

Patient groups not only for sick people's interests - says Portuguese sociologist

Patient organisations are instrumental to social movements, but they can also be a **vehicle for commercial interests**, cautions Portuguese sociologist Noemia Lopes of the Instituto Superior de Ciencias de Saude Egas Moniz.

Drawing on several examples from Portugal, Lopes and others cite disclosure policies, donor-recipient interaction guidelines and maintaining a variety of income sources as strategies that could diffuse any dependency on corporate cash.

Read the full article in [Diario de Leiria](#) in Portuguese (20 April 2010)

Katrina Perehudoff