

**Submission Title:**

*Industry-Sponsored Publications in Emergency Medicine Research--2009 vs 2019*

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## Abstract

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### Introduction and purpose

There is a paucity of recent data examining the trends in private industry sponsorship of emergency medicine (EM) research. We evaluated the trend in reported funding sources for original research articles published in four well-established U.S. EM journals for 2009 vs 2019.

### Methods

This was a retrospective review of published original research articles during 2009 and 2019 in the journals Academic Emergency Medicine (AEM), American Journal of Emergency Medicine (AJEM), Annals of Emergency Medicine (Annals), and Journal of Emergency Medicine (JEM). Investigators conducted structured reviews to identify article characteristics/funding disclosures. A blinded study author reviewed a sample of 25 articles to assess for interrater reliability (kappa). Categorical data are analyzed by chi-square. The primary outcome parameter was to compare the proportion of studies funded by for-profit entities between the two years.

### Results

Overall, there were 180 original research articles assessed for 2009 vs. 226 in 2018. Inter-rater reliability was perfect (kappa = 1.0) for study type, funding source/type, private vs public funding, respectively. Within the overall sample, 21% were RCTs, 45% did not report any funding source, 18% were funded by the NIH, 18% funded by private entities of which (20/406; 5%) were from for-profit sources. For 2009 vs 2019, there were significant differences for the proportion of funding sources ( $p=0.01$ ) and study design types ( $p<0.001$ ) with an increasing proportion of RCTs. There were no significant differences in the proportion of NIH funded studies within those that were publicly funded (54% vs. 47%;  $p=0.2$ ). There was a significant decline in the proportion

of studies funded by for-profit entities vs other sources between the two years (8.3% vs. 2.2%;  $p=0.005$ ). In comparison to 2009, AJEM published studies with proportionally less funding by for-profit entities in 2019 (12% vs. 1%;  $p=0.003$ ).

## **Conclusion**

As compared to 2009, there was a significant decline in the proportion of studies funded by for-profit entities for 2019 within 4 well established, US-based EM journals.