

To Reinstitute the Integrity of Scientific Publishing, Evidence-Based Medicine, and Public Health Decision Making

A coalition of Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM) and public health scientists, the chamber of physicians of Berlin¹, the anti-corruption organisation Transparency International² and the Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin³ gathered on the Charité Campus on September 6, 2012, for a public debate⁴ with Peter Doshi, a member of the Cochrane Collaboration review group on influenza antivirals (neuraminidase inhibitors)⁵.

The organisers agreed to publish the Berlin Declaration 2012, an open call for action and petition aiming to reinstitute the integrity of scientific publishing, EBM, and public health decision making.

Berlin Declaration 2012

*I hereby **support the Berlin Declaration** to reinstitute the Integrity of Scientific Publishing, Evidence-Based Medicine and Public Health Decision Making. We expect all politically accountable national and international bodies to*

- *install democratic, transparent and reliable mechanisms to prevent conflict of interest within regulatory and public health agencies and related expert committees.*
- *ensure all regulatory and norm-setting agencies⁶ provide unencumbered public access to all scientific documents in their possession (appropriately de-identified) to encourage independent scientific evaluation.*
- *encourage unbiased publication of clinical trial results in the future by treating deliberate reporting biases as a form of research misconduct.*
- *urgently revise national and international pandemic influenza plans to avoid the waste of health resources such as stockpiling the drug oseltamivir (Tamiflu).*

¹ Ärztekammer Berlin. <http://www.aerztekammer-berlin.de>.

² Transparency International Deutschland e.V. <http://www.transparency.de>

³ „Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin: Research“. <http://www.charite.de/en/research/>. Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin: Charité“. <http://www.charite.de/en/charite/>.

⁴ https://lms.fu-berlin.de/bbcswebdav/xid-2945356_3

⁵ Jefferson, Tom, Mark A Jones, Peter Doshi, Chris B Del Mar, Carl J Heneghan, Rokuro Hama, und Matthew J Thompson. 2012. „Neuraminidase inhibitors for preventing and treating influenza in healthy adults and children“. *Cochrane database of systematic reviews (Online)* 1: CD008965. doi:10.1002/14651858.CD008965.pub3.

⁶ For example, the European Medicines Agency (EMA), World Health Organization (WHO), or the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

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The petition will be submitted to the European Parliament to influence the currently considered Clinical Trials Regulation (http://ec.europ.eu/health/Human-use/clinicaltrials/index_enhtm#rlct). The European Parliament shall rule that open access to all clinical study reports and raw data is mandatory in the EU. The benefit of the regulation to the European people is to be proven by applying it to the Tamiflu case: would the new regulation have prevented the enormous waste of taxpayers money in a drug of unproven efficacy if it had been in place in the year 2002 when Tamiflu was licensed by the European Medicines Agency (EMA)?

Please sign the Berlin Declaration 2012