

Continued from previous page

CME changes knowledge, skills, and patient outcomes, he said, adding that surveys have shown that physicians are in favor of industry support.

Dr. Michael Weber, a professor of medicine at the State University of New York, Brooklyn, said that he views pharmaceutical company funding of CME as a mandate, "not a luxury."

The manufacturers have a responsibility to educate physicians on how to use their products, he said. The pressure for transparency is leading to what Dr. Weber called censorship. He said that he has had to alter presentations at the request of meeting leaders in this country, whereas a recent appearance at the European Society of Cardiology was completely within his control.

Another physician speaking at the forum, Dr. Jack Lewin, said he had "serious, serious concerns about the recent attacks" on CME. Dr. Lewin, CEO of the American College of Cardiology, said that without industry funding, it would cost the ACC an additional \$2,000 to \$3,000 per attendee at its annual meeting, for instance. The ACC has multiple steps to remove conflicts of interest from its professional and educational programs, he said. And, said Dr. Lewin, the ACC dis-

closes its industry funding on its Web site. About a third of that organization's \$97 million annual budget comes from outside sources (\$35 million), and 21% of that is from charitable contributions, he said.

Dr. Lewin said there had been abuses in the CME arena, but that the move to clamp down on those bad actors had professional societies and pharmaceutical companies running for cover, he said.

There is evidence to support his claim. Public Citizen's Health Research Group, in comments sent Sept. 12 to the ACCME on its proposal to

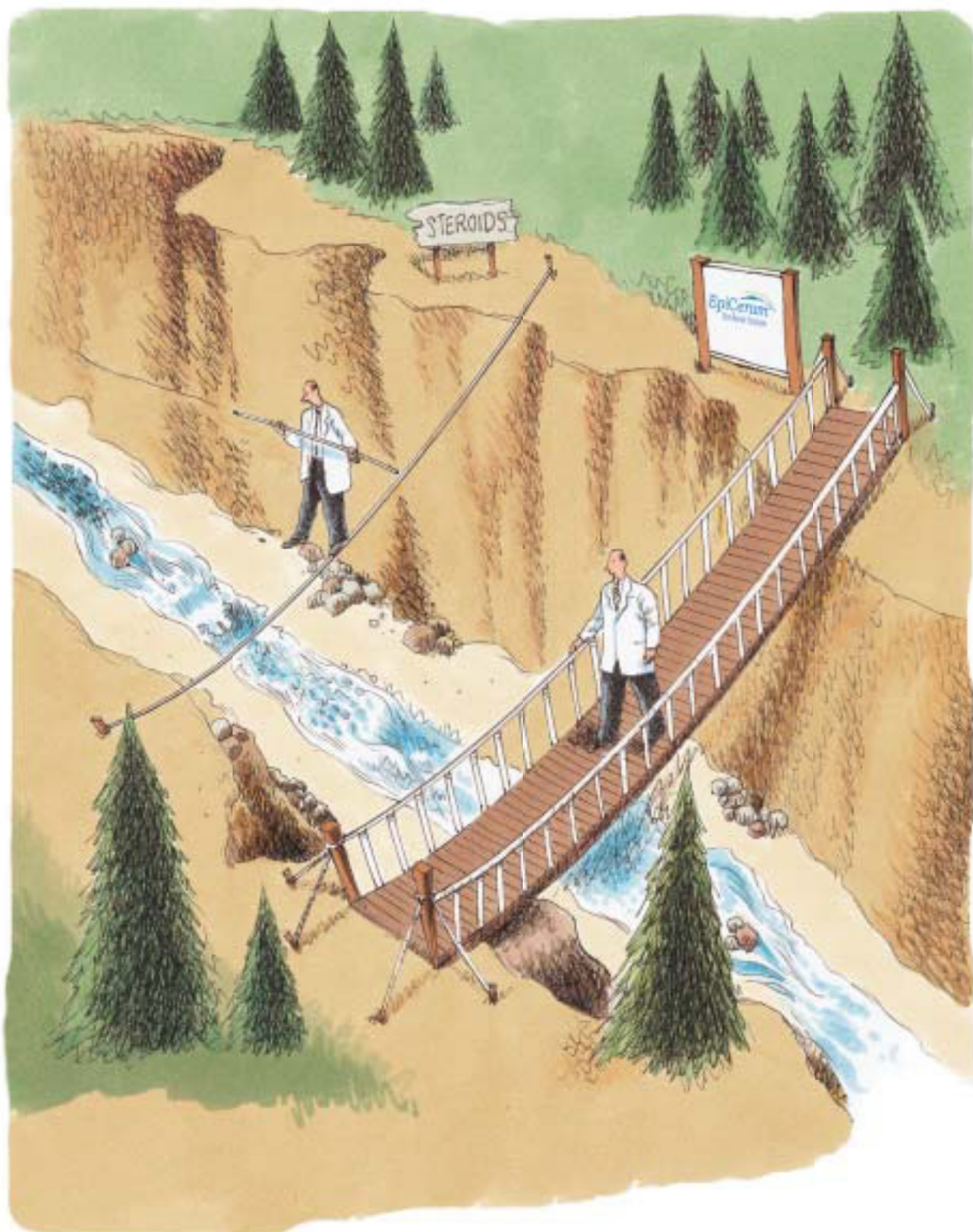
limit or ban industry support of CME, said that, "Despite a quadrupling of commercial support for CME over the past 10 years, in 2007, the percentage of CME income provided by commercial interests actually decreased to 2002 levels."

