

# 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.

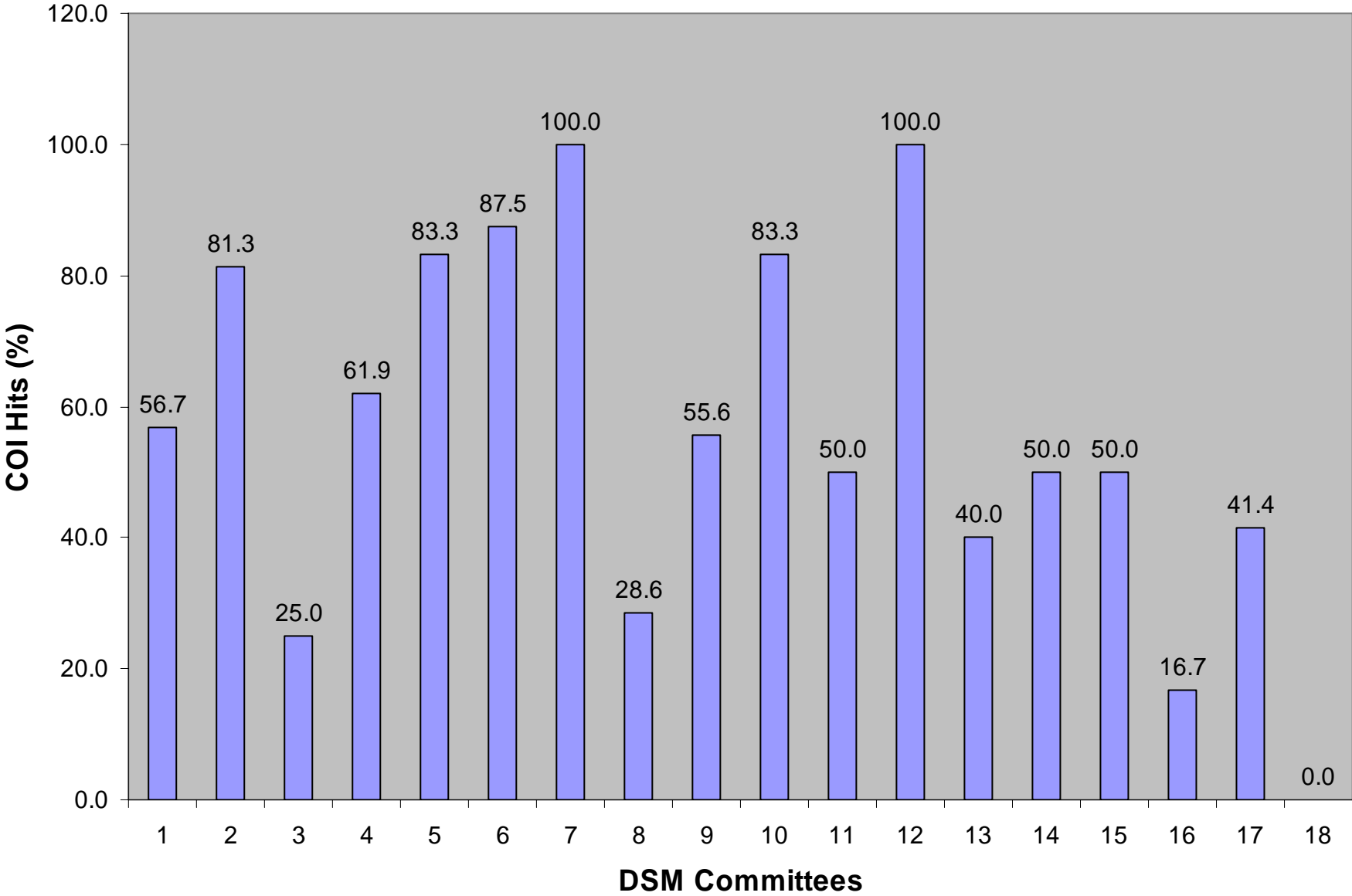
# Methods

- 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.

