

## Re: New York Times: Free Drug Samples? Bad Idea, Some Say

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.med/2007-05/msg00023.html>

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- *From:* "Pete" <pete@xxxxxxxxxxx>
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Just look at it this way – Nexium is the left side of the optical isomer for Prilosec. Why do you think that is. It is very simple – it is so the Pharma could start up another long term patent for something they already invented. It's all about patent laws and making money. I think the patient is just a pawn being moved around. And of course, we don't want to even mention the subject of curing a disease, versus keeping it at bay – not good for big Pharma – a subject constantly discussed in this, and many other ng's :-).

Yet, if a cure for a disease were available, some drug company would start to make it. They care about their profit, not other pharma companies' profit.

Jeff

That's the whole point Jeff. If they find a cure, they will lose their continuing profit which they get from all the maintenance type drugs that people take long term. That is where they get most of their money from. It is a basic concept of the dog eat dog capitalistic world we live in.

I didn't want to get into a discussion on this last part of my post, and I just tossed it in as kind of an aside for some levity. But I don't understand your logic on this, and doubt whether very many people would agree with you. I see no incentive for big Pharma to try to cure a disease and get a one time profit (so to speak) – it's not logical, even though it is rather inhumane. Like I said, this has been discussed at length in many ng's for years, as you are well aware of.

Pete