



ONS Seal of Approval Program Guidelines for Non-CE Educational Content

The Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) developed its Seal of Approval program to assist healthcare professionals and consumers in selecting quality educational materials related to cancer care. The ONS Seal of Approval ensures that the information provided in educational seminars, publications and/or other resources is evidence-based, timely and relevant to practicing oncology nurses and the patients they serve.

For providers of health education resources, the ONS Seal of Approval is a valuable symbol of recognition by one of the most respected organizations in cancer care. As the largest professional membership oncology association in the world, ONS represents more than 39,000 registered nurses and healthcare professionals dedicated to excellence in patient care, education, research, and administration in oncology nursing. To both healthcare professionals and their patients, ONS is synonymous with trusted information.

What is Eligible for ONS Approval?

ONS approval is limited to educational programs and materials related to cancer, cancer care, or nursing. ONS will not endorse products or the company that develops the content. The programs or materials submitted for approval must be consistent with the ONS mission, standards, guidelines, or positions. Examples of programs and materials that would be suitable for approval include, but are not limited to,

- Educational slide presentations including speaker notes.
- Educational web pages (Note: Web sites with fluid or frequently changing content are not eligible).
- Unbranded and branded disease state, dosing and administration, symptom management and patient support materials.
- Informational brochures intended for patient, consumer or professional education.

What is Not Eligible for ONS Approval?

- Resources that do not meet ONS Standards and Guidelines
- Resources that do not meet Health Literacy standards
- Accredited continuing education (CNE) programs
- Pre-diagnosis education
- Advertising/marketing in nature

The Application Review Process

Programs and materials are evaluated on the quality of educational information presented, appropriate reading level for the intended audience, and for consistency with the mission, standards, and guidelines of ONS. The ONS Seal of Approval is valid for one year. If materials will be in use longer than one year, a new application must be submitted to ensure the information is still accurate and relevant. Applications for renewal consideration should be submitted at least 45 days prior to the ONS Seal of Approval expiration date. If a renewal application is not submitted within 30 days from the expiration date, a reminder will be sent. After a grace period of 60 days, a notice will be sent to cease use of the ONS Seal of Approval logo and statement on all materials.

ONS Seal of Approval Guidelines Clinical Review Criteria

Educational resources submitted for the ONS Seal of Approval will be evaluated by ONS clinical experts and must meet all review criteria for approval, including consistency with ONS Policies, Standards and Guidelines and principles of health literacy. Evaluation criteria includes

1. The resource must be educational in nature and
 - a. Must clearly identify the content provider and/or funder(s)
 - b. May include the company logo of the content provider and/or funder
 - c. Can include nursing content, nursing resources, patient content, and/or content for other healthcare providers
 - d. Product-support information for nurses, patients and caregivers (post-diagnosis)
 - i. Examples of resources eligible for review include:
 1. Educational slide decks (include speaker notes)
 2. Educational web pages (Note: Web sites with fluid or frequently changing content are not eligible.)
 3. Unbranded disease state, symptom management and patient support materials
 4. Informational brochures intended for patient, consumer, or professional education (Note: This does not include product information)
2. The resource must be
 - a. Free of bias and include fair balanced information
 - b. consistent with current PhRMA guidelines and other applicable regulatory guidelines
 - c. evidence-based, accurate and clinically relevant
 - d. properly cited with clear references to pertinent and current literature
3. The title must be appropriate and clear
4. The educational program must achieve its stated purpose
5. The content and format must be appropriate for the target audience
6. Content must be well organized and clearly expressed
7. Illustrations, tables, figures, and graphics must be appropriate and clearly understandable
8. The educational program must be consistent with the mission and image of ONS
 - a. The ONS mission is to advance excellence in oncology nursing and quality cancer care
 - b. The ONS **vision** is to lead the transformation of cancer care.
 - c. The ONS core values are innovation, excellence and advocacy.
9. ONS reserves the right to give or withhold its approval
10. Use of the ONS Seal of Approval logo and information conveyed to the public in conjunction with the ONS Seal of Approval Logo and its graphics, must be consistent with the ONS Seal of Approval Standards and shall be subject to the prior review and written approval of the ONS

For Further Information, please contact Tiffany Gentile at SOA.ons.org