On the Prohibition of Human and Non-Human Gene Patenting $\begin{array}{c} \text{Dowland Aiello} \\ \text{June 17, 2020} \end{array}$

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Even when accounting for inflation, healthcare spending per capita increased by nearly 510% between 1970 and 2018[1]. Furthermore, according to data published in the Health Affairs journal, the percentage of household income devoted to healthcare-related expenditures increased to 30% in 2016[2]. Thus, it has become apparent that the matter of falling coverage rates, as well as rising premiums must be addressed. In doing so, one might turn to the practice of **patenting** in the healthcare sector, specifically in fields presenting a high cost of entry. Pharmaceuticals, for example, have been notorious for their fiscally-intensive research and development (R&D) requirements, and were estimated to incur costs of around \$2.8 billion in 2013[5].

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