

## Financial Ties Between Authors of Anti-340B Articles and the Pharmaceutical Industry

The <u>340B Drug Pricing Program</u> (340B program) is a federal program that requires drug companies to provide drugs to eligible nonprofits and safety net organizations at a discount as a condition of their participation in the Medicaid program. The intent of the program is to allow nonprofits and safety-net providers to "stretch scarce federal resources as far as possible, reaching more eligible patients and providing more comprehensive services." The savings and revenue generated by the 340B program supports care for the uninsured population and services not covered by Medicaid – all at no additional cost to the taxpayer.

The pharmaceutical industry and the interest groups they fund have attacked the 340B program by funding research and publishing articles that promote their ideology to discredit 340B providers and the 340B program. There has recently been a surge in such "research studies" and other articles that question the integrity of the 340B program. Upon investigation, many of the authors and funders have close ties to the pharmaceutical industry, as listed below.

\*\*\*

<u>Left Behind: An Analysis of Charity Care Provided by Hospitals Enrolled in the 340B Discount Program</u>, AIR 340B, https://340breform.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/AIR340\_LeftBehind-v6.pdf (Nov. 2019)

The Alliance for Integrity and Reform of 340B (AIR340B), is a drug company funded group, whose <u>members</u> include PhRMA and BIO, the leading trade associations for drug companies.

<u>Perverse Incentives: HIV Prevention and 340B Drug Pricing Program</u>, Julia L. Marcus, Ph.D., MPH; Amy Killelea, JD; Douglas S. Krakower, MD, New England Journal of Medicine (June 2, 2022)

One of the authors of a New England Journal of Medicine article entitled "Perverse Incentives: HIV Prevention and the 340B Drug Pricing Program," accepted research grant funds from Gilead, the largest manufacturer of HIV prevention drugs, as well as Merck, according to the <a href="Financial Disclosure">Financial Disclosure</a> for the article.

<u>Patient Affordability and Debt Collection at 340B Hospitals</u>, Jonathan K. Larsen, JD, MPP; Sabrina Ruchelli, JD, Temple University Beasley School of Law, Center for Public Health Law and Research (May 2022)

The authors <u>credit</u> the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) for funding their research.

<u>340B Drug Discounts: An Increasingly Dysfunctional Federal Program</u>, William Smith; Josh Archambault, Pioneer Institute (Mar. 22, 2022)

The authors are both former Pfizer employees and consultants to major pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device companies, according to their profiles on LinkedIn. Pfizer made <u>record revenues</u> on drug sales last year while it placed restrictions on the use of 340B. The authors are both senior fellows at the <u>Pioneer Institute</u>, a conservative think-tank, funded



by organizations that with ties to the pharmaceutical industry, including the Koch Group whose Americans for Prosperity organization receives funding from the pharmaceutical industry.

340B Program Isn't Working for Patients, Sally Greenberg, RealClear Health (May 6, 2022)

Sally Greenberg is the executive director of the National Consumers League, a group with close ties with the pharmaceutical industry.

<u>The 340B Drug Pricing Program: Background, Ongoing Challenges and Recent Developments</u>, Karen Mulligan, PhD, University of Southern California (Oct. 14, 2021).

The USC Schaeffer Center's <u>advisory board</u> includes nine senior executives from biotechnology manufacturers and several from the insurance industry and think tanks, groups that have been critical of the 340B program.

<u>Making Systems Easy to Game</u>, Justin Starren, MD, PhD, Journal of American Medicine (<u>Apr. 15, 2022</u>) comment to Journal of American Medicine article entitled "Risks to the 340B Drug Pricing Program Related to Manufacturer Restrictions on Drug Availability."

Justin Starren, Chief of Health and Biomedical Informatics in Northwestern University's Department of Preventive Medicine refers to the 340B program as a "failing" government program. Northwestern University receives large sums of money from pharmaceutical manufacturers (e.g. Baxter, Pfizer, AbbVie).

•PRIMER: The 340B Drug Pricing Program, Jackson Hammond (June 16, 2022)

The American Action Forum (AAF) has clear financial and ideological ties to the pharmaceutical industry. According to reports from IRS filings from AAF donors, PhRMA has given large sums of money to the think-tank, with some donations as large as \$4.5 million. Additionally, the author has pushed anti-340B rhetoric.

New Research Finds Gaps in Charity Care Provided by 340B Hospitals, Nicole Longo, PhRMA (June 2, 2022); 340B Program Remains Second Largest Federal Drug Program, Yet Little Solid Evidence of Benefits to Patient, Nicole Longo, PhRMA (June 30, 2022); Study after study after study: Contract pharmacy expansion is not aligned in communities 340B is meant to serve, Nicole Longo, PhRMA (June 24, 2022)

Nicole Longo is senior director of public affairs at PhRMA.

<u>Viewpoint: Cost-Saving Drug Program Needs Transparency</u> Brian Nyquist, Worcester Business Journal (April 18, 2022)

Brian Nyquist is the executive director of the National Infusion Center. Many of the organization's <u>Corporate Partners</u> are many pharmaceutical companies.