

# Market Size and Pharmaceutical Innovation

Pierre Dubois,\* Olivier de Mouzon† Fiona Scott-Morton‡ Paul Seabright§

This Version: October 2011¶

## Abstract

This paper quantifies the relationship between market size and innovation in the pharmaceutical industry using improved, and newer, methods and data. We estimate the elasticity of innovation, as measured by the number of new chemical entities appearing on the market for a given disease class, to the expected market size as measured by the spending of sufferers of diseases in that class (and others acting on their behalf such as insurers and governments) on their treatment during the patent lifetime. We find positive significant elasticities with a point estimate under our preferred specification of 25.2%. This suggests that, on average, at the mean market size an additional \$1.8 billion is required in additional patent life revenue to support the invention of one additional new chemical entity. An elasticity substantially and significantly below 100% is also a plausible implication of the hypothesis that innovation in pharmaceuticals is becoming more difficult and expensive over time, as costs of regulatory approval rise and as the industry runs out of "low hanging fruit".

Key words: Innovation, Market Size, Elasticity, Pharmaceuticals.

JEL codes: O31, L65, O34.

---

\*Toulouse School of Economics (GREMAQ, IDEI), pierre.dubois@tse-fr.eu

†Toulouse School of Economics (GREMAQ, INRA), olivier.demouzon@tse-fr.eu

‡Yale University, fiona.scottmorton@yale.edu

§Toulouse School of Economics (GREMAQ, IDEI), paul.seabright@tse-fr.eu

¶We thank Tamer Abdelgawad, Amber Batata, Bruno Jullien, Bernard Salanié and seminar participants at Toulouse, PEPC Paris, Imperial College London for useful comments. We thank SCIFI-GLOW: SCience, Innovation, FIRms and markets in a GLObalized World, Contract no. SSH7-CT-2008-217436. The statements, findings, conclusions, views, and opinions contained and expressed in this article are based in part on data obtained under license from the following IMS Health Incorporated information service(s): MIDAS™ (1997–2007), IMS Health Incorporated. All Rights Reserved. The statements, findings, conclusions, views, and opinions contained and expressed herein are not necessarily those of IMS Health Incorporated or any of its affiliated or subsidiary entities. We also thank Pfizer Inc for its center research support to IDEI. The statements, findings, conclusions, views and opinions contained and expressed herein are those of the authors only.

# 1 Introduction

This paper quantifies the relationship between financial returns and innovation in the pharmaceutical industry. More precisely we shall estimate the elasticity of innovation (as measured by the number of new chemical entities appearing on the market for a given disease class) to the expected market size as measured by the spending on treatment by sufferers of diseases in that class (and others acting on their behalf such as insurers and governments). While this is an important question that has been addressed in earlier literature, we believe our paper improves on that literature in several important ways. First, we have data on the names and the global revenues of all pharmaceutical products over an eleven year period, as collected by a pharmaceutical data provider IMS. These detailed data allow us to calculate an excellent measure of innovation, the number of new molecular entities released during our time period. Literature prior to the availability of this dataset proxies for innovation with intermediate measures such as clinical trials or available regimens, or counts only drug products released in the United States. Global revenue data have never, to our knowledge, been used in the literature to measure the response of innovation to market size but yet are likely one of the most useful available measures of market size. Secondly, we employ new methods to estimate the relationship between innovation and market size. Our empirical technique is designed to obtain unbiased estimates from censored count data. In addition, it accommodates our instrumental variables strategy, also new in the literature. While a large expected market size may stimulate new pharmaceutical innovation, it may also be the case that new pharmaceutical innovation creates sales and therefore market size. New innovation also intensifies competition between products and therefore reduces prices and the overall proportion of consumer willingness to pay that producers can expect to appropriate. Because of the likely existence of reverse causality, we instrument for market size in our estimation procedure. We find, not surprisingly, that market size has a positive impact on global release of new molecular entities. However, our elasticity estimate is very substantially below unity, which implies (as we explain in the theoretical section) that if our model of innovation is accurate the fixed costs of innovation are rising sharply with market size. We follow up this estimate with regressions specific to a therapeutic class. Although there is significant variation between therapeutic classes, and the average elasticity

across classes is somewhat higher than that estimated by pooling classes, this elasticity still implies significantly rising innovation costs with market size.

Expected market size is influenced by broadly three types of factors. First there are factors such as demographic and socio-economic change, which affect the numbers of people who are likely to suffer from a particular medical condition and the resources they are likely to have available to spend on alleviating their condition. A motivating example concerning research on gout from the New York Times illustrates the incentives for R&D. "Often called the "disease of kings" because of its association with the rich foods and copious alcohol once available only to aristocrats, gout is staging a middle-class comeback as American society grows older and heavier. ...Companies are now racing to improve upon decades-old generic drugs that do not work well for everyone. Already this year the Food and Drug Administration has approved the first new gout drug in more than 40 years..."<sup>1</sup> Many other examples evidently spring to mind of research motivated primarily by changing demographic and socio-economic factors, such as research into cardiovascular disease and Alzheimer's disease. We shall refer to such factors in the paper as "potential demand".

Secondly, there are factors particular to the pharmaceutical and health-care industries, such as the degree of competition among firms and the strategies that firms use to innovate, cut costs, and win customers, that affect the profitability of innovation. For example, intensified competition from generics for branded products occurs not only as a response to patent expiry but also in response to the purchasing environments. Cost-control pressures from managed care create incentives for generic use and reduce the expected market size of an innovation. The response of firms to a given potential demand may also depend on such considerations as their degree of symmetry in competence: the competition between two firms of similar size and employing similar talent pools may be quite different

---

<sup>1</sup> "Disease of Rich Extends Its Pain to Middle class", New York Times, June 12, 2009 . The story continued:

"...a product called Uloric from Takeda Pharmaceutical. Another new drug, Krystexxa, made by Savient Pharmaceuticals of East Brunswick, N.J., will be reviewed for possible approval by an F.D.A. advisory committee on Tuesday. And several other companies are testing drugs in clinical trials. "It's kind of like the forgotten disease," said Barry D. Quart, chief executive of one of those companies, Ardea Biosciences of San Diego. Ardea discovered accidentally that an AIDS drug it was developing might work against gout. Now the company has shifted its focus to gout, envisioning annual sales of \$1 billion if its drug is successful. That would mean a huge increase in spending on gout medicines, which had sales of only \$53.4 million last year, according to IMS Health, a health care information company. Uloric, the drug from Takeda, sells a daily pill for at least \$4.50 compared with 10 to 50 cents for the most commonly used generic, allopurinol. It is estimated that two million to six million Americans have gout... Various studies suggest that the number of cases in this country has as much as doubled in the last three decades".

from competition between a leader and a follower firm.

Thirdly, there are public policies, including policies towards intellectual property protection, drug safety and testing, pricing and reimbursement, and public funding of research. As a matter of comparison, in 2004, research spending by NIH reached \$28.5 billion while the members of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America report R&D spending of about \$40 billion - see CBO 2006. Policy innovations such as the introduction of Medicare in the 1960s have had a large impact on expected market size, and various researchers have noted the consequences for research and innovation in drugs for the elderly that were the probable consequence (Acemoglu et al., 2006).

In principle it might be thought that, from a policy point of view, the only really interesting factors affecting expected market size are those in the third category, and that therefore any study such as ours should focus on the elasticity of innovation with respect to these factors only. Such estimates could be used, for instance, to calculate the social cost of a particular drug pricing regime or of a proposed change in the length or breadth of patent protection, or the social returns to additional spending by the NIH. However, this argument is flawed, even if one ignores the possibility that the influence of the other types of factor may be of independent interest (such as for predicting future trends in research and innovation). Estimating the elasticity of innovation with respect to past changes in policy would be possible only if we could observe genuine policy experiments, conducted without reference to the many factors, unobserved to the econometrician, that might influence the potential rate of innovation. But most policy changes are not like that, and arguably most of them should not be. They are typically endogenous to the rate of innovation itself, either because public policy may feel it does not need to intervene to favor areas where innovation is already coming along nicely, or because public policy likes to bask in the glow of supporting visibly successful areas, or because once key drugs have been developed it is tempting to lower their prices to users, or for any number of other reasons. This makes the observed elasticity of innovation with respect to past policy changes unreliable as a guide to the elasticity of innovation with respect to future policy changes.

Factors of the first type, by contrast, are rarely under the influence of either government or industry participants, at least not in the short- to medium-term. We exploit these exogenous changes in

potential demand to estimate elasticities, freed from the confusing interference on expected market size of the two other types of factor. We examine the response of global new drug launches to global expected market size measured in revenues. Of course, a simple regression of new drugs on revenues will pick up both causal directions mentioned above: revenues attract innovation and also drug innovations generate revenue. Our identification strategy is as follows. If the cardiovascular market is expected to grow due to an aging population, firms will want to serve that demand. Therefore, there will be an increase in cardiovascular R&D and - on average - we will see the release of new cardiovascular products on the market at the time of the demand increase. Different therapeutic markets whose potential sizes change differently over time due to demographic and income differences drive commensurate changes in innovative activity. We can measure the elasticity of new products to expected market size using this variation.

Thus our instruments are measures of population and disease prevalence in our sample of countries over time. Our strategy is sensible because demographics are strongly correlated with revenue. Moreover, the invention of a new drug does not change the contemporaneous propensity for populations of a particular country to suffer from cardiovascular disease, for example. One might think that discovery of an effective innovative product would increase life expectancy and therefore alter the demographic trends we measure<sup>2</sup>. However, the fact that we use contemporaneous demographics over a 4 year period of time contemporaneous to product launch makes this unlikely and protects us from this reverse causality. It is not likely that a new product could affect mortality this quickly. Thus we expect demographics to be uncorrelated with the error term in our regression of new drug counts. For our assumption to be violated, it must be the case that a novel therapy generates additional measurable diagnoses in the specific area. While this makes sense for narrowly targeted treatments and diagnoses, it seems much less likely to be operating at the level of fairly coarse disease areas tracked by WHO, such as “cardiovascular disease”. By utilizing this instrumental variables approach, we can isolate the impact of revenue changes driven by demographics and determine their impact on innovation.

We use international data to reflect the fact that all markets, including those outside the US, constitute an important incentive for innovation. There is an older literature relating market size in

---

<sup>2</sup>Lichtenberg and Duflos (2008) provides evidence of this channel.

a country to the R&D undertaken in that country. Because there are unobserved factors such as the level of education in a country that might affect both R&D and health spending, we do not use this source of variation. The variation we exploit is across therapeutic classes and over time, rather than across geography. Additionally, biopharmaceutical research is carried out all across the globe by both local and international firms. In our view, therefore, the appropriate level of analysis for a study of the determinants of innovation – both in terms of which products to include and which markets to count - is global.

The relatively recent literature on the topic of the elasticity of pharmaceutical innovation to expected market size contains two broad approaches. The older of the two uses accounting data to estimate the determinants of R&D (see Grabowski and Vernon (2000)). In theory, under perfect capital markets R&D would be chosen only in response to expected future profitability of the project. However, if capital markets are imperfect and external funds are more expensive than internal cash flow, current revenue (market size) will have a positive impact on the amount of research funded by the firm. Of course, if current market size is a proxy for future market size, then current research may be responding to future sales opportunities also, but these two effects cannot be disentangled. Giacotto et al. (2005) regress R&D-to-sales ratio on the pharmaceutical price index from the previous year and other variables. Again, this is a model of innovation responding not to expected future market size, but to recent prices. They find a 1% increase in price leads to a 0.58% increase in R&D spending. Finkelstein (2004) finds that a 1% increase in revenue for vaccines leads to a (much lower) 0.05% to 0.06% increase in R&D spending on vaccines. A second stream of the literature uses alternate measures both for outcomes and market size. Innovation is measured as clinical trials (Blume-Kohout and Sood, 2009; Yin, 2008, 2009), journal articles or disease regimens (Lichtenberg, 2006), while potential market size is (negative) disability-adjusted life years (DALY) or mortality (Civan and Maloney, 2006,2009, Lichtenberg, 2005). Lichtenberg (2005) finds results of similar magnitude: a 1% increase in the number of people with cancer leads to a .58% increase in chemotherapy regimens. Civan and Maloney (2006, 2009) find that a 1% increase in expected US entry price leads to .5% increase in the number of drugs in the drug development pipeline. Lichtenberg (2005) finds that a 1% increase

in DALY leads to a 1.3% increase in global drug launches. Acemoglu and Linn (2004) use variation from 1970-2000 in the expenditure share of different US age cohorts for different therapeutic classes. They combine this with data on all US FDA-approved new products and find that a 1% increase in contemporaneous expenditure shares leads to a 4% increase in the number of new drugs released on the market. This is a markedly higher elasticity than found in the previous literature.

