Conflicts of interest exist when an investigator, or his/her institution, has financial or personal relationships that may compromise or present the appearance of compromising an individual’s, group’s or institution’s judgment in conducting, reviewing, or reporting research. These relationships vary from those with negligible potential to those with great potential to influence judgment, and not all relationships represent true conflicts of interest. A fully information consent is one in which all related financial interests are disclosed.

To facilitate appropriate disclosure of potential conflicts of interest in the informed consent document, the following suggested language is provided. It is not mandatory to use these specific provisions. Language should be modified to fit the specific facts and circumstances.

This study is paid for by [name of sponsor] which [has no financial interest in its outcome] or [owns the {drug} or {device} being tested and thus has a financial interest in the outcome of the study]. Payments are made to Weill Cornell Medical College (WCMC) and the funds are used to cover the expenses of the study and related academic and research activities of the institution. [The investigators and the Weill Cornell Medical College do not have any financial interest in the outcome of the study] (or) [insert disclosure or potential conflict(s) of interest by investigator(s) and/or institution(s); using such statements as the following:

1. The investigator, Dr. (full name), owns [equity or stock] of the company that is paying for the research.
2. The investigator, Dr. (full name), personally receives consulting or other payments from the company that is paying for the research.
3. The Cornell Center for Technology Enterprise & Commercialization (CCTEC), a fully owned subsidiary of Cornell University, owns [equity or stock] in the company that is paying for this study.
4. The investigator, Dr (full name), is an inventor of the [drug, compound, device, etc], for which a patent may be filed by the institution. If the patent is pursued, based on data from this and other research, royalties and other compensation may be received by the institution and the investigator. Thus, WCMC and the investigator have a financial interest in the outcome of this study.

If you require further information regarding the financial arrangements described in this paragraph, you should discuss the matter with the Office of Research Integrity at phone number 646-962-8200.

Guidance for Conflicts of Interest (COI) Disclosure in Publications and Presentations

Financial and/or Intellectual Property (IP) interests must also be disclosed in all related publications, presentations and press releases.

Questions about the WCMC Study-Specific Reporting (SSR) can be directed to the Office of Research Integrity, Conflicts Management Office at conflicts@med.cornell.edu.