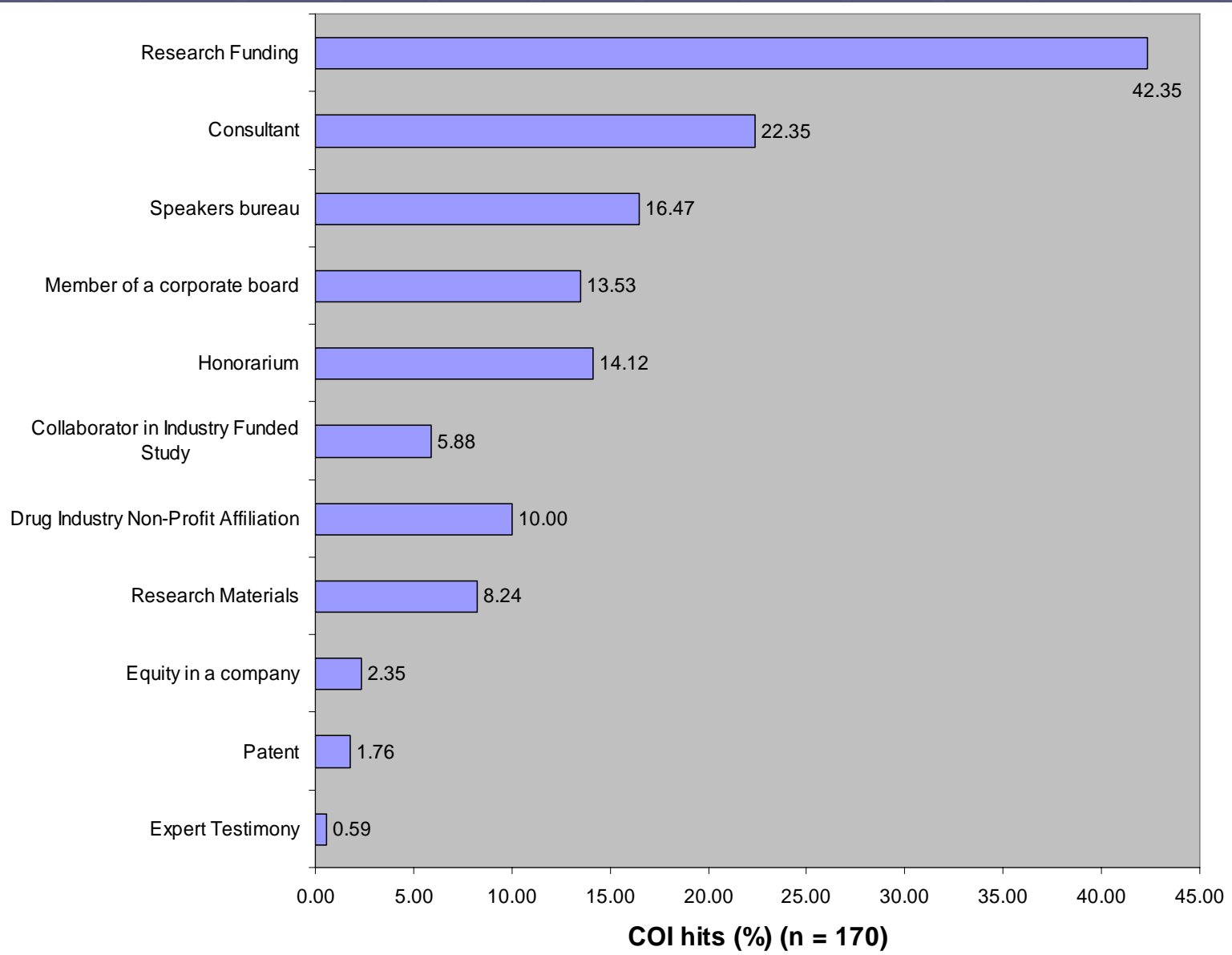
# Percentage of DSM Panel Members with Financial Ties



