

Conflicts of Interest: Pfizer's Secret Collusion With the NIH

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✓ Fact Checked

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STORY AT-A-GLANCE

- › Under the 1984 Bayh-Dole Act, government scientists can collect royalties from drug companies for discoveries they make while working on the public's dime
- › Taxpayers fund government research, while Big Pharma, the National Institutes of Health and NIH scientists keep all the profits
- › As a patent holder who profits from royalties, the NIH has a significant stake in regulations that impact patents and vaccine mandates, and may use its influence to benefit itself rather than the public
- › The NIH distributes \$32 billion of taxpayer funds as research grants each year. As the largest federal grant-maker, the NIH has a monopoly on what research gets done and what doesn't
- › Scientists vying for grants also recognize that in order to get funding, they have to play by the rules, and that means doing work that supports establishment narratives on public health policy

In late February 2023, Moderna agreed to pay \$400 million to the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) for the patent it holds on Moderna's mRNA shot.¹

The patent process is a part of the COVID mRNA shots that the media haven't really addressed and people in general don't know anything about — probably because it's a total racket. Based on internal documents and correspondence, it appears the NIAID

funded the creation of SARS-CoV-2. At the same time, it patented and receives royalty payments for the "vaccine" against said virus.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is supposed to be the primary government agency responsible for public health research, but by the looks of it, it appears instead to be in the business of creating public health threats in order to profit from them.

And the agency itself isn't the only one raking in profits. Many patents are held by individuals working at the NIH/NIAID. So, taxpayers fund research that may or may not work out, while Big Pharma, the NIH and individuals at the NIH profit from products that end up on the market. This is a clear conflict of interest that can hurt public health in any number of ways.

For starters, it incentivizes the NIH to support and promote potentially dangerous drugs, as we've clearly seen during the COVID pandemic. The NIH also has a significant stake in regulations that impact patents and vaccine mandates, and may use its influence to benefit itself rather than the public.

Conflicts of Interest Influence Public Health Policy

In the Full Measure video above, investigative journalist Sharyl Attkisson reports the findings of watchdog group Open The Books, which recently took a deep dive into "the issue of government scientists collecting royalty payments from pharmaceutical companies for discoveries made while working on your dime."

“ The NIH distributes \$32 billion of taxpayer funds as research grants each year. As the largest federal grant-maker, the NIH has a monopoly on what research gets done and what doesn't.”

According to OpenTheBooks.com founder and CEO Adam Andrzejewski, the NIH distributes \$32 billion of taxpayer funds as research grants each year to an estimated

56,000 different entities. "That basically buys you the entire American health care space," he says.

As the largest federal grant-maker, the NIH has a monopoly on what research gets done and what doesn't, as it decides which scientists and projects get that money. Scientists vying for grants also recognize that in order to get a piece of that pie, they have to play by the rules, and that means doing work that supports establishment narratives on public health policy.

But that's not all. The NIH is also gobbling up patents, which further weakens its incentive to protect and promote what's truly in the public's best interest due to the financial conflicts of interest that come into play.

How the Third-Party Royalty Complex Works

As explained by Andrzejewski, under the 1984 Bayh-Dole Act, government scientists can collect royalties from drug companies for discoveries they make while working on the public's dime:

"Here's how the third-party royalty complex works. You have a government scientist funded by taxpayers, and they work in a government lab that's also funded by taxpayers. And when they have an invention [a drug, device or therapeutic] ... the NIH ... then licenses that invention ... to the private sector.

And the private sector then pays royalties back to NIH. NIH then distributes those royalties on a royalty split schedule, back to the scientist. Details of those royalty payments to government scientists are kept as strictly held secrets."

In fact, these royalty payments are kept under such closed wraps, scientists who receive them aren't even required to divulge them on their financial statements, let alone to the public. Congress can't even access those data.

In mid-June 2022, Sen. Rand Paul questioned then-NIAID chief Dr. Anthony Fauci about whether he'd ever received royalty payments from an entity to which he had given a

research grant, and whether he or anyone else on the vaccine committee had ever received payments from vaccine makers.² Fauci suffered one of his now-famous lapses of memory and wouldn't answer.