While we will estimate the impact of financial incentives on the launch of new products, we are cautious about drawing conclusions about the welfare benefits of those new products. There are various reasons why this is not straightforward. One is that there may be diminishing marginal health benefits from innovation: the first radical innovation in a therapeutic class may produce much greater overall benefits than a drug that is just sufficiently different from it to be granted a patent (though the opposite could be true if the second drug avoids debilitating side-effects associated with the first). A second reason is that it is particularly difficult in this line of research to calculate the welfare of a new innovation in the absence of measures of consumers' valuation or willingness to pay. Most patients are insured and therefore do not face a marginal price when buying biopharmaceuticals. The buyer in most cases is either the nation in the case of national health systems, or the large PBMs, in the case of private healthcare (USA), or some national systems like Germany. This buyer, while not the patient, is the one that controls the formulary and pays at the margin, and so, from the point of view of the researcher, has revealed a valuation for the treatment. However, some of these buyers may have monopsony power and face political constraints, so using negotiated prices may not closely reflect consumer welfare. An alternative approach to calculating welfare is to simply measure life years saved by the new innovations and multiply by QALY, though comparable data for many of these products is sparse. Our elasticities should therefore be interpreted only in terms of new product numbers and great care should be exercised before any welfare conclusions are explicitly or implicitly drawn from them.

We begin in section 2 by describing a simple model with testable implications we are investigating. Section 3 describes our data. Section 4 gives our detailed results. Section 5 concludes.

## 2 Theoretical Framework and Testable Implications

We are interested in the effect of expected market size on innovation. The model will consider that a market represents a set of products in a given therapeutic class (though in the empirics we shall test the robustness of our estimates to variations in the breadth of definition of such classes).

Consider the question of how firms expect the share of the potential revenues in a given market to vary according to their R&D investments. This problem has two parts: how much their investments will affect either the probability of discovering new drugs or the date at which they are discovered (or both), and how the discovery of new drugs will affect their revenues given the expected presence of other drugs on the market. Several simple models can be considered to study this relationship, and predictions differ according to the assumed exogeneity of the structure of the industry, to the number of firms, to the cost structure of R&D, and to the existence of R&D spillovers.

One approach which has been used in the previous literature is that drugs within a given therapeutic category are *only* vertically differentiated; at any one moment the best drug, and only the best, will capture the entire market. However, the top drug may not remain the best for long, and ongoing research may at any moment produce a better drug which will in turn capture the entire market, reducing the revenues of the previous best drug immediately to zero. The effort of pharmaceutical research will therefore consist in trying to produce the drugs that are better than existing drugs and hold that position for long enough to sustain their development costs before the next improved drug in the class arrives.

We want to include horizontal differentiation in our model for several reasons. First, as a practical matter, it is clear that many different treatments within the same therapeutic class have positive revenue in the same time period. This, along with the findings in the clinical literature, indicates that there is substantial horizontal differentiation in pharmaceutical markets. We want our model to reflect this feature of the industry. Secondly, we are interested in developing a model that will demonstrate a link between market size and the number of products. A model that allows the firm to choose its level of R&D will yield results that depend on the trade-off between horizontal and vertical product differentiation, issues that are not well explored in a model in which the highest



quality product captures the entire market. For instance, Sutton (1991) shows that increasing market size may not alter concentration in the industry if increased quality successfully attracts consumers away from horizontally differentiated alternative products. In these circumstances a larger market size will lead the firm to invest in vertical differentiation which naturally results in higher quality products, but not in the entry of new firms. The reason is that margins must support the fixed costs desired by consumers; if they want high quality, then both market share and margins must contribute to covering those fixed costs, which means concentration must also be high. Increasing the degree of horizontal differentiation weakens the Sutton result because of the built-in incentive for a firm to serve a differentiated niche even with lower quality. Berry and Waldfogel (2010) illustrate this trade-off in their work comparing restaurants to newspapers. Because restaurants are more horizontally differentiated than newspapers and costs are mostly variable (unlike in newspapers), increasing market size does call forth new firms and reduce concentration. By contrast, newspaper quality is improved using fixed costs and newspapers compete on vertical quality measures, so increased market size does not create new firms but rather raises the quality of incumbents. In their paper, the type of differentiation and the cost structure have the same response to increased market size and work together to create maximal difference in outcomes between the two industries. Our setting, pharmaceuticals, has significant horizontal differentiation but also significant fixed costs, thus not fitting neatly into the Berry and Waldfogel (2010) framework. We present below a model that allows for both horizontal and vertical product differentiation, where firms can invest in quality by increasing fixed cost. We show that the number of firms increases in market size when fixed costs are exogenous. To address the Sutton point, we repeat the analysis for endogenous fixed costs and find the conditions under which we achieve the same result.

Lastly, our final point is that therapeutic classes with horizontal differentiation are much easier to operationalize empirically, a point we will return to below.

## **2.1 A Simple Model of R&D with Horizontal Differentiation**

The model is a version of the well-known circle model due to Salop (1979), extended to incorporate vertical differentiation in the manner of Armstrong and Weeds (2005). The Salop circle model is a

nice choice for our problem because a natural number of firms fit round the circle in response to consumers' willingness to pay and fixed costs. In this framework, when a firm considers whether it should invest or not, it forms its expectations about revenues of the product over its lifetime, taking into account the productivity of its own research programs and those of its rivals. We assume that firms have rational expectations of the number of rivals, shares and prices.

Consider a circle of unit size, with a mass  $m$  of consumers uniformly distributed around the circle. We shall call this parameter  $m$  the "potential demand", and note that it is not the same as actual market size (or revenue) since the latter will depend on other conditions including prices.

Around this circle  $N$  firms are located at equal intervals. Firm  $i$  is located at point  $i/N$ , and incurs a fixed cost of investment to produce a drug of quality  $v_i$  which it sells at price  $p_i$ ; the number of firms  $N$  will be determined by the requirement that the marginal firm makes zero profits (we shall ignore integer problems).

A consumer purchases at most one unit of the drug, and has an outside option yielding utility normalized to zero, so will purchase uniquely if doing so yields weakly positive utility. To simplify the algebra we assume marginal costs of production are zero, though nothing in the qualitative results turns on this assumption.

Consider what happens if there is market coverage – every consumer buys from at least one firm. A consumer located at point  $c$  between firm  $i$  and firm  $i + 1$  and who is indifferent between the two will derive utility  $U_c$  where

$$U_c = v_i - p_i - t \left( c - \frac{i}{N} \right) = v_{i+1} - p_{i+1} - t \left( \frac{i+1}{N} - c \right)$$

from which we can define  $c$ , the location of the indifferent consumer under market coverage, as

$$c = \frac{i}{N} + \frac{1}{2N} + \frac{v_i - v_{i+1} - (p_i - p_{i+1})}{2t}$$

where  $t$  is the (linear) “transport cost”, an indicator of the extent of horizontal product differentiation. In a symmetric equilibrium in which all firms' prices and qualities are identical, this means that the utility of the marginal consumer becomes

$$U_c = v_i - p_i - \frac{t}{2N} \tag{1}$$

Now, consider what happens if market coverage does not obtain. Then the indifferent consumer is defined by

$$v_i - p_i - t \left( c' - \frac{i}{N} \right) = 0$$

where  $c'$  is the marginal consumer in the absence of market coverage. This implies that

$$c' = \frac{i}{N} + \frac{(v_i - p_i)}{t}$$

In practice we shall see that it is always more interesting to look at the case of market coverage, since for a given potential market size  $m$  there will either be no entry or else firms will enter until the available space on the circle is entirely occupied.

Now consider the objective function  $\Pi_i$  of firm  $i$ . We look at two cases. First, there is the case of exogenous quality, then of endogenous quality with quadratic costs of investment in quality.

### 2.1.1 Exogenous quality

Let's assume that the quality of products is fixed exogenously and consider first that the market coverage is complete. Then, given the expressions for the indifferent consumers, we can derive the demand for each firm  $i$  and obtain the following objective function for the profits of firm  $i$ :

$$\Pi_i = mp_i \left( \frac{1}{N} + \frac{2v_i - v_{i-1} - v_{i+1} - (2p_i - p_{i-1} - p_{i+1})}{2t} \right) - K$$

Taking first order conditions with respect to prices while qualities are fixed yields:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \Pi_i}{\partial p_i} &= m \left( \frac{1}{N} + \frac{2v_i - (v_{i-1} + v_{i+1}) + (p_{i-1} + p_{i+1})}{2t} - \frac{2p_i}{t} \right) = 0 \\ p_i &= \frac{2t}{N} + (p_{i-1} + p_{i+1}) + 2v_i - (v_{i-1} + v_{i+1}) \end{aligned}$$

In a symmetric equilibrium where qualities and prices are identical among firms, this implies that

$$p_i = \frac{t}{2N} \tag{2}$$

We can now use the zero-profit condition to solve for the equilibrium value of  $N$  (ignoring integer problems). Substituting for equilibrium prices in the profit function yields

$$\Pi_i = \frac{mt}{2N^2} - K$$

which when profits are zero implies

$$N = \sqrt{\frac{mt}{2K}} \quad (3)$$

Then, industry profits are zero and industry revenue is  $NK$ .

This yields a monotonic, strictly concave, relationship between potential demand  $m$  and the number of firms  $N$  (hence of pharmaceutical products in the market), with  $N$  proportional to the square root of  $m$ . From this we can derive

$$\frac{\partial N}{\partial m} = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{t}{2mK}} = \frac{N}{2m} \quad (4)$$

which implies that the elasticity of  $N$  with respect to  $m$  is 0.5.

Note that we would obtain a similar qualitative finding with a quadratic transportation cost function  $t(x) = tx^2$ , as we would obtain  $N = \left(\frac{mt}{2K}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}}$  with a corresponding elasticity of  $\frac{1}{3}$ .

To verify the conditions under which this is consistent with market coverage, note that substituting (2) into (1) implies that the indifferent consumer  $c$  has utility level

$$U_c = v_i - \frac{t}{N}$$

which for market coverage with exogenous quality implies, by substitution of (3), that

$$v_i \geq \sqrt{\frac{2tK}{m}}$$

So we can conclude that, if quality is exogenous and above some threshold ( $\sqrt{\frac{2tK}{m}}$ ) that is increasing in the extent of product differentiation ( $t$ ) and in fixed entry costs ( $K$ ), and decreasing in potential demand ( $m$ ), then the number of drugs in the market increases as the square root of potential demand.

However, it's important to note that potential demand as we have defined it is not the same as revenue, or market size. Total revenue  $NK$  is proportional to the number of firms, and thus the elasticity of the number of firms with respect to total revenue is one. The reason why the elasticity with respect to potential demand is lower than that with respect to total revenue is simply that revenue does not increase proportionately to potential demand. Greater potential demand attracts more firms and the increased competition lowers prices, thereby depressing revenue.

In our empirical estimation we have no direct way to measure  $m$ . What we can measure is revenue. We therefore expect there to be a unit elasticity of the number of firms with respect to revenue, unless fixed costs of entry are not constant in the number of firms. If fixed costs of entry decrease in the number of firms, say because of industry level scale economies, this will lead to an elasticity greater than one. If fixed costs increase in the number of firms, this will lead to an elasticity less than one. Conversely, we can use the estimated elasticity to infer whether fixed costs are increasing or decreasing in the number of firms.

To conclude the analysis of the case with exogenous quality, we note that if the market were not fully covered, prices would be given by the expression

$$p_i = \frac{v_i}{2}$$

Then, the profit function becomes

$$\Pi_i = \frac{mv_i^2}{4} = K$$

which implies that fixed costs of entry are either too high so that no entry occurs, or low enough so that entry occurs until it exhausts all available opportunities. For constant fixed cost, this suggests that market coverage is the only interesting case to study. For fixed costs that vary by potential demand, entry will be determined entirely by the shape of the cost function: any increase in  $m$  will simply raise the profit threshold for entry, and all firms with fixed costs below the new higher threshold will enter.

### 2.1.2 Endogenous quality

In studying endogenous quality, we therefore look only at the case of full market coverage. Then, the profit function can be written as follows:

$$\Pi_i = mp_i \left( \frac{1}{N} + \frac{2v_i - v_{i-1} - v_{i+1} - (2p_i - p_{i-1} - p_{i+1})}{2t} \right) - \left( K + \frac{\gamma(v_i - v)^2}{2} \right)$$

where  $K + \frac{\gamma(v_i - v)^2}{2}$  is the cost of innovating with an innovation of quality level  $v_i$ .

This differs from the profit function when quality is exogenous only in that the fixed cost contains an element that is quadratic in the cost of increasing quality above a certain base level  $v$ .

Assume that firms first choose product quality as part of their R&D decisions, then choose prices once qualities are fixed. When choosing their R&D decisions they take the R&D decisions of other firms as fixed and therefore also their entry decisions, so  $N$  is taken as given by firms choosing quality.