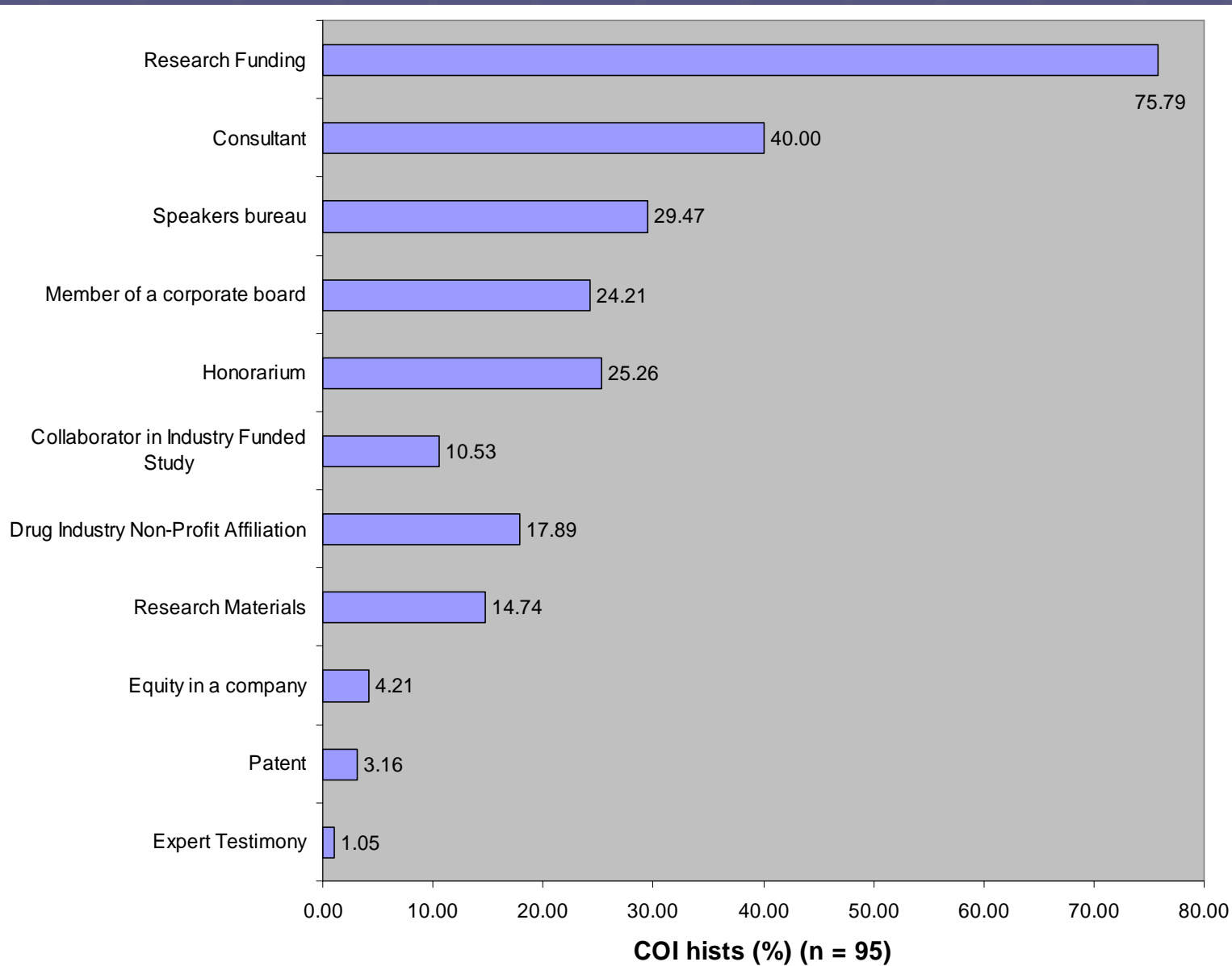
# DSM Committee Groups

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