

COVER LETTER

Dear Editor,

This is to confirm that the article entitled “*Drug Promotion in India Since 2000: Continuing Problems, Few Solutions*” submitted to the *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics* is original and has been authored by the undersigned. All authors have participated in the work sufficiently to meet the ICMJE guidelines for authorship. All have read and approved the manuscript.

The submission is not under consideration for publication in any other journal.

I give consent to Dr Joel Lexchin to act as the author for correspondence.

Details of sponsorship or relevant competing interests, financial or otherwise: In 2016-2019, Joel Lexchin was a paid consultant on two projects: one looking at developing principles for conservative diagnosis (Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation) and a second deciding what drugs should be provided free of charge by general practitioners (Government of Canada, Ontario Supporting Patient Oriented Research Support Unit and the St Michael’s Hospital Foundation). He also received payment for being on a panel at the American Diabetes Association, for a talk at the Toronto Reference Library, for writing a brief in an action for side effects of a drug for Michael F. Smith, Lawyer and from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research for presenting at a workshop on conflict-of-interest in clinical practice guidelines. He is currently a member of research groups that are receiving money from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Australian National Health and Medical Research Council. He is member of the Foundation Board of Health Action International and the Board of Canadian Doctors for Medicare. He receives royalties from University of Toronto Press and James Lorimer & Co. Ltd. for books he has written.

We have read the terms and conditions of authorship of IJME and accept them.

Contact details (mailing address, email id) and affiliation of all authors: Joel Lexchin, School of Health Policy and Management, York University, 4700 Keele St., Toronto, Ontario, Canada M3P 1J3.

Signatures of all authors:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joel Lexchin', written in a cursive style.