

Glaxo Smith Kline Shame

31 Jan 2007

EDM 766

MEDICINAL DRUG TRIALS 30.01.2007

Flynn, Paul That this House notes the collapsing confidence in trials of medicinal drugs by pharmaceutical companies; is alarmed at the mounting evidence that such companies' trials are overwhelmingly biased in their conclusions compared with independent trials concealing adverse effects that have killed tens of thousands of patients; recalls that Sir Iain Chalmers' evidence to the Health Select Committee that one anti-arrhythmic drug in the 1980s killed more people than all the Americans killed in the Vietnam war in spite of evidence of its fatal consequences that was suppressed for 13 years; recalls that the Safety Director of the US Food and Drug Administration said that the painkiller Vioxx caused up to 140,000 strokes and heart attacks in the USA alone; notes claims that Merck suppressed information on Vioxx's dangers in the same way that GlaxoSmithKline denied access to evidence of adverse reactions to Seroxat; and calls for the establishment of an independent drugs testing agency funded by a levy on pharmaceutical companies modelled on the Italian Agenzia Italiana del Farmaco.

EDM 769

GLAXOSMITHKLINE 30.01.2007

Flynn, Paul That this House congratulates the previous New York Attorney General, Eliot Spitzer, on his successful law suit which claimed that GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) suppressed four studies that failed to demonstrate that the drug Seroxat was effective in treating children and adolescents and indicated an increase of suicidal thinking and acts; is alarmed by the publication of a leaked GSK document proving they intended to manage the dissemination of data in order to minimise any potential negative commercial impact; and urges GSK to show remorse and to resolve in future to put their customers' health before GSK profits.

EDM 768

GLAXOSMITHKLINE AND SEROXAT 30.01.2007

Flynn, Paul That this House challenges GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) to act on its vacuous threat to sue the BBC on its evidence that GSK had deliberately suppressed and distorted trial results of the anti-depressant Seroxat to conceal its direct links to suicide in teenagers; notes that GSK's own unpublished studies showed the drug actually trebles the risk of suicidal thoughts and behaviour in depressed children without any proven benefit over placebos; urges the Medicine and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency to accelerate its criminal investigation into GSK begun three years ago; and looks forward to an early prosecution of a company that no longer deserves public trust.

EDM 767

CONDUCT OF GLAXOSMITHKLINE 30.01.2007

Flynn, Paul That this House questions the propriety and courtesy of the action of GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) in writing to hon. Members with constituency interests in GSK urging them to oppose Motions for Early Day (EDMs) critical of their conduct, then denying originators of the EDMs details of the content of their messages when requested.