

Researchers

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Additional information

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Description

The central objective of this research is to examine the impact of financialisation on the development and use of pharmaceuticals in five areas of global health significance: "recycling" of antiretroviral drugs for HIV prevention; search for effective treatments and a vaccine for Ebola Virus Disease; development of solutions for the threat of antimicrobial resistance; use of novel development platforms for COVID-19 vaccines; development of monoclonal antibodies for multiple indications. This research requires an innovative inter-disciplinary approach that brings together expertise in understanding how the worlds of finance and pharmaceuticals work and interact, with insight into how global health problems and solutions then play out in the real world. Specifically, in each of these areas, we examine how financial motives, markets, actors, and institutions exert influence on the pharmaceutical lifecycle, including through interactions with: "innovation hubs"

consisting of research universities and biotechnology companies, wherein public sector resources are leveraged to "de-risk" capital investments in drug discovery; the pharmaceutical industry, in which firms shift strategies to commercialise drugs in different therapeutic areas; and health systems, where governments and health organisations craft public and private mechanisms to pay for medications, especially in response to local health demands.

