

Appendix 6: Responses from 99* Members of Parliament and senior aides when asked why they supported or opposed the business sector being the primary source of funding for health research

Support business sector as primary funding source	Total no. (%) of times response given† n = 67	Oppose business sector as primary funding source	Total no. (%) of times response given† n = 32
Business sector has more money and can afford to fund health research	16 (22.4)	Business is only interested in profit	9 (28.1)
Balance between business and government funding of health research is needed	14 (20.9)	Business is not benevolent and will not invest in the public good	8 (25.1)
Business ensures accountability and that research will be used	13 (19.4)	Some projects are best led by the government	5 (15.6)
Business is more productive, more efficient and less wasteful	10 (14.9)	Health care should be public, not business-driven; medications should be available to all	5 (15.6)
Business should be permitted to fund health research if they are willing to do so	9 (13.4)	Balance between business and government funding of health research is needed	4 (12.5)
Decisions should be driven by market demand	9 (13.4)	Health research should not be pharmaceutically driven	4 (12.5)
There should be a return on investment	8 (11.9)	Research conducted may not be objective or unbiased	3 (9.4)
Business funding of health research frees government resources for alternate use	8 (11.9)	Businesses do not conduct basic research	3 (9.4)
Government wastes money and works too slowly	6 (9.0)	Business would not fund research into big, new ideas	3 (9.4)
Business ensures responsible spending	5 (7.5)	Only profitable research would be conducted	3 (9.4)
Government funding of research is insufficient	4 (6.0)	Canadians will eventually end up paying for it	3 (9.4)
Business is better at innovation	4 (6.0)	Business involvement may create a market for a product without real need	2 (6.3)
The source of the funding doesn't matter	4 (6.0)	Business would want to patent and protect their ideas	2 (6.3)
Policies should be developed to ensure everyone benefits from health research	3 (4.5)	Business would not fund research focused on healthy lifestyles and disease prevention	2 (6.3)
Other‡	27 (40.3)	Business is not accountable to the people	2 (6.3)
		Government funding of research is insufficient	2 (6.3)
		Other‡	14 (43.8)

*Two respondents stated that they neither supported nor opposed the business sector as the primary source of health research funding.

†Percentages do not add to 100 because multiple responses were allowed.

‡"Other" represents unique supporting (17) and opposing (14) answers, each mentioned by no more than 2 respondents.