In solving for prices we can no longer presume equilibrium is symmetric. We assume nevertheless that equilibrium is symmetric among firms other than firm  $i$ . Writing  $p_j = p_{i+1} = p_{i-1}$  and analogously for qualities, taking first order conditions with respect to  $p_i$  and substituting in the analogous first order conditions for  $p_j$  yields

$$p_i = \frac{t}{N} + \frac{2(v_i - v_j)}{3}$$

Substituting for prices in the objective function yields

$$\Pi_i = m \left( \frac{t}{N} + \frac{(v_i - v_j)}{3} \right) \left( \frac{1}{N} + \frac{v_i - v_j}{3t} \right) - \left( K + \frac{\gamma(v_i - v)^2}{2} \right)$$

and taking first order conditions with respect to  $v_i$  yields

$$\frac{m}{N} + \frac{4m(v_i - v_j)}{9t} + \gamma v - \gamma v_i = 0$$

which, since equilibrium is symmetric, implies that

$$v_i = v + \frac{m}{\gamma N}$$

This incidentally implies that the condition for market coverage can be written as

$$v + \frac{m}{\gamma N} - \frac{t}{N} - \frac{t}{2N} \geq 0$$

which implies a threshold condition for  $v$ , namely that  $v \geq \frac{3t\gamma - 2m}{2\gamma N}$ .

We can now use the zero-profit condition to solve for the equilibrium value of  $N$ , denoted  $N^*$ . Substituting for equilibrium qualities and prices in the profit function yields

$$\Pi_i = \frac{mt}{N^2} - \left( K + \frac{m^2}{2\gamma N^2} \right)$$

which when profits are zero implies

$$N^* = \sqrt{\frac{mt}{K} \left( 1 - \frac{m}{2t\gamma} \right)}$$

A real solution for  $N^*$  requires that  $\gamma \geq \frac{m}{2t}$ , which will hold so long as the cost of improving the product is sufficiently great.

Then, we also have the equilibrium quality of products which is

$$v_i = v + \frac{1}{\gamma} \sqrt{\frac{mK}{t - \frac{m}{2\gamma}}}$$

which is increasing in  $K$ , decreasing in  $\gamma$ ,  $t$ .

We can then differentiate  $N^*$  with respect to  $m$  to yield:

$$\frac{\partial N}{\partial m} = \frac{t - \frac{m}{\gamma}}{2\sqrt{mtK\left(1 - \frac{m}{2t\gamma}\right)}}$$

which is strictly positive so long as  $\gamma > m/2t$ .

The general conclusion about the relationship between potential demand and innovation derived in the model with exogenous quality therefore carries over to the model with endogenous quality, so long as the cost of improving quality is sufficiently high.

However, with endogenous quality, we no longer find a unit elasticity of the number of firms (or drugs)  $N^*$  with respect to total revenue. In this case, total market revenue  $R^*$  is endogenous and given as a function of endogenous  $N^*$  by

$$R^*(N^*, m) = \left(K + \frac{m^2}{2\gamma N^{*2}}\right) N^* = KN^* + \frac{m^2}{2\gamma N^*}$$

which is a  $U$  shaped function of  $N^*$  with a minimum at  $\frac{m}{\sqrt{2\gamma K}}$ . It is useful to note that as  $\gamma \rightarrow \infty$  it converges to the expression for revenue under exogenous fixed costs.

However, since for a real solution for  $N$  it is necessary that  $\gamma \geq \frac{m}{2t}$ ,  $R^*(N^*, m)$  is increasing in  $N$  at the optimal  $N^*$  because

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial N} R^*(N^*, m) = K - \frac{m^2}{2\gamma N^{*2}} = K \left(1 - \frac{1}{2\gamma \frac{t}{m} - 1}\right) > 0$$

This means that the relationship between  $N^*$  and  $R^*$  is increasing for a given  $m$ .

Now, as  $R^*(N^*(m), m)$  is increasing because

$$\frac{dR^*(N^*(m), m)}{dm} = \frac{\partial R^*(N^*, m)}{\partial N} \frac{\partial N^*}{\partial m} + \frac{\partial R^*(N^*, m)}{\partial m} > 0$$

since

$$\frac{\partial N^*}{\partial m} = \frac{t - \frac{m}{\gamma}}{2\sqrt{mtK\left(1 - \frac{m}{2t\gamma}\right)}} > 0$$

and

$$\frac{\partial R^*(N^*, m)}{\partial m} = \frac{m}{\gamma N^*} > 0$$

we can define  $m(R^*)$  as the inverse of  $R^*(N^*(m), m)$ . The function  $m(R^*)$  is increasing in  $R^*$  and we thus have that  $\frac{\partial N^*}{\partial R^*} = \frac{\partial N^*}{\partial m} \frac{\partial m}{\partial R^*} > 0$ .

It follows therefore that the number of equilibrium firms will also be an increasing function of total market revenue.

## 2.2 Empirical Implications

For the empirical implementation of our model we make the simplifying assumption that each decision to undertake R&D on a particular drug is independent of the other drugs in a firm's portfolio (in effect, each drug is treated as an independent firm). This is clearly not literally true, but introducing into the model effects of multiple drug portfolios would greatly complicate it (by making equilibria asymmetric, for example, as well as by making expected revenues for each drug dependent on the success probabilities of other drugs in the firm's portfolio) without conveying additional insight. We see no reason to think that the fundamental intuition that drugs launched will be an increasing function of expected market size should be undermined by portfolio effects of this kind. The important empirical question is how large is the elasticity in question, and we can estimate this without needing to worry about portfolio effects.

In our data, it is not typically the case that drugs take 100% market share serially upon entry. Rather, drugs are somewhat differentiated in their side effects and efficacy for different groups, and each can make positive sales over time with others in the same class. When a firm is considering investing in a horizontally-differentiated innovation, we assume it is aware of these empirical patterns and has rational expectations about the market size of the therapeutic class and revenues a typical drug in that class might earn over its lifetime. A virtue of our approach is that it does not require us to examine the laws and regulations of the nations in our dataset to determine the lifecycle and



profitability of a new innovation in each country. Rather, we use the empirical measurement of brand revenue over time to tell us the effective patent length and market size.

This empirical strategy allows us to abstract from the exact nature of competition among brands and how many entrants enter a market on average. Likewise, the state of generic competition when the patent does end is important in determining the effective period of brand exclusivity because differing regulations result in the brand keeping a substantial share of the market after generic entry in some countries and not in others. Additionally, in some countries (such as the USA) the entry of the generic does not drive down brand prices, whereas in others it may. Any other aspect of the IP regime that affects the brand's ability to earn profits, such as litigation by generics to end the patent term early, compulsory licensing, etc. will appear in the data as part of the revenue lost by the brand. Alternative IP provisions such as data exclusivity will likewise lengthen the effective period of brand exclusivity by keeping the cost of generic entry high (the entrant has to perform all the clinical trials again). In summary, the revenues of the brand over time will tell us what the effective market size is. We use revenue therefore as a summary statistic for differences in IP protections, entry costs, regulations, population, and wealth across countries. We operationalize this as the present discounted value of sales of the average drug in that category, invented in that time period, over its lifetime (20 years).

Observed pharmaceutical revenues are an outcome of the equilibrium relationship resulting from competition on the basis of innovation among firms in the biopharma industry. We consider that firms take investment in research and development decisions based on rational expectations of the profitability of such innovations. Given the usual time lag between R&D and innovations, we expect firms to anticipate market size and rationally invest years in advance. For example, a firm releasing a drug at time  $t$  is supposed to have begun the research process at  $t - 15$  if it expects that it will take 15 years to get approval for the new drug on a given market, taking into account the different phases of the innovation process from fundamental research through the final phase clinical trials. Thus assuming rational expectations by firms, the realization of an innovation should happen at the time it has been anticipated and be driven by the revenue finally realized by such innovation.

To summarize, we measure market size as the lifetime revenue accruing to the average product

that is launched during a particular time window. Our approach has the advantage of taking into account horizontal competitors in the innovation process that are innovating around the same time.

Our measure of innovation is a count of new chemical entities (NCE) by therapeutic category launched anywhere in the 14 countries from which we have revenue data. While lumpy because of their small numbers, we consider these products to be uncontroversially innovative. Drug approval agencies such as the FDA in the US will approve new varieties and forms of existing medications (e.g. extended release, injectable versus oral) and generic drugs; these do not fall into our definition of innovative. We feel that measuring products that have actually been marketed - and therefore survived all the steps in the innovation process - will yield insights that might be missed by analyzing clinical trials at different stages, or some other proxy for innovation.

### **3 Data description**

Our data set from IMS (Intercontinental Marketing Services) Health includes all product sales in 14 countries (Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Korea, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom, USA) between 1997 and 2007 (except for China, where 1997 and 1998 are missing). The data report sales by value and unit volume for all pharmaceutical and biologic products. All values are deflated into 2007 US\$ using the US consumer price index. The database reflects sales for all compounds in all 14 countries through retail pharmacies, hospitals and HMOs, and includes characteristics of drugs like their four-digit Anatomical Therapeutic Classification (ATC4) (607 different classes are reported), the main active ingredient of the drug (6216 different active ingredients are reported), the name of the firm producing the drug, whether it has been licensed, the patent start date, and the format of the drug (471 different formats are reported). Products in the same ATC4 by definition have the same indication and mechanism of action. Some other available and interesting drug characteristics are its brand type - licensed brand, original brand, other brand, or unbranded - and (when applicable) its patent expiry date - ranging from 1966 to 2030 in the available data, and which may differ from one country to another. We consider only ethical drugs and not OTC drugs. Quantities are given in standard units, one standard unit corresponding to the smallest

common dose of a product form, as defined by IMS Health.

Overall, the initial dataset has 6,163,465 observations (one per drug, country, year) but only 2,972,419 have strictly positive revenues and quantities (many observations correspond to years where the drug was not yet launched, or had disappeared in a given year and country, or to missing data on revenues or quantities). As for China, all observations for 1997 and 1998 have been dropped, revenues and quantities are zero at the same time for all drugs. It is clear that China was not observed these years, for unexplained reasons. After removing observations with zero revenue or quantity, some active ingredients and ATC4 classes disappear but we still have 6091 different active ingredients and 606 ATC 4 categories. Then, only the 251,558 branded drugs were kept (i.e. those where the brand type is either a licensed brand or the original brand) in order to focus on revenues from patented pharmaceutical innovations. This leads to dropping data from one country, India, where brand type is always unavailable in the data ('patent N/A'). In addition, this restriction leads to dropping many other active ingredients (4503), formats (217) and ATC4 (217) that appear in generic form only. Finally, since patents last 20 years, only the 68,219 observations that have their first patent date (throughout the different countries) after 1977 are kept, in order to have at least one observation (revenue & quantity) in all countries where the drug was sold. This leads to dropping 158,904 observations of old products with older first patent date, 5,568 with unknown first patent date and 18,867 with uncoded first patent date. In total, our restrictions to current branded products with complete data leads us to drop 1083 active ingredients, 151 ATC4, 109 formats and 30 patent years. We end up with a data set where 630 active ingredients are present in 238 ATC4 classes. We also categorize drugs into coarser ATC categories.

In the IMS data set, there are around 900 distinct on-patent products (that is, products which are on patent at some time during the 11 years of the data). Some of these are basically the same product in a different package.

All sales and prices are at the manufacturer levels, as reported by IMS, and thus approximate actual prices, except to the extent of off-invoice discounts. We believe these off-invoice discounts are not a very large factor in our data. For the US, Danzon and Furukawa (2006) compared the IMS

prices with US average sales price (ASP), which includes all discounts, as reported by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for the corresponding quarter, and found that on average, the IMS prices are similar to the ASPs. However, to the extent that unmeasured discounts exist, prices and revenues may be overestimated here.

We also use demographic data (population and mortality data) from the World Health Organization (WHO)<sup>3</sup>. Population has been extracted for the studied countries from available years since 1970. For all available country-year, population is known by sex (M/F) and by age distribution (0, 1-4, 5-9, . . . , 70-74, 75+), except for Mexico in 1977, where only total population by sex is available. Missing population information is reconstructed through a regression in logs on a country specific effect and a time trend which amounts to assuming that population evolves at a country specific annual growth rate between available years of data that is allowed to change over time at the same rate across countries.

Mortality data across years and countries are available per disease category as classified using the ICD-10 classification. The International Classification of Diseases (ICD) has evolved over time and the most recent one is the ICD10 version. Of course, disease categories and drug categories (ATC classes) are different things but one can attribute to each ATC class a "most likely" disease category in the ICD 10 classification. These are summarized in Table 13 in the Appendix.

It is important to realize that the time series dimension of the demographic data contains little "news", at least from year to year. Population projections change only slowly over time, as do mortality risks in any given demographic category.

The dependent variable is the total number of new chemical entities marketed anywhere in our 14 countries in a given disease category throughout a given time period. Only about one-third of the drugs approved annually in the United States are new compounds, or chemical entities; the rest represent modified forms or new uses of existing drugs.

These data in combination allow us to measure how the global size of the market for a drug in a particular category, for example, cardiovascular, shifts over years according to population and disease profile, and also allows us to see how many new NCEs (New Chemical Entities) pharmaceutical firms launch as the market size changes.