NIH Fights to Shield Conflicted Parties

Paul's questioning of Fauci came on the heels of a lawsuit filed against the NIH to obtain these payment disclosures. The lawsuit was filed by Open The Books in October 2021. But while the NIH eventually did release them, many of the most crucial pieces of information were redacted, and Paul's attempt to get answers led nowhere. As noted by Andrzejewski:

"That lawsuit unearthed 3,000 pages of royalty payments to NIH scientists from 2010 to 2021. During that time, 2,407 government scientists received \$325 million in secretive royalty payments, averaging out to more than \$135,000 each.

But much is left unknown. NIH redacted or blacked out key details. We don't know who paid it. We don't know how much each individual scientist received. We can only see their names and count the number of times that each scientist received a payment.

And they also redacted the invention, the license number or the patent number ... So, every single one of those individual, third-party royalty payments has the appearance of a conflict of interest ...

We need to be able to follow the money. Unelected bureaucrats are running the entire American health care complex without any scrutiny. They're basically telling the American people, 'Sit down, shut up, pay up. We'll run things.' And that's not how the federal government is supposed to operate."

COVID Jabs Are Rife With Conflicts of Interest

Conflicts of interest also appear to have played a role in the U.S. government's preferential treatment of Pfizer and Moderna during the pandemic. Pfizer was the first to receive government authorization for its COVID jab, and it just so happens to be part of an NIH royalty-sharing agreement.

Moderna also has such an agreement. What this all means is that the NIH helped invent certain technologies that went into these shots, and then licensed those technologies to Pfizer and Moderna in return for royalty payments.

So, the NIH has been making tens of millions of dollars from the COVID shots. Could that financial incentive influence the NIH's stance on vaccine mandates? What do you think?

As you may recall, Johnson & Johnson's COVID jab was vilified for causing blood clots, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration even limited the authorized use of the Janssen shot to people over the age of 18 who have no access to Moderna's or Pfizer's jabs, and/or those who voluntarily opt for the Janssen shot, understanding the risks.³

Meanwhile, Pfizer's and Moderna's shots also cause blood clots, but neither of them was placed under restrictions. Instead, both were added to the U.S. childhood and adult vaccination schedules. Janssen wasn't.

The NIH Royalty Cash Cow

The NIH's secret royalties and the conflicts of interest these payments create were also addressed by "Rising" hosts Robby Soave and Briahna Joy Gray in a recent episode (video above). Alexander Zaitchik, author of "Owning the Sun: A People's History of Monopoly Medicine from Aspirin to COVID-19 Vaccines," also joined them on the program.

In Zaitchik's view, the biggest scandal is not that government scientists are receiving royalty payments from drug companies but, rather, the intimate relationship that exists between government and "an industry that is using the monopoly system to price gouge the American people."

"The NIH has basically abandoned its role to serve the public," Zaitchik says, "and instead has become much too aligned with the industry and is an enabler, an accomplice and a protector of these monopolies. The vaccines are a point in case.

Government science was basically given, along with these massive research subsidies, through Warp Speed, to Moderna, for example. And there were no public interest provisions attached.

There were no pricing promises, there were no requests that technology be transferred [shared] with other parts of the world. It was basically a conveyor belt for private industry ... So, for me, the real problem is NIH [being] fully aligned with industry on the monopoly question when public science is involved ..."

Public Gets Fleeced Coming and Going

When public monies are being used for research, any scientific discoveries ought to be used for the public's benefit, and the patents should remain public property with broad licensing rights.

This used to be the default position, but not anymore. In the 1970s, Big Pharma convinced Congress that this policy was slowing down innovation, and that if companies were allowed to claim exclusive rights to the patents, they'd be more apt to innovate. The Bayh-Dole Act was an outgrowth of this.

But we can now see why and how that doesn't work. Public health is literally being sacrificed for profit, and since government agencies are in on it, there's no one left to look out for the public's interests.

Additionally, the public ends up getting fleeced twice. First, our tax dollars are being used to fund the research that private companies then lay claim to, and then we end up paying top dollar for the products we funded the development of, as there's no price competition.

