



The Social Responsibility of Scientists

Ascensión Cambrón

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ABSTRACT This description leads to the analysis of the paradox - and the unfairness - that combines two factors: the right for health is recognised a an universal right, but in the practice it is useless in front of the patent right, which is recognised as a right of the patrimony. This is to say that the interaction between research and the economic system (public funds for research, patent obtention and commercialisation of medicine) denies the satisfaction of this so-called right for health. And, this paradox - which resolution claims *responsibility* - does not only have evident and negative consequences among the population of the south affected by AIDS. It also illustrates what can happen to the countries of the north if National Health Systems cannot support the high costs of medicine in a close future.

Author's Address: Ascensión Cambrón, A Coruña University Fac. Dereito Campus de Elvina 15071 La Coruna, SPAIN

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Charles Susanne, Guest Editor