---

<sup>3</sup>See <http://www.who.int/whosis/mort/download/en/index.html>.

## 4 Estimation Method

### 4.1 Heuristic description

The first step in estimating the elasticity of innovation is the construction of an expected revenue measure. We do this by measuring market size over time for various disease categories in our set of countries. Then we measure how many new products are introduced over time, again by category. We describe our empirical procedure below.

We exploit differences across brand revenue in different therapeutic categories and different countries to estimate the potential market for an innovator in those different countries. For example, at launch the brand will have a share of revenues in the therapeutic category in the country. These revenues may change over time as the brand goes through its lifecycle, and will begin to decline when the patent expires and the brand faces significant new competition, or when the entry of substitute drugs causes the brand's price and/or share to drop. These patterns will vary across jurisdictions.

Price levels are determined by willingness to pay and the level of competition among products. A nation's ability and willingness to pay for healthcare will depend on whether it is nationally or privately financed and on the preferences of consumers and voters. In general, prices for biopharmaceuticals are higher in richer countries compared to poorer ones. Competitive conditions also vary by country according to the conduct of buyers, and these affect the realized market size available to the innovator. The different income levels and competitive landscapes across different nations will affect the price levels observed in the data. In general, prices, market structures, entry, market exclusivity and other features vary across countries. We will not model these because we can measure the average outcome, namely revenue per drug, and we assume firms anticipate these market conditions when making R&D decisions.

Then, our data let us compute the true global revenue obtained per innovation as observed in sales revenue in the data. The advantage of such an approach is that the global revenue from an innovation depends on the population using the new drug during its life cycle (not only on a given shorter period of time) and on the willingness to pay of drug users, which is allowed to vary over time (in contrast to Acemoglu and Linn, 2004).

This approach thus takes into account the fact that each innovation has a life-cycle in the market for pharmaceutical products which is clearly anticipated and which implies that sales are not uniformly distributed during the duration of the patent life. It is expected that the diffusion of an innovation may take some time, and that consumer-prescribers may have switching costs or learning costs that delay the full adoption of an innovation. Moreover, the lifecycle of a drug is typically affected by the competing and future innovations in the same drug category.

As mentioned above, there are two possible causal relationships that can appear in the data, working in opposite directions. Market size and innovation might be positively related because a particular market is expected to grow and therefore firms invest in new products for that market. This is the relationship of interest in this paper. A second possibility is that a successful innovation generates large sales due to its quality and novelty, and this causes the market (measured in dollars) to be large.

To deal with this second possible relationship, we employ an instrumental variables approach. We use as an instrument for each drug category a measure of *potential* demand. We operationalize this idea by using population by age or gender by country and disease prevalence in different countries. We do not use actual expenditures in any way in our instrument. We note that AL defines "expected market size" and employs it as an explanatory variable, not an instrument. Expected market size is either the sum of expenditures on the class for all ages, or the sum of the number of drugs in the class used by different ages weighted by population. A feature of our method we want to highlight is our effort to avoid using the outcome of interest, innovation, in potential market size – either as number of drugs or dollars.

Our instruments do not include expenditure, number of patients, or number of drugs available. Our instruments are the population in different age categories by country and disease prevalence in different countries. For these to be valid instruments we must assume innovation does not affect potential market size, which requires that there are no changes in WHO-measured morbidity or mortality that are driven by the innovation in the short run. Indeed, innovation in class  $c$  at period  $t$  can affect future longevity and potential market size of later periods (as hypothesized by Cerda, 2007 for example), but

not that of the current and subsequent periods corresponding to the patent life of the innovation. It seems reasonable to assume that class specific innovations cannot affect population size in the short run because of competing risks in other disease categories are likely to limit the immediate effect on mortality of an innovation.

## 4.2 Formal Definition of Market Size

Let  $d$  denote an active ingredient (or chemical entity) in a particular use class, hereafter known as a drug (all revenues correspond to revenues summed at the level of the chemical entity for different forms or brands with that chemical entity). We denote by  $R_d^t$  the revenue obtained for drug  $d$  at year  $t$ . Given that the IMS data are converted into current dollars taking already account of each year's exchange rate, we measure these revenues by summing all countries' sales and transform them into constant US dollars of 2007 using the Consumer Price Index for inflation. Our average drug has positive revenues for about twenty years (while the patent only last for 20 years, the brand is not typically launched until years after filing, and brands typically earn profits after patent expiration in many markets.) This leads us to write the total revenue obtained thanks to the patent for drug  $d$  as

$$\tilde{R}_d = \sum_{t'=t^0}^{t^0+20} \delta^{t'-t^0} R_d^{t'}$$

where  $\delta$  is the discount factor. We assume that these discounted revenues per drug determine investment decisions of firms.

We denote by  $\mathcal{C} = \{1, \dots, C\}$  a partition of the set of therapeutic classes (the 1 digit ATC classes). For a sub-set of drugs in set  $c \in \mathcal{C}$  that are launched in year  $t$ , we denote by  $W_c^t$  the sum of global revenues obtained in this segment  $c$  by all innovations of period  $t$ :

$$W_c^t = \sum_{\{d \in c, t^0=t\}} \tilde{R}_d$$

We will call this the “period  $t$  innovation - class  $c$ ” market size.

Then, we denote by  $N_c^t$  the number of new chemical entities (active ingredients) patented at  $t$  in class  $c$ . There is no revenue  $W_c^t$  ( $W_c^t = 0$ ) when no drug was patented that year in that category.

As our model shows, we expect a positive relationship between market size and innovation. In the

empirics this shows up as the relationship between the number of new chemical entities per class in period  $t$  ( $N_c^t$ ) and the period  $t$  innovation size of class  $c$  ( $W_c^t$ ).

The arrival of new products on the market is stochastic due to uncertainties in the research process and in regulatory approval. Our measure of innovation in a single year will be lumpy from year to year and contains zeros. However, as discussed above, because there is little new news in demographics every year, we use periods of 4 years for  $t$ , a procedure which smooths out our innovation measure  $N_c^t$ .

### 4.3 Imputation of Revenues over Drugs Life-cycle

Before going further on the empirical estimates, it is important to observe that we cannot forecast expected revenues entirely by taking means of actual revenues by therapeutic class, entry date, and year, because we do not see enough drugs nor the entire lifecycle of most drugs in the data since we observe only 11 years of data. Thus, we implement an imputation method to obtain a series of parameters for each ATC class that allows us to predict revenue for a drug over its entire lifecycle using the average lifecycle within the class. We then use this estimate as the forecast of manufacturers making innovation decisions.

Thus, for a given drug  $d$ , the data do not allow us to observe all the  $R_d^t$  for years  $t^0, t^0 + 1, \dots, t^0 + 19$ . As we want to take into account the lifecycle of drugs, we compute the average evolution of revenues of new chemical entities within a class  $c$  between patent age  $\tau$  and  $\tau + 1$  as the ratio between patent age  $\tau$  and  $\tau + 1$  of average revenue (across active ingredients) for all drugs of a given drug category  $c$ . Defining  $\Gamma(c)$  as the set of drugs in class  $c$ , we can also use the following definition <sup>4</sup>:

$$\lambda_c^\tau = \frac{1}{\#\Gamma(c)} \sum_{d \in \Gamma(c)} \frac{R_d^{t^0+\tau+1}}{R_d^{t^0+\tau}}$$

Assuming that the expected revenue of a drug of class  $c$  will follow the life-cycle pattern estimated using these  $\lambda_c^\tau$  we can estimate the revenue at a given future patent year. Then, when  $R_d^{\tau+1}$  is not observed, we estimate it with  $R_d^{t^0+\tau+1} = \lambda_{c(d)}^\tau R_d^{t^0+\tau}$  which allows us to reconstruct the lifecycle revenues of any drug on the market during the period of our data.

---

<sup>4</sup>Using a definition of  $\lambda_c^\tau$  that gives weights to active ingredients proportional to their revenue in the class, we have  $\lambda_c^\tau = \frac{\sum_{d \in \Gamma(c)} R_d^{t^0+\tau+1}}{\sum_{d \in \Gamma(c)} R_d^{t^0+\tau}}$ , which leads to similar results.



## 5 Empirical Results

We will consider two levels of ATC classes  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{C}'$ . The finer level of classification (2 digit ATC classes) considered will be  $\mathcal{C}'$ . A class denoted  $c'$  will thus correspond to an element of this finer classification. With the previous notations,  $\frac{W_c^t}{N_c^t}$  is the lifecycle revenue per new chemical entity in class  $c$  and "born" during patent period  $t$ . All revenues are expressed in thousands of 2007 US dollars and the discount factor used is  $\delta = 0.95$ .

### 5.1 Descriptive Statistics

Table 1 presents descriptive statistics by ATC class on the number of innovations and lifecycle revenues per ATC class at level 1. Table 2 shows the same statistics as Table 1 but using the 2 digit ATC classification. Tables 3 and 4 present the same data as Tables 1 and 2, but averaged not over ATC class but according to the number of new chemical entities. This shows a broad descriptive relationship between market size and the number of new chemical entities.

On average, the total revenue per ATC class seems to be increasing with the number of innovations except when the number of innovations is the largest. This result holds on aggregate and does not account for the heterogeneity of revenues and innovations across categories of ATC classes.

### 5.2 Lifecycle of drugs

In order to impute some unobserved revenues, we described above a method of imputation which consists in estimating average lifecycle of drug revenues per ATC class. The estimation of these average lifecycle of drugs is interesting and shown in next Figure 1 for all categories (digit 1 ATC classes) and patent ages. Figure 1 shows the mean revenues of drugs by class for each patent age and ATC-1. Remark that for these shapes to be seen on a same picture, we have normalized the total sales for patent year 10 for all drug classes, which implies that the height of each vertical bar should not be compared across drug categories.

We can see that the lifecycle of sales of drugs is not uniform across classes. Some classes have longer delays of penetration, some classes have lower duration. These lifecycle shapes also show that sales are not at all uniform during the patent life and thus that it seems important to take into account the

