



Official American College of Cardiology Foundation Embargo Policies for ACC.08

In light of increased attention to how research results (particularly those affecting the stock of publicly-traded companies) are released publicly, the American College of Cardiology Foundation (ACCF) is clarifying its policies governing the disclosure of scientific research results contained in late-breaking clinical trial presentations and abstracts. Please read the following carefully. Anyone determined by the College to have violated the embargo policies may be withdrawn from the program or sanctioned as deemed necessary.

Late-Breaking Clinical Trials (LBCT)

- All authors, presenters, company sponsors, attendees, journalists and/or anyone with knowledge of embargoed content must comply with ACC embargo policies, which state that scientific study results presented during the Annual Scientific Session must not be released publicly prior to the time of presentation at ACC.08 or the ACC-sponsored press conference, *whichever comes first*.
- Some, though not all, LBCTs may be selected for an ACC press conference. LBCTs not selected for a press conference remain under embargo until the time of the presentation.
- Presentation or discussion of scientific research results at satellite meetings or press conferences prior to the scheduled Annual Scientific Session scientific presentation is strictly forbidden.
- In the event that media representatives contact authors, presenters and/or company sponsors, any information must be given with the understanding that scientific research results are to remain under embargo until the time of presentation or ACC-sponsored press conference. Responsibility for information shared in this manner rests solely with the disclosing authors, presenters and/or company sponsors.
- Authors, presenters, company sponsors, attendees, journalists and/or anyone with knowledge of embargoed content must seek prior ACC approval before publicly revealing any embargoed content for any reason. The ACC leadership, press staff and meeting co-chairs will be available to work with the disclosing party to develop an acceptable release of the required information if specific disclosures (e.g., SEC requirements) must be met or in the case of public health concerns.

These policies will be strictly enforced and swift disciplinary action taken for breaches.

General Abstracts

- All abstracts submitted in connection with ACC.08 are disclosed to members of the peer review selection committee, as well as to ACC employees and contractors as necessary.

- Abstracts accepted for presentation will be published in the March 2008 issue of the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*. Abstracts not accepted for presentation are not published and will not be disclosed outside of ACC and persons associated with the selection process (e.g., the peer review committee).
- Although ACC and ACC employees or contractors cannot guarantee the confidentiality of submitted abstracts, every effort will be made to ensure confidentiality of submitted material.
- Primary responsibility for compliance with any disclosure or nondisclosure requirements resides solely with researchers and/or research sponsors.

Simultaneous Peer-Reviewed Journal Publication

If presented work is to be published in a peer-reviewed publication concurrent with the Annual Scientific Session, it is the sole responsibility of the author or presenter to notify the ACC press office of the publication's name and date of publication. This will allow ACC to work with the publication to coordinate embargo of the material.

All questions and requests regarding ACC's embargo policies must be submitted **in writing** to:

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