

## **Gifts to Physicians -- Tracking the money**

Hacking Healthcare --November 7th 2015

### **I. Background**

Applicable manufacturers and applicable group purchasing organizations (GPOs) are required to submit data about payments or other transfers of value made to physicians and teaching hospitals, and ownership or investment interests held by physicians or their immediate family members, made between January 1 and December 31 of each program year.

The annual data publication cycle includes an initial publication by June 30 of each year, that contains the data records for the program year that precedes the year in which the data is published. For example, the 2015 initial data publication includes data submitted regarding all payments, other transfers of value, and ownership or investment interests that occurred in 2014. This is referred to as the 2014 program year.

Data that were submitted and attested to by the data submission deadline are eligible for publication in the initial data publication. Data records not eligible for publication on the initial publication date will be included in that year's data refresh publication if they meet publication eligibility. (From

[https://www.cms.gov/OpenPayments/Downloads/OP-datadictionary-\[June-2015\].pdf](https://www.cms.gov/OpenPayments/Downloads/OP-datadictionary-[June-2015].pdf) )

### **II. Physician Payments Sunshine Act**

The Sunshine Act requires manufacturers of drugs, [medical devices](#), biological and medical supplies covered by the three federal health care programs [Medicare](#), [Medicaid](#),

and [State Children's Health Insurance Program](#) (SCHIP) to collect and track all financial relationships with physicians and [teaching hospitals](#) and to report these data to the [Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services](#) (CMS). The goal of the law is to increase the transparency of financial relationships between [health care providers](#) and [pharmaceutical manufacturers](#) and to uncover potential [conflicts of interest](#).<sup>[1]</sup> The bill allows states to enact "additional requirements", as six states already had industry-pay disclosure laws.<sup>[2]</sup>

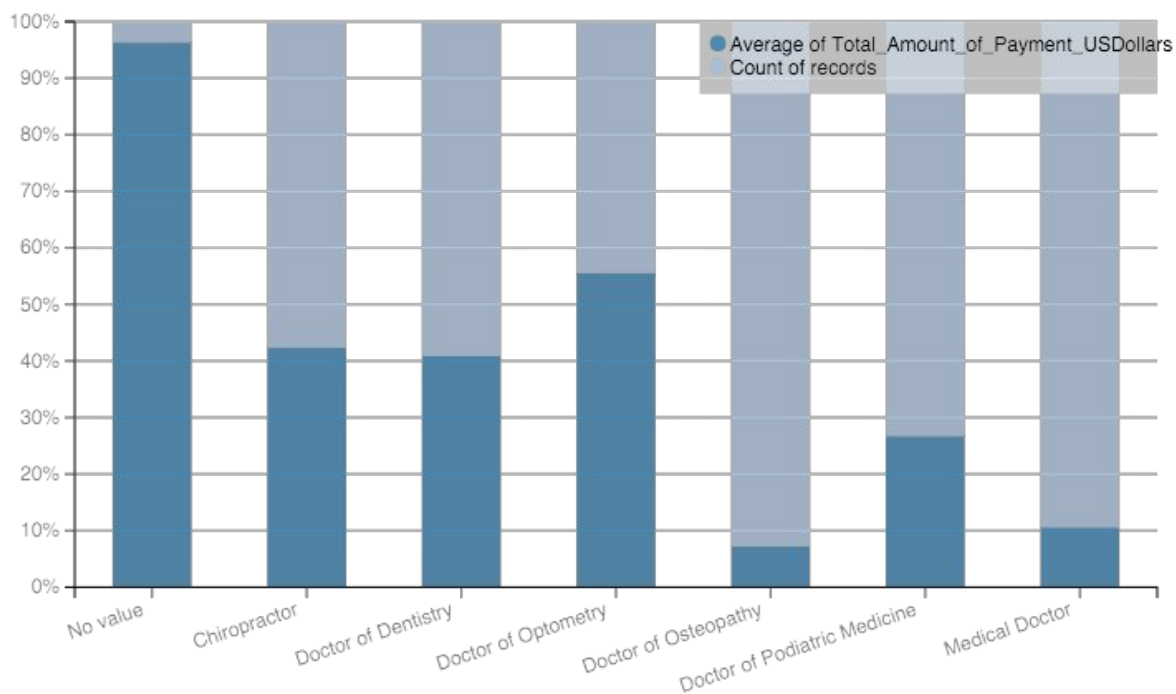
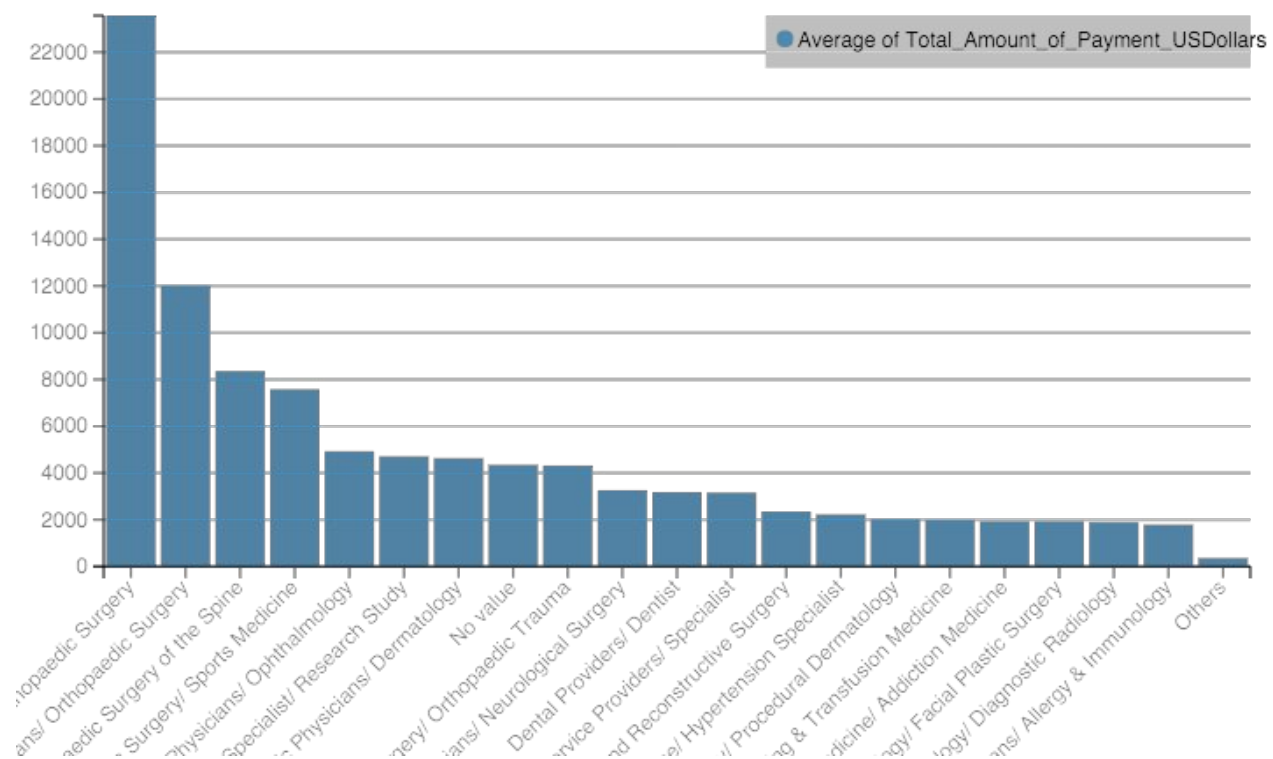
The goal of the law is to enhance [patient safety](#).<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