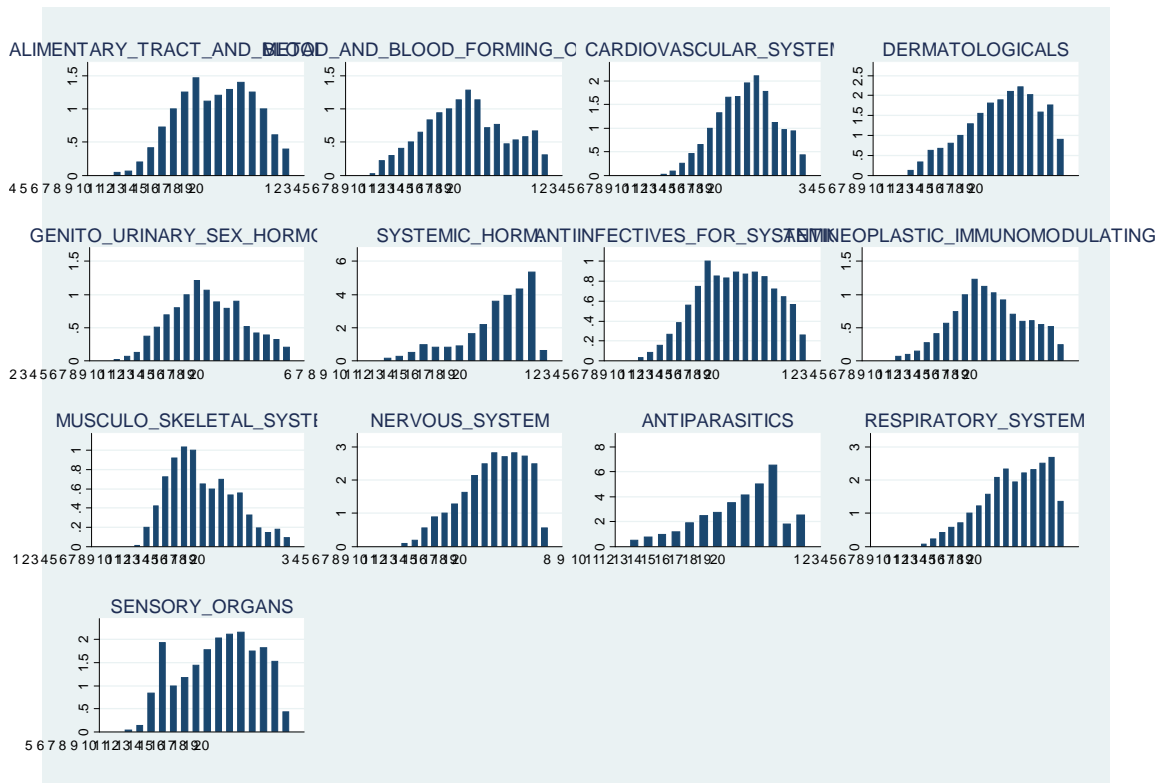


Figure 1: Means of Revenue by Patent Age for Each ATC-1

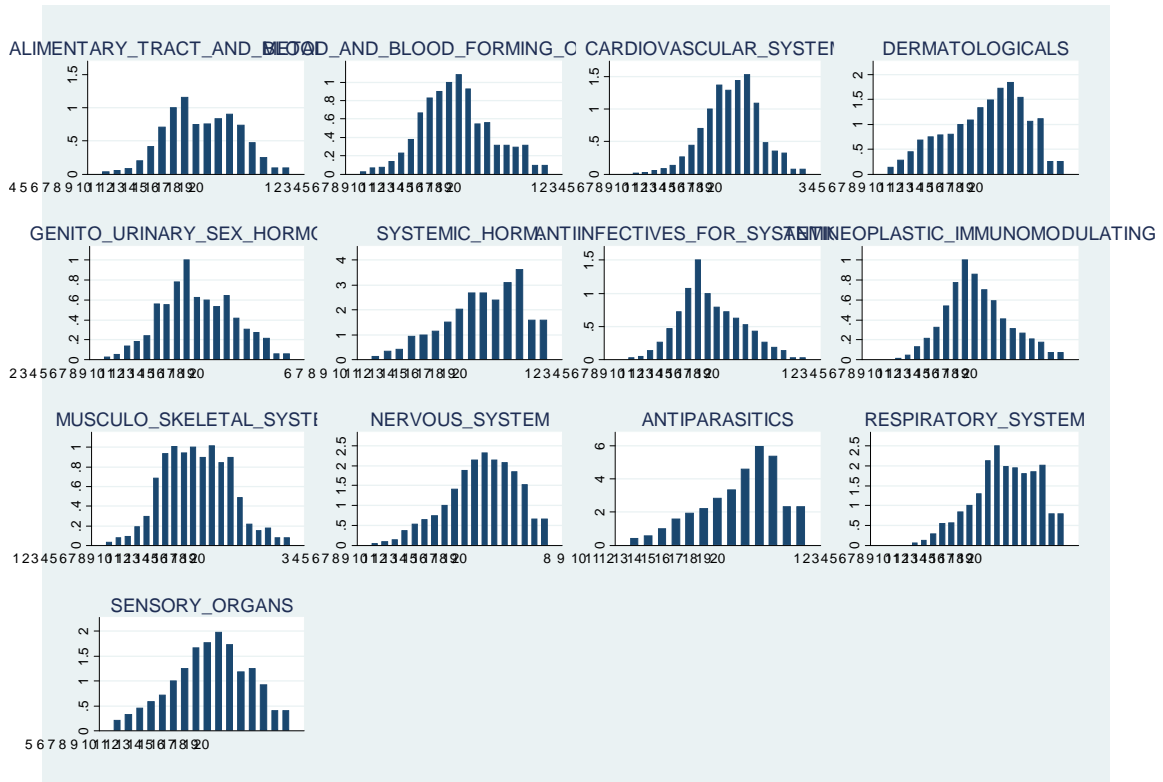


Figure 2: Estimated  $\lambda_c^\tau$  by ATC-1 and patent age

expected lifecycle of the patent revenues of drugs in the incentives to innovate for the pharmaceutical industry.

This variability shows why the coefficients  $\lambda_c^\tau$  will have some variation across patent age and across classes. Figure 2 shows the obtained coefficients for all classes and patent ages. These coefficients will be used for imputation of life-cycle revenues for future years on still young drugs. Though these life-cycle of revenue per drug are averages, our estimated revenues using expected life-cycle patterns are valid provided firms do not have better information on expected revenues during the lifecycle of new drugs.

### 5.3 Elasticity of Innovation to Market Size

We now look at the relationship between the number of innovations or New Chemical Entities  $N_c^t$  at period  $t$  in category  $c$  and our "market size"  $W_c^t$ . In each year we have data from 238 therapeutic classes. As noted above, we sum revenue and innovation in four year periods (which reduces the

sample size but creates much more content to each observation). Our time periods  $t$  are thus 1977-80, 1981-84, 1985-88, 1989-92, 1993-96, 1997-2000, 2001-04, 2005-2007.

We use several specifications to estimate the elasticity of innovation with respect to market size. First, we estimate the following model

$$\ln N_c^t = \alpha \ln W_c^t + \beta_c + \delta_t + \varepsilon_c^t$$

which relates the number of innovations (number of NCEs) patented in period  $t$  in each class to the total revenue provided by sales of all drugs (on patent and licensed) in the class during the duration of the patents issued at  $t$ .

In this reduced form model,  $\alpha$  can be interpreted as the elasticity of innovation to market size,  $\beta_c$  is a fixed unobserved effect specific to the ATC class  $c$ ,  $\delta_t$  is a common unobserved period effect and  $\varepsilon_c^t$  an unobserved random shock on the innovation outcome.

Assuming all right hand side variables are exogenous means that

$$E(\varepsilon_c^t | \ln W_c^t, \beta_c, \delta_t) = 0$$

We first estimate such a model using OLS. Then we employ 2SLS because of the strong likelihood, previously discussed, that innovation drives market size. Our instrumental variables are demographic: population and mortality by disease (instead of prevalence which was not available) in different countries. To be valid instruments, demographics and disease mortality must be correlated with market size. It is intuitive that the population and the share of the population likely to use drugs in each ATC class will be correlated with the revenue in that class. Secondly, innovation, or launch of new products, must not cause changes in demographics or disease mortality. We can imagine that at a very fine level of categorization, this could be a problem. For example, a pill for Ausberger's (mild autism) might well increase diagnoses of Ausberger's and therefore autism. But the WHO data we use are much coarser: for example, how many people died of cardiovascular diseases in period  $t$ . We do not think the therapies available for different cardiovascular diseases affect this measurement.

For this reason, we use male, female, and "more than 50 years old" population variables, as well as the number of deaths of males and females for the disease categories that each drug class (ATC

class) can be considered to target. This instrument is thus varying across periods and drug classes. These set of instruments are interacted with dummy variables for 1-digit ATC classes or 2 digit ATC classes depending on the cases.

For the population measures we compute the size of the population in countries where drugs of each ATC class are sold and sum this over countries and years for the duration of the patent. This population is denoted  $P_t^c$ . This instrument is varying not only over time but also across ATC classes. We use a similar definition for male or female population, and for the "over 50 years old" population. Table 6 details the different sets of instruments used in the regressions below. As will be shown later, these sets of instruments satisfy the different usual tests of exclusion (Sargan test of overidentifying restrictions) and of significance in the first stage (F test of joint significance of excluded IVs in the first stage regression). In our empirical work, set A will be used for regressions at the ATC-1 level and B, C or D for regressions at the ATC-2 level.

Recall that the number of innovations  $N_c^t$  that can be observed on each market is censored at zero, and that  $W_c^t$  is unobserved when there are zero innovations. We have a fundamental problem of unobserved potential market size of any innovation that did not happen and therefore need a truncated regression model. In particular, it could be that  $\varepsilon_c^t$  is not mean independent of all right-hand-side variables because of the truncation of the model when  $N_c^t = 0$ .

With some parametric assumptions on  $\varepsilon_c^t$ , one can estimate the model taking into account the truncation<sup>5</sup>. For example, as we are dealing with count data, we can assume a Poisson distribution for the number of innovations, such that

$$P(N_c^t = n) = \frac{\exp(-\mu) \mu^n}{n!}$$

where we specify the intensity parameter  $\mu$  as  $\mu = \exp[\alpha W_c^t + \beta_c + \delta_t]$ . Such a model implies that

$$E(N_c^t | W_c^t, \beta_c, \delta_t) = \exp[\alpha W_c^t + \beta_c + \delta_t]$$

As the data are truncated at zero since  $W_c^t$  is unobserved when  $N_c^t = 0$ , we correct for the truncation

---

<sup>5</sup>Nonparametric estimation of such a truncated regression model is difficult and is a subject of ongoing research (Lewbel and Linton, 2002, Chen 2009). Chen (2009) and Lewbel and Linton (2002) show that if the exogeneity assumption of right hand side variables is satisfied, then with some additional technical assumptions, one can identify the non parametric conditional expectation of the truncated dependent variable conditionally on the right hand side variables.

using the zero-truncated Poisson maximum-likelihood regression implying that

$$P(N_c^t = n | N_c^t > 0) = \frac{\exp(-\mu) \mu^n}{n! (1 - \exp(-\mu))} \text{ with } \mu = \exp[\alpha W_c^t + \beta_c + \delta_t]$$

In this case, we take into account the endogeneity of  $W_c^t$  using a control function approach. As suggested by Wooldridge (2002) and Blundell and Powell (2003), this technique is useful for non linear models. It amounts to perform a first stage regression of the endogenous variables on all exogenous variables and excluded instruments and then use residuals and polynomials of these residuals as additional "control" variables in the main regression (here the zero-truncated Poisson). The results of this first stage regressions<sup>6</sup> show that excluded instruments are statistically significant (as confirmed also by the joint F test shown at the bottom of the Tables). Results show that excluded IVs from sets A, B, C or D are significant and the F test of joint significance always rejects strongly that they have no explanatory power. In the case of the control function approaches, we used sets of instruments A for analysis of  $N_c^t$  and D for  $N_{c'}^t$  but results are similar with other sets of instruments. In the case of ATC-1 level regressions, instrumental variables A proved satisfactory and consist in male and female population of corresponding countries, male and female deaths of corresponding ATC-1 class and countries. In the case of ATC-2 level regressions, instrumental variables B, C or D proved satisfactory and consist different male or female demographic variables interacted with ATC-1 or ATC-2 dummies.

In all following tables, standard errors are clustered at the class level and shown in parentheses. Although dummy variables  $\delta_t$  for time periods are not shown to conserve space, they are always significant. Tables 7 and 8 show the results of estimating the linear model for the 1-digit and 2-digit ATC categories respectively. Tables 9 and 10 show the corresponding results of the estimation of the count models. In each case we show results with and without instrumenting for potential market size. All standard errors are clustered at the ATC-1 level.

The specifications yield a range of elasticities between 6% and 40%, meaning that increasing market size by 1% yields an increase in the number of new products of 0.06 to 0.4%. There is no clear relationship between the elasticity and the type of specification (linear versus count, one-stage versus two-stage) or the instrument set. Overall, our preferred specification among these is Equation (13).

---

<sup>6</sup> Available in additional online appendix available upon request in Table 14.

It takes into account the truncated nature of the data and the need to use instrumental variables, and it uses the finer set of instruments in which the demographic variables are interacted with 2-digit therapeutic categories, thus taking account of the fact that different demographic profiles generate different market sizes in the various treatment categories. It uses the finer 2-digit disease classification for the dependent variable, which we prefer because we understand it is relatively rare for drugs in one ATC-2 category to be discovered while searching for therapies in a different ATC-2 category.

Equation (13) yields an elasticity of 12.3%, with a t-ratio of around 5, which gives the elasticity a confidence interval of around 8% to 17%<sup>7</sup>. Given the assumptions of our model, this implies that entry costs must be increasing in market size (since the marginal innovation requires substantially higher revenue than the average innovation). Since we have no independent measure of quality we cannot of course rule out the possibility that this is because the quality of pharmaceutical products is increasing as market size increases. However, another interpretation is possible, which is that innovation is subject to significant decreasing returns. This may be true both with respect to number of innovations in a segment (the industry may be running out of "low-hanging fruit" - see Cowen (2011)), and also true over time - the costs of regulatory approval appear to have been rising in recent years. Although our results do not directly test the "low hanging fruit" hypothesis (because they depend on the validity of our particular model of innovation) they are certainly compatible with it.

However, for this very reason the assumption that the elasticity is the same across disease categories may not be realistic, since the extent to which the industry has had low-hanging fruit may well vary for scientific reasons from one disease category to another. To investigate this possibility we estimate the count model with ATC specific market size coefficients  $\alpha_c$  using

$$P(N_c^t = n | N_c^t > 0) = \frac{\exp(-\mu) \mu^n}{n! (1 - \exp(-\mu))} \text{ with } \mu = \exp[\alpha_c W_c^t + \beta_c + \delta_t]$$

which also implies that the elasticity to market size of the expected number of innovations is  $\frac{\partial \ln EN_c^t}{\partial \ln W_c^t} = \alpha_c W_c^t$ .

Given the size of the elasticity, we can also compute how much additional revenue in a given drug category is needed to obtain one additional innovation as the inverse of the elasticity times the average

---

<sup>7</sup>This point estimate enables us easily to reject the hypothesis of an elasticity equal to 1.

revenue per innovation observed on the market (because  $dW_c = \left(\frac{\partial \ln N_c}{\partial \ln W_c}\right)^{-1} \frac{W_c}{N_c}$ )

Table 11 reports such results and Table 12 reports then the obtained elasticities by ATC class. We find higher elasticities on average than in the model with the elasticity constrained to be constant across disease categories, though they remain within the range of elasticities found under previous specifications.

