



Vaccine Info Sheet # 2: Systemic Pharmaceutical Corruption

The vaccine industry has unimaginable wealth and unparalleled influence in media, medicine, and public policy. **No one should be required to ingest or inject a product** from an industry with such tarnished history, corrupt business practices, and NO liability.¹

- In 2014, pharmaceutical companies had **\$1 trillion in global sales**,² with vaccines accounting for **\$33 billion**.³ **2016 vaccine sales are estimated to be \$52 billion**.⁴
- The pharmaceutical industry is the **biggest defrauder of the federal government under the False Claims Act**.⁵ In the last few years **pharmaceutical companies** have agreed to **pay over \$13 billion** to resolve U.S. Department of Justice allegations of **fraudulent marketing practices**.⁶
- **The CDC** claims to be an independent watchdog over the public health. However, they **took millions of dollars from pharmaceutical companies**, both directly and indirectly, calling their impartiality into question.⁷ **Four scathing government studies paint CDC as a cesspool of corruption**, mismanagement, and dysfunction, with alarming **conflicts of interest** suborning its research, regulatory, and policymaking functions.⁸
- An exhaustive study on Pharmaceutical industry corruption authored by 16 Harvard scholars concludes that “certain practices have corrupted medical research, the production of medical knowledge, the practice of **medicine, drug safety, and the FDA’s oversight of pharmaceutical marketing**.”⁹
- In December of 2009, the World Health Organization announced on their website: “**Corruption in the pharmaceutical sector occurs throughout all stages of the medicines chain, from research and development to dispensing and promotion**.”¹⁰ **\$27 billion was spent on drug promotion in 2012**, with more than **\$24 billion spent on direct marketing to physicians**.¹¹
- The pharmaceutical industry spent over **\$229 million on lobbying activities in 2014, more than any other industry**.¹²

1 <http://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/10pdf/09-152.pdf>

2 <http://thomsonreuters.com/en/articles/2015/global-pharma-sales-reach-above-1-trillion.html>

3 <http://www.marketsandmarkets.com/PressReleases/vaccine-technologies.asp>

4 <http://www.in-pharmatechnologist.com/Regulatory-Safety/Vaccine-market-worth-52bn-in-2016>

5 <http://www.fraudwhistleblowersblog.com/2014/02/>

<http://www.pharmpro.com/news/2010/12/government-and-regulatory-Pharmaceutical-Industry-Is-Biggest-Defrauder-of-the-Federal-Government/>

6 <http://projects.propublica.org/graphics/bigpharma>

7 <http://www.bmj.com/content/350/bmj.h2362>;

<http://www.madinamerica.com/2015/05/experts-shocked-learn-us-centersdisease-control-taking-drug-company-funding/>

8 <http://www.robertfkennedyjr.com/vaccines.html>

9 Rodwin, Marc A., Institutional Corruption and the Pharmaceutical Policy (December 6, 2013). Journal of Law, Medicine and Ethics, Vol. 41, p, 544, 2013; Suffolk University Law School Research Paper No. 13-25.

10 <http://web.archive.org/web/20091209232301/http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs335/en/index.html>

11 <http://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/fact-sheets/2013/11/11/persuading-the-prescribers-pharmaceutical-industry-marketing-and-its-influence-on-physicians-and-patients>

12 <http://www.opensecrets.org/news/2015/10/pharmaceutical-industry-under-scrutiny-for-prices-has-history-of-big-political-wins/>