In 2013, the [American Medical Association](#) offered physicians training to understand the Sunshine Act.<sup>[3]</sup>

### **III. Why does this matter?**

### **IV. DataOpen Payment --OpenPaymentsData.CMS.gov**

General Payments: Payments or other transfers of value not made in connection with a research agreement or research protocol



What this graph tells us is that considering the type of specialty of doctor reporting

## **V. Limitations**

## **VI. Next**

### **Some Descriptives**

- The physician specialty that Allopathic & Osteopathic Physicians/ Family Medicine 16.8% of all reporting physicians --98.9% are reporting physicians and not teaching hospitals
- 12.3% of all physicians reporting to Open Payments CMS data come from California
- For 2014 the mean payment total is \$2,653.3 and the median payment was \$25

Mean	2653.3
Median	25

- Adjusting for number of payments submitted

Mean	2612.2
Median	25

- LIPOSCIENCE, INC. is the submitting (applicable) manufacturer with the most reports 28.9% of reports come from them

## Former LipoScience and BD exec Rick Brajer to lead NC DHHS

Aug 5, 2015, 12:22pm EDT Updated Aug 5, 2015, 12:49pm EDT

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**Jason deBruyn**  
Staff Writer  
*Triangle Business Journal*



**Rick Brajer**, a former executive with Becton Dickinson and **LipoScience** and most recently with ProNerve, **will lead the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services.**

He will take over Aug. 17, but will take part in applicable cabinet meetings effective immediately. His salary will be \$140,000. Aldona Wos took only a \$1 per year salary during her tenure.



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### Novel heart disease diagnostic would measure risk by testing the gut

By FRANK VINLUAN

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The saying that the way to a man's heart is through the stomach might be true in more ways than one. Diagnostics company **LipoScience** is developing a new cardiovascular disease test that would use gut flora as a biomarker for cardiovascular risks.

The novel approach is based on [research licensed from the Cleveland Clinic](#). Researchers

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- Cash or equivalent most common form of payment/transfer