

Note.

^a Inclusion criterion: Payment made in 2012-2016. Four payments were excluded as the respective payment descriptions specified that they were in fact made outside the years of interest.

^b Inclusion criteria related to the description of recipients provided in disclosure reports:

- Payment has only one recipient;
- Nature of recipient is clear (can be established based on the results of web searches using the name of the payment recipient);
- Recipient is an organisation;
- Recipient is based in the UK (organisations with headquarters located in the UK; international organisations with headquarters outside the UK but with a UK office or members were included);
- Recipient meets the criteria of being a patient organisation according to the EFPIA definition of a patient organisation (*listed in the greyed boxes in the flowchart*);
 - Recipient is a third-sector organisation, excluding healthcare providers, organisations without a direct focus on health, or professional organisations;
 - Recipient is not a private-sector for profit organisation, a public-sector organisation, or a mixed-sector organisation

^c In determining payment recipients, including their number, we relied only on information provided in the "Recipient" (or similar) column in drug company disclosure reports. Therefore, we assumed that these organisations received the amounts of money reported in the "Payment amount" (or similar) column. Some of the payment descriptions mentioned other organisations, or made general references to partnerships and collaborations; however, we assumed that these organisations were not the recipients of payments unless they were mentioned in the "Recipient" column.