Providing Scientific Advice to Pharma Industry Undermines Independence of Regulatory Authorities

BRUSSELS—Health Action International Europe, the International Society of Drug Bulletins, the Medicines in Europe Forum and the Association Internationale de la Mutualité have criticised the European Medicines Agency (EMA) for providing confidential "advice" to pharmaceutical companies on their development plans for new medicines in exchange for fees—a potentially harmful practice that the EMA is now trying to extend to national health technology assessment (HTA) bodies in the European Union (EU).

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