

## Twitter Thread by [yudhika](#)



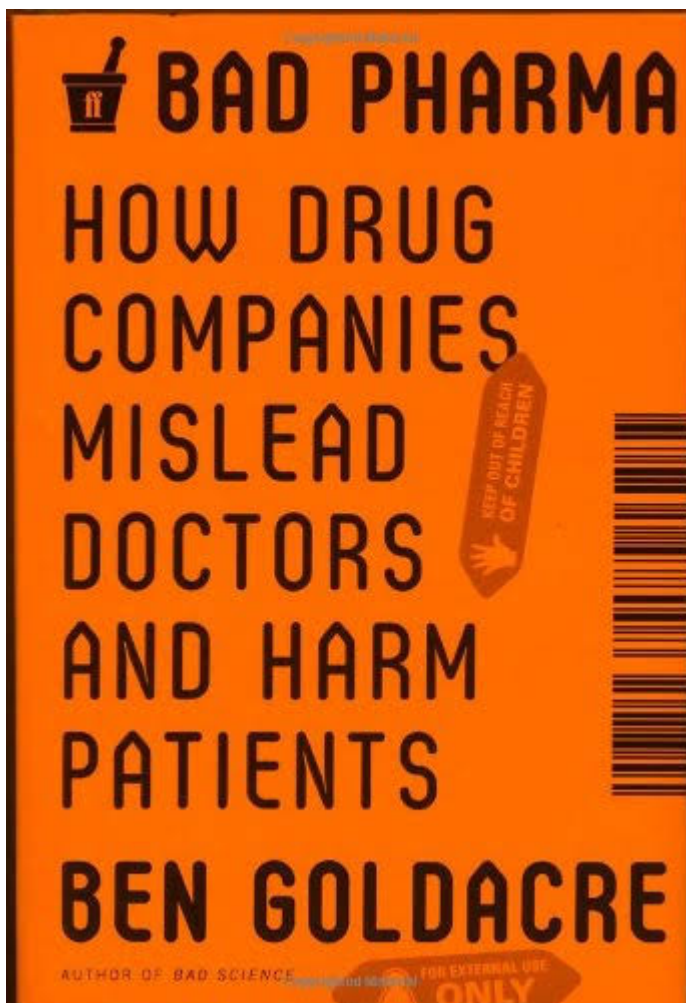
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"How Drug Companies mislead doctors and harm patients?"

This is a title of a book written by a British physician Ben Goldacre.

One of the famous example cited by him is an example of one particular antidepressant reboxetine.



Only one trial of this was published out of seven when tested against a 'placebo'. Obviously the trial published found it to be effective and the remaining six trials remained unpublished.

What were these unpublished trials like?



The same antidepressant was tested against serotonin reuptake inhibitors. It was proved in this trial that the particular antidepressant was not only less effective but also had worse adverse effects.

I'm just citing one such example from the book.

The second major point raised in this book is about how pharmaceutical companies market their products, how they intrude into medical syllabus/education, how they influence the doctors and regulators in supporting their medicines, etc.

My Example:

Colgate-Palmolive Co. announces the publication of the textbook Periodontal Disease and Overall Health: A Clinician's Guide, Second Edition.

<https://t.co/Rvt1HWdJth>

Goldacre continuously and repeatedly emphasizes the harm caused to patients resulting from the biased and incomplete reporting of trials data, and other failures of drug regulation and marketing.

My example:

Female oral contraceptives and hormone therapy drugs all carry an increased risk for blood clot formation. Please read this article for more details:

<https://t.co/wtBwlsbXni>

The third point raised by him are basically the shortcomings in the design and conduct of clinical trials.

And how these trials seem convincing and well researched.

My example:

Oklahoma's attorney general accused Johnson & Johnson of a "multi-billion-dollar brainwashing campaign" to get doctors to overprescribe opioids, downplaying the addiction risks.

<https://t.co/5f26xDwMOB>