthetists Association of Victoria has agreed that it is in the best interests of both Members and the Association to set out the following policy regarding the scientific and clinical independence of CPD presentations, including those given by speakers, sponsored by dental supply houses and others.

### **Principles**

Scientific and clinical sessions should be presented in an impartial manner such that the scientific basis of the activity is not distorted by commercial consideration.

Sponsors are entitled to recognition and appreciation for their financial support and assistance in facilitating presentations by expert speakers.

Those attending have a right to know whether or not the presentation is sponsored, and if it is, that it will not be restricted to products offered by the sponsor.

### **Policy**

That the scientific and clinical presenter should refer to the range of products required to address a particular procedure, and not only those product(s) offered by the sponsor.

Those attending recognized CPD events should be advised of the presenters' relationships with sponsors, if any — preferably by the presenters themselves during introductory remarks.

The financial support offered by the sponsor should be acknowledged formally during the introduction of the presenter and when thanking the presenter.

When companies wish to simply 'demonstrate' a product or a particular range of their own products, they should be advised to set up a course of their own.

While not denying the educational value to the profession of such activities, especially in the case of new products, the Association does not wish, by its co-sponsorship of the activity, to imply its endorsement of the product.

Depending on the level of support, sponsors' logos could be included on the event promotional material and the introductory slides.

This policy should be communicated to both sponsors and speakers during initial discussions about proposed events.

### **Acknowledgement:**

This Policy was adapted from the guidelines developed by The Australian Dental Association Victorian Branch and The University of Melbourne's School of Dental Science.