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Table 4: Associations between industry exposure and prescribing: key results.

| First author, year | Drug(s) | Payments and prescribing | Association* | | Authors' conclusions | Summary finding |
|---|---|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Prostate Cancer | | | | | | |
| Bandari 2017 (Urol Pract) (27) | Denosumab | - Industry payments associated with higher prescription costs (\$69,620 vs \$60,732, p<0.001). - Total industry payments per physician correlated with higher prescription costs (p=0.10, p=0.003). | Positive | | Weak association between payments and prescribing. | Payments have a positive or neutral association with prescriptions for prostate cancer |
| Bandari 2017 (Cancer) (38) | Enzalutamide | - total payment per oncologist associated with total number of prescriptions (p=0.31, p<0.01), - number of payments to oncologists higher for prescribers than non-prescribers (median (IQR) 3 (2-8) vs 2 (1-3), p<0.01, median total payment (IQR) \$59 (25-143) vs \$31 (17-65), p<0.01). | Positive | | Positive correlation noted between industry payments and prescriptions of enzalutamide. | |
| | Abiraterone | - total payment per oncologist not associated with number of prescriptions (p=0.06, p=0.15). - number of payments to oncologists higher for prescribers than non-prescribers (median 3 (IQR 1-5) vs 2 (IQR 1-4), p<0.01), median total payment amount (IQR) \$72 (26-114) vs \$56 (22-106), p<0.01) | Positive (number of payments) | Neutral (total payment amount) | Correlation between number of payments and prescriptions of abiraterone, but not total payment amount | |
| Mitchell 2019 (Oncologist) (41) | Enzalutamide and abiraterone | - No relationship between general payments and prescriptions for prostate cancer (RR 0.97, 95% CI 0.93–1.02). | Neutral | | Null finding for prostate cancer drugs | |
| Renal Cell Cancer | | | | | | |
| Mitchell 2019 (Oncologist) (41) | Axitinib, everolimus, pazopanib, sorafenib and sunitinib | - For US physicians who received general payments in all three investigated years, high rates of prescribing that manufacturer's drugs in renal cell cancer (RR 1.81, 95% CI 1.58–2.07) | Positive | | The strongest association between payments and prescriptions exists for physicians who receive payments consistently. | General payments have a positive or neutral association with prescriptions for renal cell cancer |
| Mitchell 2018 (JAMA Internal Med) (43) | Sunitinib, pazopanib and sorafenib | Odds of prescribing drug for renal cell cancer from manufacturer providing payment: - OR 1.84 (95% CI 1.25-2.70, p=0.02) for research payments (n=32 (9.0%)) - OR 2.05 (95% CI 1.34-3.14, p=0.001) for general payments (n=89 (25.1%)) - Combined OR 1.84 (95% CI 1.25-2.70, p=0.002). | Positive | | For one drug assessed, payments associated with increased prescribing | |
| | Sunitinib | General payments associated with more prescribing of sunitinib (50.5% vs 34.4%, p=0.01), | Positive | | | |
| | Pazopanib | No association between payments and prescribing | Neutral | | | |
| | Sorafenib | No association between payments and prescribing | Neutral | | | |
| Chronic myeloid leukaemia | | | | | | |
| Mitchell 2019 | Dasatinib, imatinib and nilotinib | - For US physicians who received general payments in all three investigated years, high rates of | Positive | | The strongest association between | General payments generally have a positive association |