We see that the elasticities of innovation vary by ATC class, and that the average lifecycle discounted market size increase needed on average to obtain one additional NCE also varies across classes. For comparison, we estimate the log-linear model with ATC-1 specific elasticities (results not reported), and find larger absolute values than in a specification without heterogeneity. The values are a little smaller than those of this count model, varying between 8% and 30% depending on the disease class.

Across all ATC classes, we find that the average elasticity of innovation to market size under this specification is 25.2%, which implies that the average lifecycle discounted market size increase needed to obtain one additional NCE is around \$1.8 billion. Remember that we used a discount factor of 0.95 which implies that the \$1.8 billion over the lifecycle of a drug is equivalent to a constant annual revenue of \$148 million per year over 20 years.

Next we consider whether this estimated \$1.8 billion is reasonable. The most recent DiMasi et al. study of drug development estimates that a new drug incurs approximately \$800 million in development costs (Adams, 2006, Di Masi et al. 2003 suggest 1\$billion on average for one new chemical entity). Included in this calculation is the cost of capital, the cost of failed drugs, and the cost of clinical trials, so it is close to the total fixed economic cost of innovation. On top of this there will be variable costs of production, distribution and marketing. Industry sources have suggested to us that 50% of revenue is a reasonable guess at the size of these costs (though they may be higher in the case of biologics, where manufacturing costs are typically higher). This suggests that a new drug would need to cover costs of around \$1.6 billion in order to yield a return to the innovator. This is a little lower than our estimated market size increase of \$1.8 billion needed to induce an additional innovation. Our elasticity estimate therefore seems broadly plausible in the light of what is known from accounting data.



Comparing our elasticities to others in the literature is difficult, if only because the dependent variable changes across research designs from new drugs, to new cancer regimens, to new clinical trials, to journal articles. However, both AL and we use new product launch as a measure of innovation. Recall that AL estimate an elasticity of 4: for each 1% increase in revenue, the number of new products increases by 4%, which is over an order of magnitude larger than our estimate (and of most others in the literature). There are significant empirical differences that underlie these two different results. For example, *all* new products including new forms, strengths, and generic versions are counted in the AL methodology. The authors include only US revenue in their measure of market size. Lastly, as noted above, the method in AL does not include an instrument for market size. Though it is hard to know the impact of these methodological differences (explained in Appendix 7.1), an elasticity as large as 4 appears to imply that marginal costs of innovation are falling as more innovation takes place, which does not seem a plausible description of the pharmaceutical industry in the early 21st century.

## 6 Conclusion

This paper has attempted to quantify the relationship between market size and innovation in the pharmaceutical industry. We have estimated the elasticity of innovation (as measured by the number of new chemical entities appearing on the market for a given disease class) to the expected market size, which is predictable by the potential demand as represented by the willingness of sufferers from diseases in a class (and others acting on their behalf such as insurers or governments) to spend on their treatment. We have found significant positive elasticities with a point estimate under our preferred specification of 25.2%. This suggests that at the mean market size an additional \$1.8 billion is required in additional revenue to induce the invention of one additional new chemical entity, which appears a reasonable order of magnitude since estimates of the true economic cost of developing a new chemical entity are around \$800 million to \$1 billion, and marketing and related costs represent some 50% of revenue. An elasticity substantially below one is also plausible in the light of other evidence that innovation in pharmaceuticals is becoming more difficult and expensive over time, and is compatible both with the hypothesis that the costs of regulatory approval are rising and the hypothesis that the

industry is running out of "low hanging fruit."

Our results are robust to a number of specification choices. However, the availability of data for more years would undoubtedly help to refine our estimates and we leave this as a subject for future research.

## References

Acemoglu Daron, David Cutler and Amy Finkelstein Joshua Linn (2006) "Did Medicare Induce Pharmaceutical Innovation?" NBER w11949, *American Economic Review*, Vol. 96, No. 2, pp. 103-107

Acemoglu Daron and Joshua Linn (2004) "Market Size in Innovation: Theory and Evidence From the Pharmaceutical Industry" *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, August 2004, v. 119, iss. 3, pp. 1049-90

Adams C.P. et V.V. Brantner (2006), "Estimating the cost of New Drug Development: Is it really \$ 802 Million?" *Health Affairs* 25, 2, 420-428.

Adams C.P. et V.V. Brantner (2008), "Spending on New Drug Development," Federal Trade Commission, Manuscript.

Armstrong M. and H. Weeds (2005) "Public service broadcasting in the digital world"

Atella Vincenzo, Jay Bhattacharya and Lorenzo Carbonari (2008) "Pharmaceutical Industry, Drug Quality and Regulation: Evidence from US and Italy" *NBER* w14567

Bardey, D., Bommier, A. and B. Jullien (2010) "Retail Price Regulation and Innovation: Reference Pricing in the Pharmaceutical Industry", *Journal of Health Economics*, 29, 2, 303-316.

Berry S. and J. Waldfogel (2010) "Product Quality and Market Size" *Journal of Industrial Economics*, 58(1), 1-31.

Blundell R. and J.L. Powell (2003) "Endogeneity in Nonparametric and Semiparametric Regression Models," in Dewatripont, M., L.P. Hansen, and S.J. Turnovsky, eds., *Advances in Economics and Econometrics: Theory and Applications, Eighth World Congress, Vol. II* (Cambridge University Press).

Brekke, K.R., Helge Holmås, T. et O.R. Straume (2008) "Regulation, generic competition and pharmaceutical prices: Theory and evidence from a natural experiment", NIPE Working Papers 01/2008, NIPE - Universidade do Minho.

Brekke, K.R., Grasdahl, A.L., et T. Helge Holmås (2007) "Regulation and Pricing of Pharmaceuticals: Reference Pricing or Price Cap Regulation?", CESifo Working Paper, *CESifo* GmbH.

Cerda, Rodrigo (2007). "Endogenous innovations in the pharmaceutical industry," *Journal of*

*Evolutionary Economics*, Springer, vol. 17(4), pages 473-515

Chaudhuri Shubham, Pinelopi K. Goldberg and Panle Jia (2003) "Estimating the Effects of Global Patent Protection in Pharmaceuticals: A Case Study of Quinolones in India" *NBER* w10159

Civan, Abdulkadir and Michael Maloney, (2006a) "The Effect of Price on Pharmaceutical R&D", *Berkeley Electronic Press, Contributions to Economic Analysis and Policy*, Vol. 5, Iss. 1, art. 28

Civan, Abdulkadir and Michael Maloney, (2006b) "The Effect of Price on Pharmaceutical R&D" <http://myweb.clemson.edu/~maloney/papers/DrugPrices-and-Development.pdf>

Cowen, Tyler, (2011) *The Great Stagnation*. New York, Penguin Press, E-book.

Congressional Budget Office (2006) "Research and Development in the Pharmaceutical Industry", Congress of the United States

Danzon, P.M and H. Lui (1996) "RP and physician drug budgets: the German experience in controlling health expenditure", Working Paper, The Wharton School.

Danzon, P.M et J.D. Ketcham (2004) Reference pricing of pharmaceuticals for medicare: Evidence from Germany and New Zealand. *Frontiers in Health Policy Research*, vol. 7, Cutler, D.M. et A.M. Garber (eds) NBER and MIT Press.

Danzon P. and M. Furukawa (2006) "Prices And Availability Of Biopharmaceuticals: An International Comparison" *Health Affairs*, 25, 5, 1353-1362

Danzon Patricia, Richard Wang and Liang Wang (2005) "The impact of price regulation on the launch delay of new drugs evidence from twenty-major markets in the1990s" *Health Economics* 14(3): 269-292

DiMasi, J.A., Hansen, R.W., Grabowski, H.G. et L. Lasagna (1991) "Cost of innovation in the pharmaceutical industry", *Journal of Health Economics* 10, 107-142.

DiMasi, J.A., Hansen, R.W. et H.G. Grabowski (2003) "The price of innovation: New estimates of Drug Development Costs", *Journal of Health Economics* 22, 151-185.

Duggan Mark and Fiona Scott Morton (2008) "The Effect of Medicare Part D on Pharmaceutical Prices and Utilization" *NBER* w13917

Ellison Glenn and Sara Fisher Ellison (2007) "Strategic Entry Deterrence and the Behavior of

Pharmaceutical Incumbents Prior to Patent Expiration" *NBER* w13069

Finkelstein, Amy (2004) "Static and Dynamic Effects of Health Policy: Evidence from the Vaccine Industry", *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 119(2): 527-564

Golec, J.H., et J.A. Vernon (2006) European pharmaceutical price regulation, firm profitability and R&D spending, NBER Working Paper 12676.

Lewbel A. and O. Linton (2002) "Nonparametric Censored and Truncated Regression" *Econometrica* (2002) 70, 765-779

Lichtenberg Frank R. and Gautier Duflos (2008) "Pharmaceutical innovation and the longevity of Australians: a first look" *NBER* wp 14009

Lichtenberg, F., (2005), "Pharmaceutical innovation and the burden of disease in developing and developed countries," *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 30(6), December 2005.

Mullahy, John. (1997) "Instrumental-Variable Estimation of Count Data Models: Applications to Models of Cigarette Smoking Behavior." *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 79(4):586-593.

Sutton J. (1991) *Sunk Costs and Market Structure*, MIT Press

Vernon, J. (2005) "Examining the link between price regulation and pharmaceutical R&D Investment", *Health Economics* 14, 1-16.

Wooldridge J. M. (2002) *Econometric Analysis of Cross Section and Panel Data*. MIT Press

Yin, Wesley (2009) "R&D Policy, Agency Costs and Innovation in Personalized Medicine", *Journal of Health Economics*, 28(5), pp. 950-962

Yin, Wesley (2008) "Market Incentives and Pharmaceutical Innovation", *Journal of Health Economics*, July 2008, 27(4), pp. 1060-1077

## 7 Appendix

### 7.1 Analysis of Elasticity to Contemporaneous Revenue

Suppose we assume instead that  $\ln N_c^t = \alpha W_c^t$ . In this case we would want to know the bias that comes from using the contemporaneous revenue  $R$  rather than  $W$ . In our empirical work, this amounts to study the derivative of  $E(\ln N_c^t | R_c^t)$  with respect to  $R_c^t$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \ln N_c^t &= \alpha \sum_{\{d \in c, t_d^0 = t\}} \tilde{R}_d = \alpha \sum_{\{d \in c, t_d^0 = t\}} \left( \sum_{t'=t_d^0}^{t_d^0+20} \delta^{t'-t_d^0} R_d^{t'} \right) \\ &= \alpha \left( \sum_{\{d \in c, t_d^0 = t\}} R_d^t \right) + \alpha \left( \sum_{\{d \in c, t_d^0 = t\}} \sum_{t'=t+1}^{t_d^0+20} \delta^{t'-t_d^0} R_d^{t'} \right) \\ &= \alpha R_c^t - \alpha \left( \sum_{t' < t} \sum_{\{d \in c, t_d^0 = t'\}} R_d^t \right) + \alpha \left( \sum_{\{d \in c, t_d^0 = t\}} \sum_{t'=t+1}^{t_d^0+20} \delta^{t'-t_d^0} R_d^{t'} \right) \end{aligned}$$

because  $R_c^t = \sum_{\{d \in c\}} R_d^t = \sum_{t' < t} \sum_{\{d \in c, t_d^0 = t'\}} R_d^t + \sum_{\{d \in c, t_d^0 = t\}} R_d^t$ .

Then

$$E(\ln N_c^t | R_c^t) = \alpha R_c^t - \alpha E \left( \sum_{t' < t} \sum_{\{d \in c, t_d^0 = t'\}} R_d^t \middle| R_c^t \right) + \alpha E \left( \sum_{\{d \in c, t_d^0 = t\}} \sum_{t'=t+1}^{t_d^0+20} \delta^{t'-t_d^0} R_d^{t'} \middle| R_c^t \right)$$

and both  $E \left( \sum_{t' < t} \sum_{\{d \in c, t_d^0 = t'\}} R_d^t \middle| R_c^t \right)$  and  $E \left( \sum_{\{d \in c, t_d^0 = t\}} \sum_{t'=t+1}^{t_d^0+20} \delta^{t'-t_d^0} R_d^{t'} \middle| R_c^t \right)$  have no reason to be zero if there is some correlation between revenues for the same drug across periods (which is obviously the case). Remark that if revenues per drug are all independent and that we only have time autocorrelation of revenues then both terms should be positive and thus  $E(\ln N_c^t | R_c^t)$  could be either higher or lower than  $\alpha R_c^t$ .

