

Supporting Information

Supplementary results

This appendix was part of the submitted manuscript and has been peer reviewed. It is posted as supplied by the authors.

Appendix to: Jones L. Financial support provided to male and female physicians by pharmaceutical companies in New Zealand: a cross-sectional study. *Med J Aust* 2023; doi: 10.5694/mja2.52057.

Supplementary methods

The Medicines New Zealand and New Zealand Medical Association (NZMA) Joint Transparency Initiative became effective on 1 January 2021, endorsing guidelines for pharmaceutical company reporting of health professional funding.¹ Publicly available funding reports for 2021 were assessed; 2022 reports were not available at the time of analysis. Six pharmaceutical companies (Merck, Eisai, Astellas, Biogen, Healthcare Logistics, Vifor Pharma) reported not having any transfers of value for 2021 and did not provide formal reports; one company supplied a formal report that they provided no health professional funding in 2021 (Vertex); one company reported funding for one nurse but no physicians (Novartis); one company (Novo Nordisk) did not supply any funding information. Eight companies (AbbVie, GSK, Boehringer Ingelheim, Janssen, AstraZeneca, Sanofi, Roche, Seqirus) published funding reports on health care professional funding that were included in the analysis.¹

I included information only about the funding of physicians listed in the New Zealand Medical Council Register.² Fees and reasons for funding were collated from the reports. The reports varied in their classification of the reason for funding; I grouped them into three categories: advisory/consultancy fees, registration/travel/accommodation fees, and speaker/educator fees. The New Zealand Medical Council Register was used to identify the year of graduation as a substitute for experience, and specialty area. Where the specialty is listed as 'internal medicine', an internet search of the doctor was performed to identify the subspecialty. Gender was identified through genderassociated names. If this was ambiguous, an internet search was performed to confirm gender through the use of personal pronouns.

A total of 348 payments to health care professionals were named in the pharmaceutical funding reports; 63 were not doctors and not included in the analysis. I could not confidently identify the gender of two doctors, and did not include them in the analysis. Consequently, a total of 283 payments were included in the analysis.

References

- 1 Medicines New Zealand. Medicines New Zealand guidelines for disclosure of transfers of value from pharmaceutical companies to healthcare professionals. https://www.medicinesnz.co.nz/our-industry/transparency-guidelines (viewed Mar 2023).
- 2 Medical Council of New Zealand. Register of doctors. https://www.mcnz.org.nz/registration/register-of-doctors (viewed Mar 2023).