

Financial Ties Between DSM-IV Panel Members and the Pharmaceutical Industry

Lisa Cosgrove, Sheldon Krimsky,
Manisha Vijayaraghavan, Lisa
Schneider

Objective

- To investigate the financial relationships that members of the advisory boards to the DSM-IV and the DSM-IV-TR have had with the pharmaceutical industry, which manufactures drugs used by clinicians for the treatment of mental disorders.
- Assessed the extent and types of financial relationships for each of the diagnostic panels.

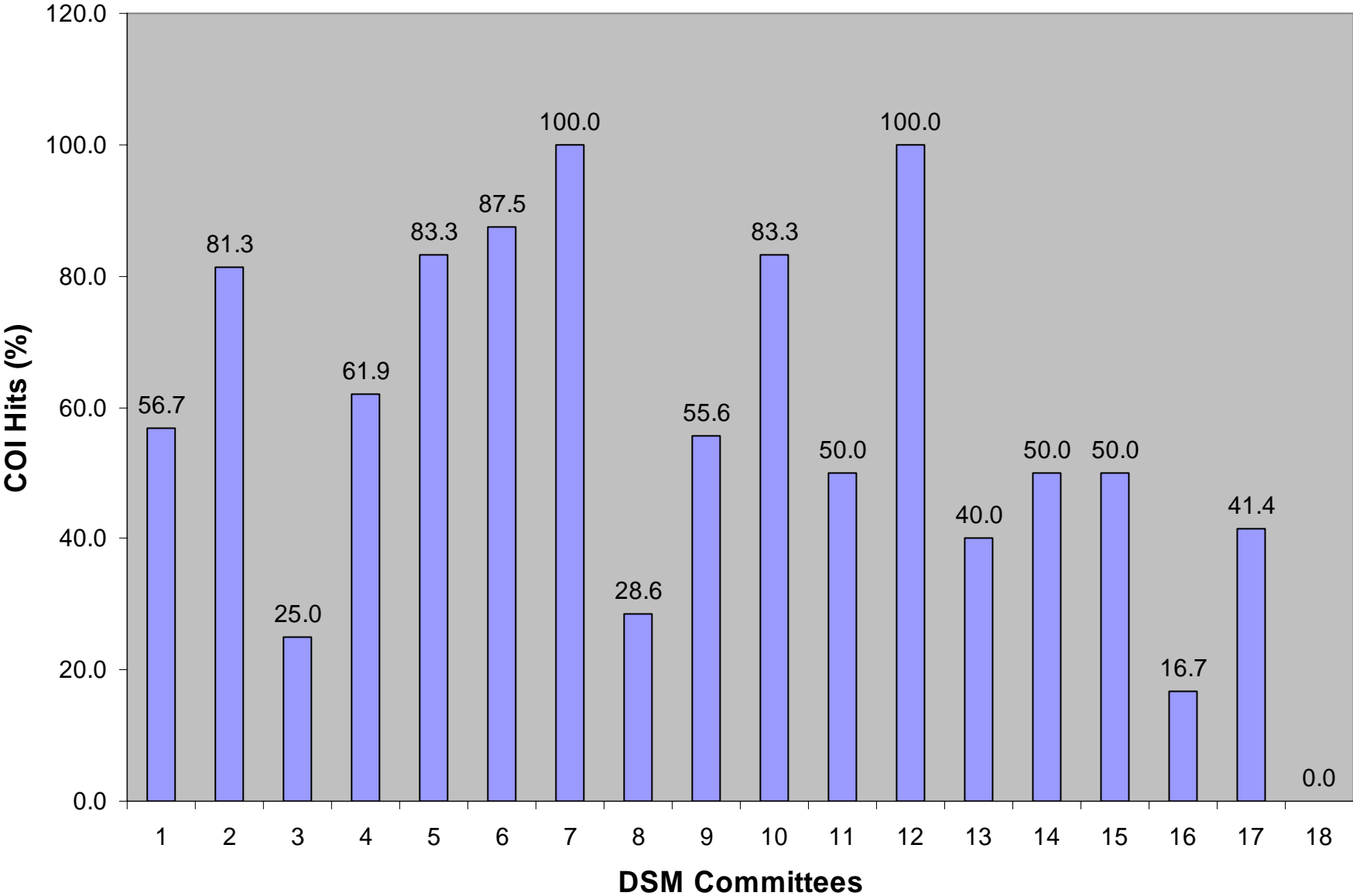
Methods

- Multimodal screening techniques were used to investigate financial ties between DSM panel members and the pharmaceutical industry.
- Financial associations included:
 - Honoraria
 - Equity holdings in a drug company
 - Principal in a startup company
 - Member of a scientific advisory board or speakers bureau of a drug company
 - Expert witness for a company in litigation
 - Patent or copyright holder
 - Consultancy
 - Gifts from drug companies (e.g., travel, grants, contracts, research funding and/or research materials)

Results

- Of the 170 DSM panel members 95 (56%) had one or more financial links to a company in the pharmaceutical industry.
- In 6 out of 18 panels, more than 80% of panel members were found to have financial ties to the pharmaceutical industry.
- 100% of the members of the panels for the “Mood Disorders Work Group” and the “Schizophrenia and other Psychotic Disorders Work Group” had financial ties to drug companies.

