



2015 ACOG
Annual Clinical and
Scientific Meeting
San Francisco, CA | May 2-6, 2015



TEAMING UP for WOMEN'S HEALTH

Housing "Pirates" and "Poachers" Policy

When ACOG secures sleeping rooms at hotels for our conferences (commonly referred to as room blocks), we research the properties to make certain that our attendees and exhibitors are adequately accommodated. These room blocks are established to ensure that rooms meet our standards and are offered at a discounted price. ACOG works with J. Spargo & Associates Inc., the official housing provider for the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists' (ACOG) Annual Meeting.

Room poaching is a practice carried out by third-party companies that act as travel agencies, wholesalers or destination management companies to solicit registrants and exhibitors for room reservations for other organization's meetings. The practice of room poaching makes it more difficult for us to meet our room block commitments and exposes ACOG to penalties and increased room rates for our conferences.

Often room poachers may misrepresent themselves as ACOG's official housing provider and registrants and exhibitors may be contacted by fax, email or phone with offers for cut rate housing. The poacher might inform registrants and exhibitors that the hotel room block is "sold out," and that if you do not book with them immediately, you may not get a room. Additional deceptive tactics may include:

- Room poachers may distribute forms or promotional materials that appear to be issued by us.
- Room poachers may not deliver on promises to customers. When customers arrive, reservations are sometimes non-existent or the hotels are not conveniently located.
- Room poachers may seek to represent themselves as being affiliated with us by illegally using our name or logo.

Don't be misled! If you are contacted by anyone asking if you need a room for the 2015 Annual Meeting who is not a representative with J. Spargo & Associates Inc., please get as much information as you can and pass it along to us. Please contact J. Spargo & Associates Inc. at 1-888-319-3864 or at acoghousing@jspargo.com.