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|---|--|--|----------|---|---|
| (Oncologist) (41) | | prescribing that manufacturer's drugs in chronic myeloid leukaemia (RR 1.22, 95% CI 1.08–1.39) | | payments and prescriptions exists for physicians who receive payments consistently. | with prescriptions for chronic myeloid leukaemia. |
| Mitchell 2018 (JAMA Internal Med) (43) | Dasatinib, imatinib and nilotinib | Odds of prescribing drug for chronic myeloid leukaemia from manufacturer providing payment: - OR 1.16 (95% CI 0.89-1.53, p=0.27) for research payments (n=38 (3.8%)) - OR 1.29 (95% CI 1.13-1.47, p<0.001) for general payments (n=879 (39.5%)) - Combined OR 1.31 (95% CI 1.14-1.48 p<0.001). | Positive | For two drugs assessed, general payments associated with increased prescribing. For one drug, a negative association may explained by the introduction and promotion of newer agents at the time. | |
| | Dasatinib | General payments associated with more prescribing of dasatinib (13.8% vs 11.4%, p=0.02). | Positive | | |
| | Nilotinib | General payments associated with more prescribing of nilotinib (15.4% vs 12.5%, p=0.01). | Positive | | |
| | Imatinib | General payments associated with less prescribing of imatinib (72.4% vs 75.5%, p=0.02). | Negative | | |
| Lung cancer | | | | | |
| Mitchell 2019 (Oncologist) (41) | Afatinib and erlotinib | - For US physicians who received general payments in all three investigated years, high rates of prescribing that manufacturer's drugs in lung cancer (RR 1.69, 95% CI 1.58–1.82). | Positive | The strongest association between payments and prescriptions exists for physicians who receive payments consistently. | General payments have a positive association with prescriptions for lung cancer |
| Opioids | | | | | |
| Eisenberg 2020 (40) | All opioids | - For oncologists specifically, the introduction of any of four policy changes results in 1% fewer days prescribing opioids (% difference -0.935 [SE 0.1320]) | Positive | Conflict of interest policies can reduce inappropriate opioid prescribing. | Payments generally have a positive association with opioid prescriptions, and changes to institutional policies can improve opioid prescribing practice |
| Hadland 2018 (42) | All opioids | - Of the 8,053 US haematologist/oncologists who prescribed opioids in 2015, 832 (10.3%) received ≥1 opioid-related industry payment in 2014, totalling \$432,345. - Haematologist/oncologist individuals who received no payments had a mean 108 (SD 127) opioid claims in 2015, compared to a mean of 165 (SD 183) claims for individuals who received ≥1 payment. - Difference in claims attributable to receiving any payment calculated as 3.4% (95% CI 0.6–6.2%). | Positive | Results add to previous studies demonstrating the effect of payments on prescribing. | |
| Hollander 2019 (44) | All opioids | - Haematologist-Oncologists who accepted \$100 or more in opioid-related gifts were more likely to be in the highest quartile of opioid prescribing the next year | Positive | Larger gifts are related to an increased likelihood of | |

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|---|--------------------|---|-----------------|--|---|
| | | than those who received nothing (aOR 1.46 [CI 1.03–2.07]). | | prescribing opioids. | |
| Zeza 2018 (39) | All opioids | <p>For oncology opioid prescriber subgroups investigated (oncologists receiving payments vs comparison oncologists):</p> <p>Cohort 1: Mean expenditures for opioids (annual): \$10,285 (2013), \$18,723 (2014/15) vs \$9,963 (2013), \$10,545 (2014/15). DiD \$7,856, SE 3,542, p=0.0266. Mean daily doses: 2,945 (2013), 3,245 (2014/15) vs 2,732 (2013), 2,779 (2014/15). DiD \$253, SE 104, p=0.0149. Mean daily dose expenditure: \$3.35 (2013), \$5.76 (2014/15) vs \$3.55 (2013), \$3.71 (2014/15). DiD \$2.24, SE 0.77, p=0.0036.</p> <p>Cohort 2: Mean expenditures: \$9,355 (2013/14), \$11,477 (2015) vs \$8,764 (2013/14), \$9,608 (2015). DiD \$1,278, SE 1,053, p=0.2248. Mean daily doses: 2,582 (2013/14), 2,734 (2015) vs 2,476 (2013/14), 2,518 (2015). DiD 110, SE 62 p=0.0749. Mean daily dose expenditure: \$3.66 (2013/14), \$4.28 (2015), \$3.48 (2013/14), \$3.68 (2015). DiD \$0.42, SE 0.51, p=0.4169.</p> | Positive | Payments from industry influence opioid prescribing. | |
| All prescriptions | | | | | |
| Perlis 2016 (26) | All drugs | - Prescribing costs increased linearly with quintiles of payments (p<0.0001) [range: Q1 = \$90.36; SE: 110.35 to Q5 = \$1803.23; SE: 11.37] and compared with no payment. | Positive | Payments associated with higher prescribing costs and more frequent branded prescribing. | Payments have a positive association with cancer drug prescriptions |
| Abbreviations: IQR: interquartile range; RR: relative risk; CI: confidence interval; SD: standard deviation; OR: odds ratio; DiD: difference in differences. | | | | | |
| * Note: Positive = payments associated with more prescribing; Negative = payments associated with less prescribing; Neutral = no statistically significant association between payments and prescribing. | | | | | |