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## MJA article on conflict of interest – a response

The issues raised by the MJA article are important and all universities strive to ensure the right balance on how staff and students engage with the industry.

Much of this is achieved relying on the guidelines set both by Industry and Medical Colleges, as well as individual University-wide policies on conflict of interest.

A lot of work has been done on conflict-of-interest issues across many universities in the past 18 months, for example at Melbourne University, where a policy framework will be completed this year that will cover all our Health Professional courses, students and staff.

While this issue is the domain of individual universities, Medical Deans will continue to examine whether there is a need for best-practice guidelines that can be adopted across all Australian universities.

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