Public Citizen advocates an end to commercially funded CME. Because CME is a condition of licensure, demand will remain, according to the group. "Shifting the burden of funding toward physicians (not exactly a group occupying the lower rungs of the earning ladder) would attenuate the effect of lost revenue." ■

Healthfinder.gov Undergoes Revamp

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has launched a more accessible version of healthfinder.gov, a federal Web site. The site features links to more than 6,000 government and nonprofit health information resources on hundreds of topics. The site also contains "Quick Guide to Healthy Living," which uses everyday language to encourage users to adopt healthy behaviors, and includes personal health calculators, menu planners, recipes, and tips for caregivers. ■

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT and CIRCULATION (Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685). 1. Publication title: SKIN & ALLERGY NEWS. 2. Publication No. 0037-6337. 3. Filing date: October 22, 2008. 4. Issue frequency: Monthly. 5. No. of issues published annually: 12. 6. Annual subscription price: \$95.00. 7. Complete mailing address of known office of publication: International Medical News Group, 60 Columbia Rd., Bldg. B, Morristown, NJ 07960. 8. Complete mailing address of headquarters or general business office of publisher: International Medical News Group, 60 Columbia Rd., Bldg. B, Morristown, NJ 07960. 9. Full names and complete mailing addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor: President, IMNG, Alan J. Imhoff, IMNG, 60 Columbia Rd., Bldg. B, Morristown, NJ 07960; Executive Director, Editorial, Mary Jo M. Dales, IMNG, 5635 Fishers Lane, Suite 6000, Rockville, MD 20852; Editor, Amy Pfeiffer, IMNG, 5635 Fishers Lane, Suite 6000, Rockville, MD 20852. 10. Owner: Elsevier STM Inc. 6277 Sea Harbor Dr., Orlando, FL 32887. 11. Known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities: None. 12. Publication name: SKIN & ALLERGY NEWS. 13. Issue date for circulation data below: September 2008. 14. Extent and nature of circulation: Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: a. Total number of copies (net press run) 16,048; b. Legitimate paid and/or requested distribution (by mail and outside the mail) (1) Individual paid/requested mail subscriptions stated on PS Form 3541 7,963 (2) Copies requested by employers for distribution to employees by name or position stated on PS Form 3541 58. (3) Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors, counter sales, and other paid or requested distribution outside the USPS 0; (4) Requested copies distributed by other mail classes through the USPS 0; c. Total paid and/or requested circulation 8,020; d. Nonrequested distribution (by mail and outside the mail) (1) Nonrequested copies stated on PS Form 3541 6,743; (2) Nonrequested copies distributed through the USPS by other classes of mail 700; (3) Nonrequested copies distributed outside the mail 158; e. Total nonrequested distribution 7,601; f. Total distribution 15,622; g. Copies not distributed 418; h. Total 16,040; i. Percent paid and/or requested circulation 51.34%. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date a. Total numbers of copies (net press run) 13,631; b. Legitimate paid and/or requested distribution (by mail and outside the mail) (1) Individual paid/requested mail subscriptions stated on PS Form 3541 7,551; (2) Copies requested by employers for distribution to employees by name or position stated on PS Form 3541 50; (3) Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors, counter sales, and other paid or requested distribution outside the USPS 0; (4) Requested copies distributed by other mail classes through the USPS 0; c. Total paid and/or requested circulation 7,601; d. Nonrequested distribution (1) Nonrequested copies stated on PS Form 3541 5,559; (2) Nonrequested copies distributed through the USPS by other classes of mail 146; (3) Nonrequested copies distributed outside the mail 0; e. Total nonrequested distribution 5,705; f. Total distribution 13,306; g. Copies not distributed 325; h. Total 13,631; i. Percent paid and/or requested circulation 55.76%. 15. This Statement of Ownership will be printed in the November 2008 issue of this publication. 16. Signature and title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: Alan J. Imhoff, President, IMNG



Achieving results while minimizing risk is always preferable

EpiCeram[®]
Skin Barrier Emulsion