As noted by Zaitchik, while the Bayh-Dole Act is a bad law, it does have a rider that says generic production of drugs created with government funding can be mandated. However, every time patient groups have approached the NIH and asked for this provision to be enforced, as the monopoly is hurting patients who cannot afford the exorbitant prices, the NIH has rejected those requests.

For example, the U.S. Army invented a breakthrough prostate cancer drug, and Americans are paying six times the price for this drug compared to other parts of the world. But even though the government has the power to lower the price by mandating generic production, it refuses to do so.

"The whole system, up and down, has been completely corrupted by the amount of money and power the industry has been allowed to amass, because of the corruption in the patent system in general," Zaitchik says.

Big Pharma Endangers Public Health

In closing, I'd like to draw attention to a paper published in Surgical Neurology International in October 2022, titled "The Pharmaceutical Industry Is Dangerous To Health. Further Proof With COVID-19."⁴

"The COVID-19 period highlights a huge problem that has been developing for decades, the control of science by industry," the author, Fabien Deruelle, an independent researcher in France, writes.

"In the 1950s, the tobacco industry set the example, which the pharmaceutical industry followed. Since then, the latter has been regularly condemned for illegal marketing, misrepresentation of experimental results, dissimulation of information about the dangers of drugs, and considered as criminal.

Therefore, this study was conducted to show that knowledge is powerfully manipulated by harmful corporations, whose goals are: 1) financial; 2) to suppress our ability to make choices to acquire global control of public health."

Deruelle's paper reviews a long list of techniques that drug companies use to shape and control the science, including the following:

1. Falsification of clinical trials and making data inaccessible
2. Faked studies
3. Conflict-of-interest studies
4. Concealment of the jab's short-term side effects
5. Concealment of the fact there is no knowledge of the long-term effects of the COVID-19 jab
6. Dubious composition of the COVID shots, with many ingredients remaining unlisted
7. Inadequate testing methods
8. Conflicts of interest within governments and international organizations
9. Bribing of physicians
10. Denigration of renowned scientists who express differing views
11. The banning of alternative effective treatments
12. Unscientific countermeasures that eviscerate liberties and freedoms
13. Government use of behavior modification and social engineering techniques to impose isolation, masks wearing and vaccine acceptance
14. Scientific censorship by the media

White Collar Crooks Are Running the Show

Deruelle points out that all but one of the primary drug companies producing COVID "vaccines" — Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca, Merck and Johnson & Johnson — have long criminal histories, having been busted and fined huge sums for illegal marketing, recommending drugs for off-label use, misrepresenting trial results and concealing information about known dangers of their drugs. Moderna is the only exception, as it's only been around since 2010. Deruelle writes:⁵

"In 2007, Merck paid \$670 million, in 2009, Pfizer paid \$2.3 billion, in 2010, AstraZeneca paid \$520 million, and in 2012, Johnson and Johnson paid a fine of \$1.1 billion ...

Since 1995, Pfizer has been assessed more than \$6.5 billion in penalties for 42 instances of misconduct; 36 instances of misconduct since 1995, resulting in over \$11.5 billion in penalties for Johnson and Johnson; 35 instances of misconduct since 1995 and \$8.8 billion in penalties for Merck.

Pfizer is singled out as having persistent criminal behavior and casual disregard for the health and well-being of patients. Pfizer is no different from other pharmaceutical companies, but it is larger and more egregious. Pfizer is a habitual offender, persistently engaging in illegal business practices, bribing physicians, and suppressing unfavorable trial results."

Will Pfizer Stand Trial?

True to form, Pfizer is also accused of scientific fraud in its COVID-19 jab trial. Brook Jackson, who worked at one of Pfizer's trial sites, sued Pfizer in 2021 for violating the False Claims Act.⁶ U.S. District Judge Michael Truncale heard oral arguments on the motions to dismiss, March 1, 2023.

As reported by The Epoch Times March 2, 2023,⁷ defense attorneys for Pfizer argued that "whether protocol violations occurred was ultimately irrelevant because the federal government was made aware of them but still granted emergency authorization to Pfizer's vaccine."

