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Guideline Update for Article on Pharmaceutical Industry-Sponsored Meals

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To the editor:

The published version our article “Pharmaceutical Industry–Sponsored Meals and Physician Prescribing Patterns for Medicare Beneficiaries”¹ referenced an outdated version of the American Medical Association (AMA) Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs’ Guidelines, Opinion E-8.061: Gifts to Physicians from Industry. The current guideline states that physicians should (a) decline cash gifts in any amount from an entity that has a direct interest in physicians’ treatment recommendations; (b) decline any gifts for which reciprocity is expected or implied; and (c) accept an in-kind gift for the physician's practice only when the gift (i) will directly benefit patients, including patient education; and (ii) is of minimal value. The correction appearing with this letter updates our article to reflect the change and the original article has been corrected online.

1. Dudley RA, DeJong C, Aguilar TU, et al. Pharmaceutical Industry–Sponsored Meals and Physician Prescribing Patterns for Medicare Beneficiaries. *JAMA Intern Med.* 2016;176(6.3). doi: 10.1001/jamainternmed.2016.2765.