

TAXPAYER-FUNDED DRUGS: A Boon for Big Pharma



Through public investment in medical research, pharmaceutical companies readily accept generous taxpayer funding to develop new prescription drugs. In fact, **taxpayer investments total \$230 billion dollars from 2010–2019.** When it comes time to bring a drug to market, though, Big Pharma isn't passing any savings along to taxpayers.

Nearly every new prescription drug developed over the past decade has been funded by *We, the people*, but Big Pharma isn't stopping its egregious pricing tactics. [\(Source\)](#)

EXHIBIT 1:

**Pfizer's Prostate Cancer treatment
Xtandi: \$189,000 per year** [\(Source\)](#)

Developed with taxpayer funding at UCLA, Xtandi cost Medicare more than \$5 billion between 2012 and 2019 - making it one of Medicare's 10 most costly drugs for several years.

EXHIBIT 2:

**COVID-19 pill Molnupiravir,
\$712 per five-day course** [\(Source\)](#)

This life-saving COVID-19 drug can be produced for less than \$20, but Big Pharma chooses to charge 40x more than that.

EXHIBIT 3:

**Gilead's Hepatitis C drug Sovaldi,
\$1,000 per pill** [\(Source\)](#)

Not only was Sovaldi outrageously priced despite being funded by taxpayers, but the pharmaceutical company selling the drug shifted profits offshore to dodge taxes.

EXHIBIT 4:

**Cancer treatments Kymriah (\$475k)
and Yescarta (\$373k)** [\(Source\)](#)

One-time treatments of these life-saving cancer drugs cost hundreds of thousands of dollars - despite being developed using research funded by the National Institutes of Health.

Big Pharma continues hiking prices - even when their drugs are taxpayer-funded. Until that changes, **taxpayers will continue footing the bill - TWICE.**

As taxpayers continue funding drug research and development, **it's time for lawmakers to hold Big Pharma accountable** and tell them to STOP double-charging Americans.

#TheProblemIsThePrice