Jackson's lawyers countered by saying the FDA authorized the vaccine before reviewing Jackson's complaint. Judge Truncale has not issued a ruling as of this writing, and Jackson's attorney suspects it may be weeks or even months before the judge issues his opinion.⁸

Conflicts of Interest Shaped COVID Responses

Deruelle also specifically delves into the conflicts of interest and relationships between the drug companies involved during COVID-19 and governments, international organizations and media — and how they worked the COVID "emergency" for their own benefit. Here are some select excerpts:⁹

"In 2009, the H1N1 episode should already have been enough to reveal that governments and the WHO are not autonomous. Work has shown that the 2009 H1N1 pandemic seems (based on case fatality rates [CFRs]) to have been the mildest influenza pandemic on record. Following investigations by the BMJ, it appears that this event declared by the WHO is significantly tainted by conflicts of interest.

A report by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe has heavily criticized the WHO, national governments, and EU agencies for their handling of the swine flu pandemic: distortion of priorities of public health services all over Europe, waste of huge sums of public money, provocation of unjustified fear among Europeans, and creation of health risks through vaccines and medications which might not have been sufficiently tested before being authorized in fast-track procedures.

According to former head of health at the Council of Europe, W. Wodarg, the swine flu outbreak was a false pandemic driven by drug companies that influenced scientists and official agencies ...

During the COVID-19 period, France hired private consulting firms, mainly McKinsey and Company, which is known for working with pharmaceutical companies. The Senate Inquiry Commission reports that McKinsey contributed on all aspects of the health crisis, notably for social engineering strategies on the vaccination campaign and the extension of the health pass ...

The suppression of good science and scientists is not new, but COVID-19 unleashed state corruption on a grand scale, suppressing science for political and financial reasons ... Since the beginning of COVID-19, much scientific data

and expert opinion have been censored or labeled as false or misleading by many internet platforms ...

In June 2019, the World Economic Forum (WEF) and the United Nations signed a partnership (2030 agenda). In the field of health, this alliance is designed to combat key emerging global health threats and achieve universal health coverage. In October 2019, in New York City, the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security and its partners the WEF and the Gates Foundation, hosted Event 201, a fictional coronavirus pandemic ...

Among the partners of the WEF, there are: Pfizer, AstraZeneca, Johnson and Johnson, Moderna, McKinsey, and Facebook et Google. A few months later, a coronavirus pandemic is declared, accompanied by its highly mediatized universal solution, the vaccine ...

In addition to Event 201, other pandemic simulations, civil (MARS and SPARS in 2017) and military (Dark Winter in 2001, Atlantic Storm in 2003 and 2005, Global mercury in 2003, and Crimson Contagion in 2019), have taken place over the past 20 years. All these simulations correspond to fear programs induced by false media.

For the general welfare of the population, all these scenarios lead to the same methods (identical to those used during COVID-19): Isolation, control of movements and liberties, censorship, propaganda, and coercive vaccination of the population ...

[T]here is no doubt that this is an event manipulated by governments, international agencies, pharmaceutical industries, and the media. In addition to the huge profits obtained by the pharmaceutical groups involved, the primary goal of this 'pandemic' seems to be compulsory vaccination, because the introduction of a European vaccine passport had already been planned since 2019 ...

The objective of the WHO is to impose the Chinese model to become the norm. That is to say, a system with centralization of each person's health data and restriction of freedoms for the unvaccinated ... A period such as COVID-19 represents a powerful lever for increasing the effectiveness of global governance."

Conflicts of Interest Threaten Our Freedom

In the final analysis, conflicts of interest and the collusion between government and industry does more than rob us of our hard-earned money. It now threatens our very freedom, as these monopolies are being used to further a totalitarian takeover of global proportions.

As such, we can no longer turn a blind eye or accept excuses such as "these relationships don't influence our decision-making." They absolutely influence the decisions being made, and the public is consistently on the losing end. Congress needs to start taking this seriously, and revisit laws such as the Bayh-Dole Act, which is currently allowing private monopolies to profit while no one is looking out for our interests.

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