GLP podcast: Can you trust ‘industry-funded’ science?

Popular science news is often shot through with the assumption that industry-funded research is inherently suspect because companies value profits above all else—including scientific integrity. No doubt there are examples from recent history of companies behaving badly—the tobacco industry being the most prominent and offensive example—but these instances are exceptions to a very important rule that generally keeps industry in line: misrepresenting the science behind your products opens you up to costly litigation, regulation and reputational damage that can destroy your company.

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Indeed even when companies don’t do anything wrong, they can still end up paying billions of dollars to settle legal disputes, as the recent crop of lawsuits brought against baby powder manufacturer Johnson & Johnson illustrated. Nevertheless, we shouldn’t just take it on faith that industry always tells the truth about its products or the research it conducts. And that raises a crucial question: how should we approach industry science?

Join hosts Dr. Liza Dunn and GLP contributor Cameron English on episode 270 of Science Facts and Fallacies as they break down this critical issue from their most recent Twitter Space.

Podcast:

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