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**Public-private partnerships (PPPs) to incentivise research and development (R&D) for neglected tropical diseases (NTDs)**

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Neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) predominantly affect the poorest populations of the developing world. Pharmaceutical companies are reluctant to invest in research and development (R&D) of the NTDs not only because of the low purchasing power of the potential consumers but also because of the low protection of intellectual property rights in the affected countries. The economic context has led to the proliferation of public-private partnerships (PPPs) in the last two decades. Nevertheless, despite their growing role in public health, the way in which these development models operate as well as their impact remains vague. Accordingly, we conducted a systematic review of PPPs for each of the 17 NTDs of the World health organization (WHO) list over three large databases â€“ Scopus, PubMed and IDEAS/Repec. The search resulted in 181 non-duplicate papers from which 71 met the inclusion criteria. The findings leave much to be desired: in spite of the increasing scale and significance of PPPs, there is very little in-depth empirical investigation. Only one economic evaluation analysis could be found and revealed that the PPP model is not the most-cost effective approach to develop products for NTDs.