

Who Is Really Pulling the Strings?

When public health officials state that no one gains financially from the removal of non-medical exemptions, they are not being truthful.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)

In March 2019, the American Academy of Pediatrics announced that its top priority was to advocate for the removal of non-medical exemptions to vaccinations.

What most people don't know is that the American Academy of Pediatrics is a medical trade association that receives a significant amount of funding from pharmaceutical companies who make vaccines. These companies include:^{1 2}

- Merck – MMR, HPV, Hepatitis B, HIB, chickenpox vaccine
- Sanofi Pasteur – HIB, tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, flu
- Pfizer – pneumococcal, meningococcal, and COVID-19
- Johnson & Johnson – COVID-19 Vaccine
- Seqirus – Flu vaccine manufacturer

The American Academy of Pediatrics receives significant financial support from multiple pharmaceutical companies, yet they are permitted by the CDC to influence health policy.

Centers for Disease Control (CDC)

The CDC Foundation, established by Congress in the mid-1990s, is a non-profit organization that serves as a liaison between the CDC and the private sector to advance public health programs. The pharmaceutical industry and other for-profit private corporations can fund CDC projects through financial contributions to the CDC Foundation.³

Numerous vaccine manufacturers, such as Merck, Sanofi Pasteur, Pfizer, and GlaxoSmithKline, provide significant financial support through contributions made to the CDC Foundation.⁴ The CDC Foundation has accepted nearly \$80 million from drug companies and other commercial manufacturers during fiscal years 2014-2018.⁵

Conflicts of interest are rampant in our public health agencies. Members of the public, citizen watchdog organizations, and our elected officials must question who is really pulling the strings.

¹ American Academy of Pediatrics Stepping Forward – 2016 Annual Giving Report (<https://tinyurl.com/y5k6go9w>)

² American Academy of Pediatrics Our Supporters (<https://tinyurl.com/y427jiscd>)

³ CDC Foundation – Our Story (<https://www.cdcfoundation.org/our-story>)

⁴ CDC Foundation – Our Partners – Corporations (<https://www.cdcfoundation.org/partner-list/corporations>)

⁵ Press Release. Groups to CDC: Stop Falsely Claiming Not to Accept Corporate Money U.S. Right to Know Nov. 5, 2019. (<https://tinyurl.com/ukjmky6>)