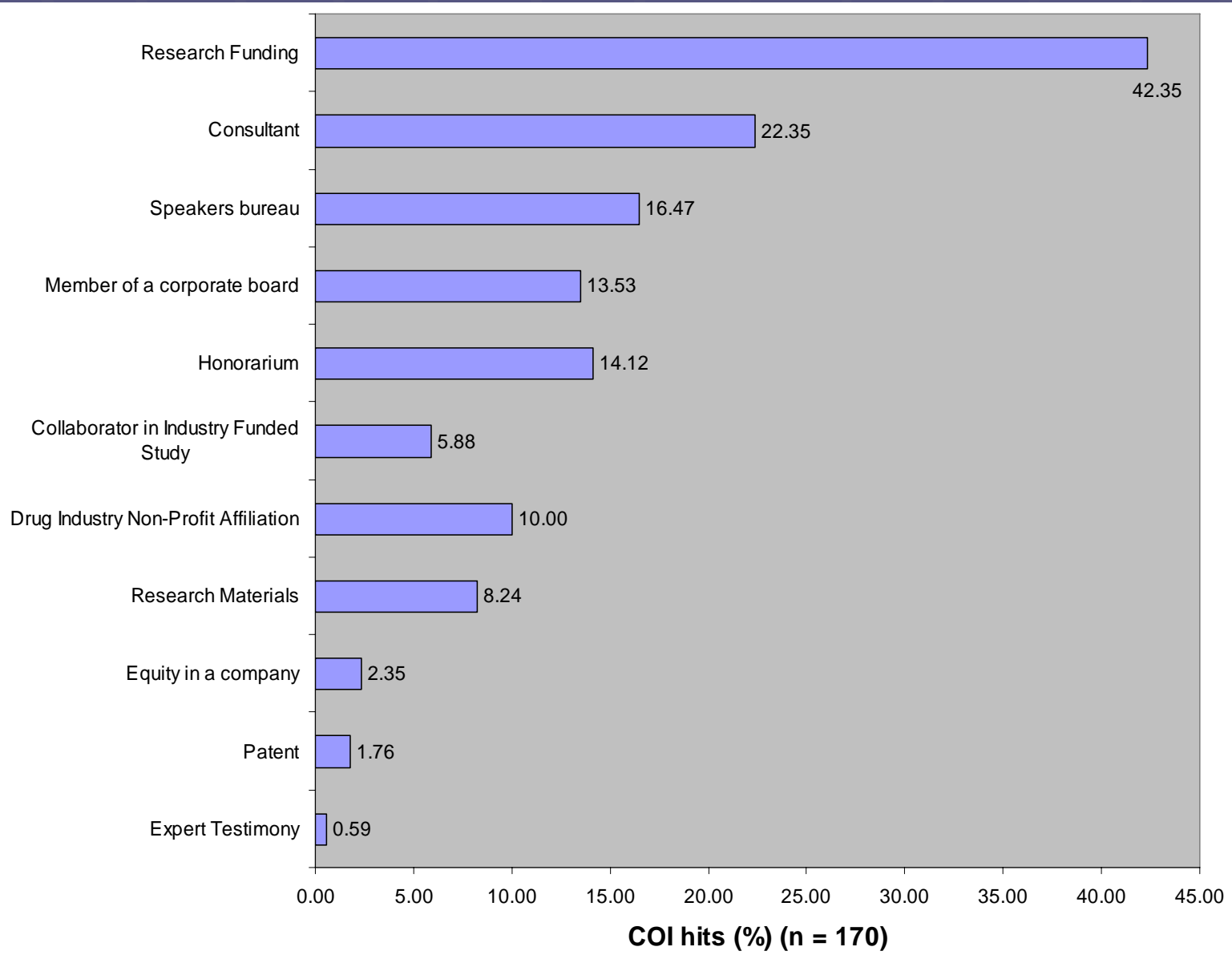
Percentage of DSM Panel Members with Financial Ties