If for example the revenues of a drug  $d$  in year  $t$  and  $t_d^0$  are proportional to a scale factor depending only on the class to which it belongs to and the patent age  $t - t_d^0$ , then  $R_d^t = \lambda_c^{t-t_d^0} R_c^{t_d^0}$  and

$$E(\ln N_c^t | R_c^t) = \alpha R_c^t \left[ 1 + \left( \sum_{\{d \in c, t_d^0 = t\}} \sum_{t'=t+1}^{t_d^0+20} \delta^{t'-t_d^0} \lambda_c^{t'-t_d^0} \right) \right] - \alpha E \left( \sum_{t' < t} \sum_{\{d \in c, t_d^0 = t'\}} R_d^t \middle| R_c^t \right)$$

where  $\sum_{\{d \in c, t_d^0 = t\}} \sum_{t'=t+1}^{t_d^0+20} \delta^{t'-t_d^0} \lambda_c^{t'-t_d^0}$  would be equal to 20 if revenues are constant per drug during the patent life and there is no discounting. Thus, unless  $E \left( \sum_{t' < t} \sum_{\{d \in c, t_d^0 = t'\}} R_d^t \middle| R_c^t \right)$  is also positive and very large,  $\frac{\partial E(\ln N_c^t | R_c^t)}{\partial R_c^t}$  would be much larger than  $\alpha$ .

## 7.2 Tables

ATC class ( $\mathcal{C}$ )	$W_c^t$	Mean	
		$\frac{W_c^t}{N_c^t}$	$N_c^t$
A: ALIMENTARY TRACT AND METABOLISM	1,997,804	163,861	11.14
B: BLOOD AND BLOOD FORMING ORGANS	3,702,647	500,500	6.67
C: CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM	3,308,496	244,188	15.40
D: DERMATOLOGICALS	154,468	26,107	5.00
G: GENITO URINARY SYSTEM AND SEX HORMONES	766,613	186,571	5.33
H: SYSTEMIC HORM.PREP., EXCL. SEX&INSULINS	12,370	5,821	2.20
J: ANTIINFECTIVES FOR SYSTEMIC USE	5,143,922	287,501	14.86
L: ANTINEOPLASTIC&IMMUNOMODULATING AGENTS	6,186,711	356,246	12.29
M: MUSCULO-SKELETAL SYSTEM	2,535,125	435,702	6.17
N: NERVOUS SYSTEM	922,066	110,055	8.86
P: ANTIPARASITICS INSECTICIDES REPELLENTS	9,098	4,550	1.50
R: RESPIRATORY SYSTEM	817,246	106,632	7.40
S: SENSORY ORGANS	176,557	51,686	4.40
V: VARIOUS	19,844	18,984	2.00

**Table 1: Total lifetime revenues per 1-digit ATC class of NCEs patented by period, number of entities per period, and revenue per entity Unweighted averages by 1-digit ATC class**

ATC class ( $\mathcal{C}$ )	$W_{c'}^t$	Mean	
		$\frac{W_{c'}^t}{N_{c'}^t}$	$N_{c'}^t$
A: ALIMENTARY TRACT AND METABOLISM	388,462	102,304	2.19
B: BLOOD AND BLOOD FORMING ORGANS	2,019,626	829,969	3.64
C: CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM	612,684	195,831	3.04
D: DERMATOLOGICALS	51,489	27,669	1.72
G: GENITO URINARY SYSTEM AND SEX HORMONES	328,549	110,245	2.29
H: SYSTEMIC HORM.PREP., EXCL. SEX&INSULINS	7,731	6,934	1.38
J: ANTIINFECTIVES FOR SYSTEMIC USE	1,895,129	426,227	5.47
L: ANTINEOPLASTIC&IMMUNOMODULATING AGENTS	1,968,499	368,424	3.91
M: MUSCULO-SKELETAL SYSTEM	845,042	265,548	2.11
N: NERVOUS SYSTEM	208,208	91,401	2.06
P: ANTIPARASITICS INSECTICIDES REPELLENTS	9,098	4,550	1.50
R: RESPIRATORY SYSTEM	240,366	63,373	2.53
S: SENSORY ORGANS	109,696	32,718	3.13
V: VARIOUS	15,875	15,249	1.60

**Table 2: Total lifetime revenues per 2-digit ATC class of NCEs patented by period, number of entities per year, and revenue per entity Unweighted averages by 1-digit ATC class**

$N_c^t$	Revenue $W_c^t$			Revenue per NCE $\frac{W_c^t}{N_c^t}$		
	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max
1	44,201	3	372,409	44,201	3	372,409
2	173,872	13,027	727,520	86,936	6,513	363,760
3	195,064	235	779,383	65,021	78	259,794
4	443,281	6,070	880,492	110,820	1,518	220,123
5	3,381,172	409,923	9,158,344	676,234	81,985	1,831,669
6	746,740	38,124	1,808,956	124,457	6,354	301,493
7	4,157,717	8,753	17,409,894	593,960	1,250	2,487,128
8	1,157,414	54,902	2,212,882	144,677	6,863	276,610
9	1,266,605	208,775	3,891,499	140,734	23,197	432,389
10	971,439	672,811	1,344,233	97,144	67,281	134,423
11	2,089,586	118,487	5,354,649	189,962	10,772	486,786
12	901,498	901,498	901,498	75,125	75,125	75,125
13	4,552,097	1,309,560	7,794,634	350,161	100,735	599,587
14	2,670,899	1,908,117	3,433,681	190,778	136,294	245,263
15	2,510,007	1,005,747	3,344,799	167,334	67,050	222,987
16	2,124,496	2,124,496	2,124,496	132,781	132,781	132,781
18	6,913,570	2,370,214	12,676,093	384,087	131,679	704,227
19	12,188,488	12,188,488	12,188,488	641,499	641,499	641,499
20	1,038,019	126,984	1,949,054	51,901	6,349	97,453
21	13,795,792	13,795,792	13,795,792	656,943	656,943	656,943
22	18,427,938	18,427,938	18,427,938	837,634	837,634	837,634
23	5,039,901	3,835,333	6,244,468	219,126	166,754	271,499
24	3,958,308	3,958,308	3,958,308	164,929	164,929	164,929

**Table 3: Total lifetime revenues per 1-digit ATC class of NCEs patented by period, and revenue per entity Unweighted averages by 1-digit ATC class. Global revenue  $W_c^t$  and the number of innovations  $N_c^t$**



$N_c^t$	Revenue $W_c^t$			Revenue per NCE $\frac{W_c^t}{N_c^t}$		
	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max
1	81,850	0	3,659,126	81,850	0	3,659,126
2	636,227	119	14,847,439	318,113	60	7,423,720
3	947,625	52	9,146,061	315,875	17	3,048,687
4	665,355	111	2,880,434	166,339	28	720,108
5	657,552	11	3,170,524	131,510	2	634,105
6	1,285,697	29,206	4,605,718	214,283	4,868	767,620
7	1,733,441	7,723	3,284,163	247,634	1,103	469,166
8	6,358,466	1,096,551	16,636,591	794,808	137,069	2,079,574
9	998,505	998,505	998,505	110,945	110,945	110,945
10	5,381,413	117,730	10,645,097	538,141	11,773	1,064,510
11	2,939,500	2,403,055	3,475,944	267,227	218,460	315,995
12	10,976,667	10,976,667	10,976,667	914,722	914,722	914,722
13	9,739,879	9,739,879	9,739,879	749,221	749,221	749,221
16	1,242,968	1,242,968	1,242,968	77,685	77,685	77,685
19	1,909,830	1,909,830	1,909,830	100,517	100,517	100,517

**Table 4: Total lifetime revenues per 2-digit ATC class of NCEs patented by period,**

**and revenue per entity Unweighted averages by 1-digit ATC class**

ATC Class ( $\mathcal{C}$ )	Mean Price
A: ALIMENTARY TRACT AND METABOLISM	111
B: BLOOD AND BLOOD FORMING ORGANS	544
C: CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM	10
D: DERMATOLOGICALS	22
G: GENITO URINARY SYSTEM AND SEX HORMONES	23
H: SYSTEMIC HORM.PREP., EXCL. SEX&INSULINS	266
J: ANTIINFECTIVES FOR SYSTEMIC USE	67
L: ANTINEOPLASTIC&IMMUNOMODULATING AGENTS	382
M: MUSCULO-SKELETAL SYSTEM	95
N: NERVOUS SYSTEM	6
P: ANTIPARASITICS INSECTICIDES REPELLENTS	8
R: RESPIRATORY SYSTEM	13
S: SENSORY ORGANS	187
V: VARIOUS	636

**Table 5: Descriptive statistics on Average Price of Drugs (across countries)**

Set	Instruments
A	· Male and Female Population of corresponding countries · Male and Female Deaths of corresponding ATC-1 class and countries
B	· Population aged 50 and over of corresponding countries, interacted with ATC-1
C	· Male Population aged 50 and over of corresponding countries, interacted with ATC-1
D	· Male Population aged 50 and over of corresponding countries, interacted with ATC-2 · Female Population aged 50 and over of corresponding countries, interacted with ATC-2

**Table 6: Definition of Instrument Sets**

Linear Model	(1)	(2)
	OLS	2SLS
VARIABLES	$\ln N_c^t$	$\ln N_c^t$
$\ln W_c^t$	0.216*** (0.0289)	0.291*** (0.0465)
ALIMENTARY_TRACT_AND_METABOLISM	0.291*** (0.0572)	0.147 (0.0907)
ANTIINFECTIVES_FOR_SYSTEMIC_USE	0.549*** (0.0903)	0.318** (0.144)
ANTINEOPLASTIC_IMMUNOMODULATING	0.527*** (0.0888)	0.366*** (0.139)
ANTIPARASITICS	-0.133 (0.170)	0.282 (0.280)
BLOOD_AND_BLOOD_FORMING_ORGANS	0.325*** (0.0314)	0.348*** (0.0401)
CARDIOVASCULAR_SYSTEM	0.681*** (0.112)	0.465*** (0.165)
DERMATOLOGICALS	0.245*** (0.0411)	0.330*** (0.0443)
GENITO_URINARY_SEX_HORMONES	-0.128* (0.0659)	-0.223** (0.0964)
MUSCULO_SKELETAL_SYSTEM	0.166** (0.0674)	0.0564 (0.0949)
NERVOUS_SYSTEM	0.192** (0.0788)	0.0738 (0.121)
RESPIRATORY_SYSTEM	0.407*** (0.0525)	0.367*** (0.0686)
SYSTEMIC_HORM	0.248** (0.107)	0.567*** (0.158)
Observations	74	74
R-squared	0.832	
Instruments		A
Sargan Test (Degree freedom)		2.776 (3)
P-value		0.428

Note: All standard errors are clustered at the ATC-1 level.

\*\*\* means significance at 1% level, \*\* at 5 % level and \* at 10% level. Year dummies included are not shown.

**Table 7: Determinants of the number of NCEs per therapeutic class Linear model, 1-digit ATC categories**

Linear Model	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	OLS	2SLS	2SLS	2SLS
VARIABLES	$\ln N_{c'}^t$	$\ln N_{c'}^t$	$\ln N_{c'}^t$	$\ln N_{c'}^t$
$\ln W_{c'}^t$	0.0962*** (0.0106)	0.0870*** (0.0207)	0.0873*** (0.0206)	0.111*** (0.0174)
ALIMENTARY_TRACT_AND_METABOLISM	-0.577*** (0.124)	-0.208*** (0.0244)	-0.208*** (0.0243)	-0.193*** (0.0230)
ANTIINFECTIVES_FOR_SYSTEMIC_USE	-0.162 (0.147)	0.251*** (0.0582)	0.250*** (0.0583)	0.184*** (0.0456)
ANTINEOPLASTIC_IMMUNOMODULATING	-0.245 (0.140)	0.149*** (0.0372)	0.149*** (0.0373)	0.109*** (0.0306)
ANTIPARASITICS	-0.685*** (0.145)	-0.350*** (0.0545)	-0.349*** (0.0544)	-0.285*** (0.0542)
BLOOD_AND_BLOOD_FORMING_ORGANS	-0.352** (0.141)	0.0381 (0.0390)	0.0377 (0.0392)	0.00788 (0.0379)
CARDIOVASCULAR_SYSTEM	-0.347** (0.147)	0.0306 (0.0267)	0.0305 (0.0267)	0.0235 (0.0309)
DERMATOLOGICALS	-0.698*** (0.119)	-0.340*** (0.0450)	-0.340*** (0.0448)	-0.309*** (0.0419)
GENITO_URINARY_SEX_HORMONES	-0.493*** (0.132)	-0.129*** (0.0346)	-0.129*** (0.0345)	-0.111*** (0.0351)
MUSCULO_SKELETAL_SYSTEM	-0.567*** (0.121)	-0.197*** (0.0380)	-0.196*** (0.0379)	-0.174*** (0.0367)
NERVOUS_SYSTEM	-0.654*** (0.122)	-0.284*** (0.0330)	-0.284*** (0.0329)	-0.272*** (0.0324)
RESPIRATORY_SYSTEM	-0.356** (0.128)	0.00362 (0.0318)	0.00395 (0.0316)	0.0349 (0.0299)
SYSTEMIC_HORM	-0.559*** (0.0809)	-0.205** (0.1000)	-0.205** (0.0995)	-0.130 (0.0956)
Observations	231	231	231	231
R-squared	0.715	0.457	0.458	0.466
Instruments		B	C	D
Sargan Test		8.923	8.846	31.23
Degree freedom		12	12	24
P-value		0.709	0.716	0.147

Note: All standard errors are clustered at the ATC-1 level.

