

Neglected Diseases: Worldwide Problems of Research, Regulation and Ethics

by

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Abstract: In human health, less than 10% of Research and Development (R&D) resources are devoted to diseases which involve 90% of the world's population. More than two billion people suffer from infectious diseases for which vaccines and drugs are not available, either because they are too expensive, or because they cannot be adequately distributed, or because they simply do not exist. The R&D pipe-lines, which could and should provide adequate vaccines and drugs for such neglected diseases, face major difficulties. Contrary to common thinking, funding is not the only issue. It will be shown that research, regulations and ethics have their share in the unacceptable situation endured by almost half of the world's population.

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