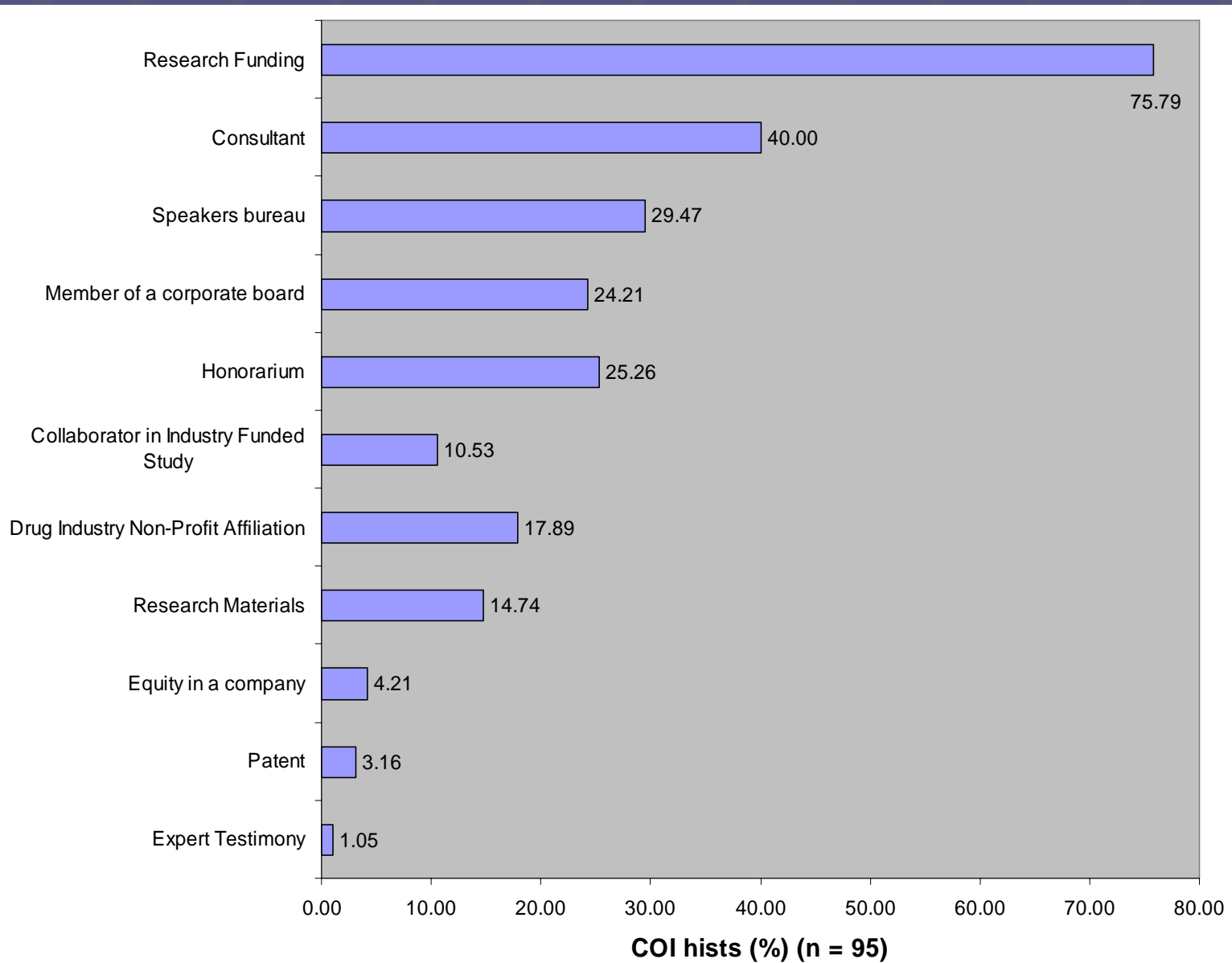
DSM Committee Groups

1.	Task Force IV	56.7%
2.	Anxiety Disorders	81.3%
3.	Delirium, Dementia, Amnesic and Other Cognitive Disorders	25.0%
4.	Disorders Usually First Diagnosed during Infancy, Childhood and Adolescence	61.9%
5.	Eating Disorders	83.3%
6.	Medication-Induced Movement Disorders (TR)	87.5%
7.	Mood Disorders	100.0%
8.	Multiaxial Issues	28.6%
9.	Personality Disorders	55.6%
10.	Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder	83.3%
11.	Psychiatric Systems Interface Disorders	50.0%
12.	Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders	100.0%
13.	Sexual Disorders (IV)	40.0%
14.	Sexual and Gender Identity Disorders	50.0%
15.	Sleep Disorders	50.0%
16.	Substance-Related Disorders	16.7%
17.	Committee on Psychiatric Diagnosis and Assessment	41.4%
18.	Joint Committee of the Board of Trustee and Assembly of District Branches on Issues to DSM-IV	0.0%

Categories of Financial Interest Held by DSM Panel Members; All Members



Categories of Financial Interest Held by DSM Panel Members; Members With Financial Interests Only



Limitations

- Some types of financial relationships were not detected by our screening methods. We relied on self-reported disclosure data that was available in the open literature.
- The percentages of DSM panel members identified as having financial ties to the pharmaceutical industry should be considered de minimis figures.

Limitations

- Our screening methods did not allow us to quantify or to set a temporal sequence for the association.
- However, there are ethical concerns regardless of the amount of money given or the timing of the financial association.

Recommendations

- The APA should institute a disclosure policy for panel members of the DSM who have financial ties to the drug industry. The APA should ensure that no DSM panel has a majority of its members with ties to drug companies.
- All psychiatry journals should adopt COI policies following the recommendations of the ICMJE.
- The FDA needs to be strengthened as a truly independent agency.

How can we contribute to social justice efforts?

- Challenge the positivist assumptions that ground scientific research (e.g., science/politics binary and the moral neutrality of our biopsychiatric discourse)
- Recognize that the issues facing us are epistemological, not methodological, ones.
- Avoid an exclusive focus on intra-individual factors to explain the etiology of emotional distress