\*\*\* means significance at 1% level, \*\* at 5 % level and \* at 10% level. Year dummies included are not shown.

**Table 8: Determinants of the number of NCEs per therapeutic class Linear model, 2-digit ATC categories**

Count Models	(7)	(8)	(9)
VARIABLES	$N_c^t$	$N_c^t$	$N_c^t$
$W_c^t$	4.63e-08* (2.39e-08)	1.36e-07*** (5.05e-08)	1.13e-07*** (3.05e-08)
Corresponding Elasticity	0.103	0.303	0.252
ALIMENTARY_TRACT_AND_METABOLISM	1.798*** (0.101)	0.748*** (0.290)	1.727*** (0.157)
ANTIINFECTIVES_FOR_SYSTEMIC_USE	2.000*** (0.128)	0.548* (0.298)	1.784*** (0.232)
ANTINEOPLASTIC_IMMUNOMODULATING	1.725*** (0.221)	0.487 (0.313)	1.284*** (0.410)
ANTIPARASITICS	-0.353*** (0.136)	-1.101*** (0.391)	-0.905*** (0.130)
BLOOD_AND_BLOOD_FORMING_ORGANS	1.195*** (0.153)	0.401 (0.313)	1.465*** (0.211)
CARDIOVASCULAR_SYSTEM	2.051*** (0.115)	1.059*** (0.265)	1.972*** (0.193)
DERMATOLOGICALS	1.165*** (0.107)	0.230 (0.251)	1.098*** (0.132)
GENITO_URINARY_SEX_HORMONES	1.086*** (0.111)	0.0937 (0.183)	1.010*** (0.142)
MUSCULO_SKELETAL_SYSTEM	1.274*** (0.0871)	0.234 (0.268)	1.170*** (0.161)
NERVOUS_SYSTEM	1.723*** (0.114)	0.704** (0.294)	1.573*** (0.162)
RESPIRATORY_SYSTEM	1.459*** (0.0978)	0.475** (0.210)	1.465*** (0.115)
SYSTEMIC_HORMONES	0.282** (0.121)	-0.501** (0.207)	0.0607 (0.122)
Observations	74	74	74
Method	Poisson	IV-Poisson	Trunc-Poisson
Instruments		A	A
Control Function (IVs)			Yes

Note: All standard errors are clustered at the ATC-1 level.

\*\*\* means significance at 1% level, \*\* at 5 % level and \* at 10% level. Year dummies included are not shown.

**Table 9: Determinants of the number of NCEs per therapeutic class Count model,**

**1-digit ATC categories**

Count Models	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
VARIABLES	$N_{c'}^t$	$N_{c'}^t$	$N_{c'}^t$	$N_{c'}^t$
$W_{c'}^t$	8.85e-08*** (1.87e-08)	5.67e-07*** (1.42e-07)	2.86e-07*** (1.06e-07)	1.73e-07*** (3.13e-08)
Corresponding Elasticity	0.0630	0.404	0.203	0.123
ALIMENTARY_TRACT_AND_METABOLISM	0.382*** (0.125)	-0.515** (0.233)	-0.0908 (0.151)	-0.00909 (0.171)
ANTIINFECTIVES_FOR_SYSTEMIC_USE	1.314*** (0.0998)	-0.128 (0.285)	0.890*** (0.223)	0.978*** (0.141)
ANTINEOPLASTIC_IMMUNOMODULATING	0.861*** (0.151)	-0.313 (0.260)	0.633*** (0.209)	0.616*** (0.167)
ANTIPARASITICS	-0.0607 (0.184)	- -	-0.967*** (0.158)	-0.899*** (0.227)
BLOOD_AND_BLOOD_FORMING_ORGANS	0.774*** (0.156)	-0.165 (0.356)	0.652*** (0.184)	0.579*** (0.136)
CARDIOVASCULAR_SYSTEM	0.683*** (0.139)	-0.240 (0.234)	0.256 (0.170)	0.357* (0.189)
DERMATOLOGICALS	0.191 (0.121)	-0.531** (0.260)	-0.382*** (0.125)	-0.356** (0.180)
GENITO_URINARY_SEX_HORMONES	0.411*** (0.138)	-0.338 (0.259)	-0.00946 (0.167)	0.0476 (0.201)
MUSCULO_SKELETAL_SYSTEM	0.390*** (0.109)	-0.618** (0.268)	-0.0599 (0.140)	-0.0713 (0.152)
NERVOUS_SYSTEM	0.399*** (0.113)	-0.461* (0.250)	-0.0534 (0.138)	-0.00339 (0.174)
RESPIRATORY_SYSTEM	0.510*** (0.140)	-0.289 (0.251)	0.136 (0.157)	0.180 (0.194)
SYSTEMIC_HORMONES	0.188*** (0.0730)	-0.565** (0.266)	-0.650*** (0.0904)	-0.628*** (0.122)
Observations	231	231	231	231
Method	Poisson	IV-Poisson	Trunc-Poisson	Trunc-Poisson
Instruments		D	A	D
Control Function (IVs)			Yes	Yes

Note: All standard errors are clustered at the ATC-1 level.

\*\*\* means significance at 1% level, \*\* at 5 % level and \* at 10% level. Year dummies included are not shown.

**Table 10: Determinants of the number of NCEs per therapeutic class Count model,**

**2-digit ATC categories**

Count Models	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)
VARIABLES	$N_{c'}^t$	$N_{c'}^t$	$N_{c'}^t$	$N_{c'}^t$
$\beta_{c'}$				
ALIMENTARY_TRACT_AND_METABOLISM	0.248* (0.146)	-0.206 (0.282)	-0.184 (0.197)	-0.180 (0.195)
ANTIINFECTIVES_FOR_SYSTEMIC_USE	1.191*** (0.139)	0.778** (0.341)	0.970*** (0.196)	1.055*** (0.156)
ANTINEOPLASTIC_IMMUNOMODULATING	0.883*** (0.143)	0.342 (0.331)	0.565*** (0.207)	0.537*** (0.186)
ANTIPARASITICS	-0.737 (1.010)	- -	-12.68 (485.9)	- -
BLOOD_AND_BLOOD_FORMING_ORGANS	1.049*** (0.186)	0.345 (0.426)	0.842*** (0.256)	0.788*** (0.230)
CARDIOVASCULAR_SYSTEM	0.653*** (0.143)	0.265 (0.274)	0.373** (0.171)	0.407** (0.168)
DERMATOLOGICALS	-0.000612 (0.229)	-0.343 (0.452)	-0.661* (0.343)	-0.616* (0.342)
GENITO_URINARY_SEX_HORMONES	0.218 (0.233)	-0.403 (0.322)	-0.179 (0.297)	-0.158 (0.296)
MUSCULO_SKELETAL_SYSTEM	0.326* (0.193)	-0.0223 (0.491)	-0.131 (0.259)	-0.0421 (0.251)
NERVOUS_SYSTEM	0.0758 (0.187)	-0.255 (0.401)	-0.566** (0.277)	-0.548** (0.277)
RESPIRATORY_SYSTEM	0.423** (0.185)	0.169 (0.291)	0.104 (0.224)	0.144 (0.224)
SYSTEMIC_HORM	0.169 (0.365)	-0.357 (0.287)	-0.579 (0.642)	- -

Note: All standard errors are clustered at the ATC-1 level.

\*\*\* means significance at 1% level, \*\* at 5 % level and \* at 10% level. Year dummies included are not shown.

**Table 11: Determinants of the number of NCEs per therapeutic class Count model, 2-digit ATC categories**

Count Models	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)
VARIABLES	$N_{c'}^t$	$N_{c'}^t$	$N_{c'}^t$	$N_{c'}^t$
$\alpha_{c'} W_{c'}^t$				
ALIMENTARY_TRACT_AND_METABOLISM	2.78e-07*** (7.42e-08)	1.02e-06*** (2.86e-07)	4.12e-07*** (1.08e-07)	4.36e-07*** (9.18e-08)
ANTIINFECTIVES_FOR_SYSTEMIC_USE	1.28e-07*** (2.53e-08)	1.45e-07*** (4.53e-08)	2.66e-07*** (6.88e-08)	1.64e-07*** (3.03e-08)
ANTINEOPLASTIC_IMMUNOMODULATING	7.86e-08*** (1.87e-08)	2.57e-07 (1.80e-07)	3.04e-07*** (7.45e-08)	2.14e-07*** (4.00e-08)
ANTIPARASITICS	6.10e-05 (6.79e-05)	- -	0.000689 (0.0267)	- -
BLOOD_AND_BLOOD_FORMING_ORGANS	-1.58e-08 (4.13e-08)	4.75e-07 (2.93e-07)	1.96e-07** (9.31e-08)	1.04e-07* (6.20e-08)
CARDIOVASCULAR_SYSTEM	1.02e-07 (7.06e-08)	2.70e-07** (1.27e-07)	2.09e-07** (9.94e-08)	1.81e-07** (7.99e-08)
DERMATOLOGICALS	3.22e-06** (1.43e-06)	4.75e-06 (9.35e-06)	4.83e-06*** (1.62e-06)	4.84e-06*** (1.62e-06)
GENITO_URINARY_SEX_HORMONES	5.96e-07** (2.71e-07)	2.09e-06*** (6.17e-07)	7.88e-07** (3.11e-07)	8.68e-07*** (3.08e-07)
MUSCULO_SKELETAL_SYSTEM	1.28e-07** (5.65e-08)	2.93e-07 (6.42e-07)	3.46e-07*** (9.57e-08)	1.87e-07*** (6.10e-08)
NERVOUS_SYSTEM	1.22e-06*** (3.60e-07)	1.50e-06 (1.26e-06)	1.86e-06*** (4.54e-07)	1.95e-06*** (4.51e-07)
RESPIRATORY_SYSTEM	3.58e-07** (1.81e-07)	3.21e-07*** (1.16e-07)	4.85e-07** (1.98e-07)	4.56e-07** (1.93e-07)
SENSORY_ORGANS	3.79e-06*** (8.58e-07)	3.16e-06*** (8.60e-07)	3.57e-06*** (9.05e-07)	3.77e-06*** (9.08e-07)
SYSTEMIC_HORM	5.37e-07 (2.66e-05)	3.63e-05 (4.43e-05)	-7.41e-06 (5.65e-05)	- -
Corresponding Elasticity	0.150	0.350	0.342	0.252
Observations	231	231	231	221
Method	Poisson	IV-Poisson	Trunc-Poisson	Trunc-Poisson
Instruments	-	D	A	D
Control Function (IVs)	No		Yes	Yes

Note: All standard errors are clustered at the ATC-1 level.

\*\*\* means significance at 1% level, \*\* at 5 % level and \* at 10% level. Year dummies included are not shown.

**Table 11 - continued**

ATC class ( $\mathcal{C}$ )	Mean $\alpha W_{c'}^t$	Mean $\frac{1}{\alpha E(N_{c'}^t)}$
	(Elasticity)	
A: ALIMENTARY TRACT AND METABOLISM	0.169	1,581,130
B: BLOOD AND BLOOD FORMING ORGANS	0.211	5,105,871
C: CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM	0.111	2,770,592
D: DERMATOLOGICALS	0.249	157,823
G: GENITO URINARY SYSTEM AND SEX HORMONES	0.285	685,940
J: ANTIINFECTIVES FOR SYSTEMIC USE	0.311	2,739,536
L: ANTINEOPLASTIC&IMMUNOMODULATING AGENTS	0.421	2,068,826
M: MUSCULO-SKELETAL SYSTEM	0.158	3,768,493
N: NERVOUS SYSTEM	0.407	377,481
R: RESPIRATORY SYSTEM	0.110	1,254,843
S: SENSORY ORGANS	0.413	145,829
All	0.252	1,809,658

**Table 12: Elasticities and Market Size Generating One Innovation per class**

ATC Class	ICD10 Chapter	ICD10 Blocks	Disease Title
A14, A16	IV	E00-E90	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases
Other A	XI	K00-K93	Diseases of the digestive system
B	III	D50-D89	Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism
C	IX	I00-I99	Diseases of the circulatory system
D	XII	L00-L99	Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue
G	XIV	N00-N99	Diseases of the genitourinary system
H	IV	E00-E90	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases
J	I	A00-B99	Certain infectious and parasitic diseases
L	II	C00-D48	Neoplasms
M	XIII	M00-M99	Diseases of musculoskeletal system and connective tissue
N1,N2,N3	VI	G00-G99	Diseases of the nervous system
N4,N5,N6,N7	V	F00-F99	Mental and behavioral disorders
P	I	A00-B99	Certain infectious and parasitic diseases
R	X	J00-J99	Diseases of the respiratory system
S1	VII	H00-H59	Diseases of the eye and adnexa
S2	VIII	H60-H95	Diseases of the ear and mastoid process
V	XIX	S00-T98	Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes

**Table 13: International Classification of Diseases and ATC drug categories**