

# European Medicines Agency faces tough questions about patient groups' transparency

The EU Observer launched tough questions at the European Medicines Agency, following Corporate Europe Observatory's earlier report on the [transparency of industry-funded patient organisations working with the Agency](#).

In the article "[EU drugs agency working with patient groups bankrolled by big pharma](#)", author Leigh Phillips questions the Agency as to how omissions and inconsistencies in declaring sponsorship from pharmaceutical companies have occurred.

"Mr. Harvey [a representative of the Agency] said that such [patient] representatives are nominated by the European Commission and the European Parliament, suggesting that if a conflict exists, it should be spotted by the Brussels officials that review the candidates: "They send us approved people and we have to take them." "[Continue reading EU Observer article...](#)

The Agency's response leaves us wondering who is responsible to ensure that future gaps in interest declaration, particularly sources of income, can be avoided.

Katrina Perehudoff