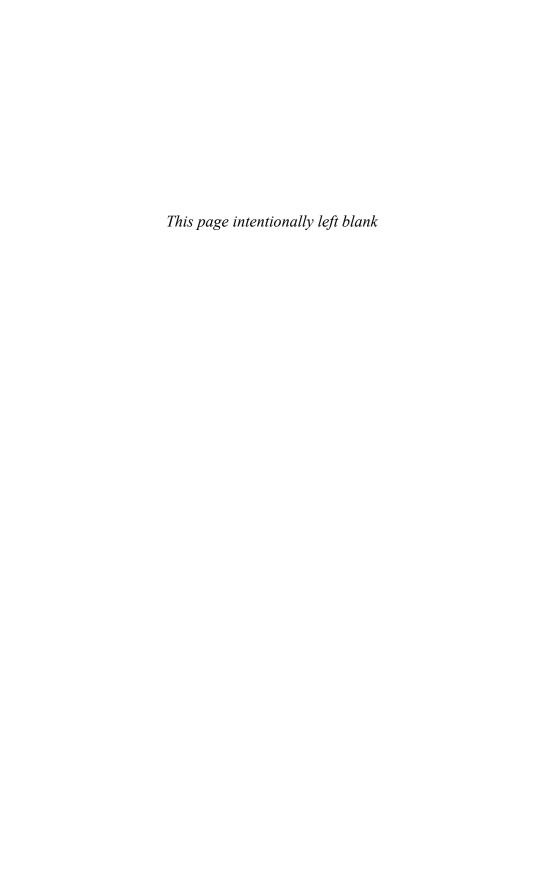
On the Take: How America's Complicity with Big Business Can Endanger Your Health

JEROME P. KASSIRER, M.D.

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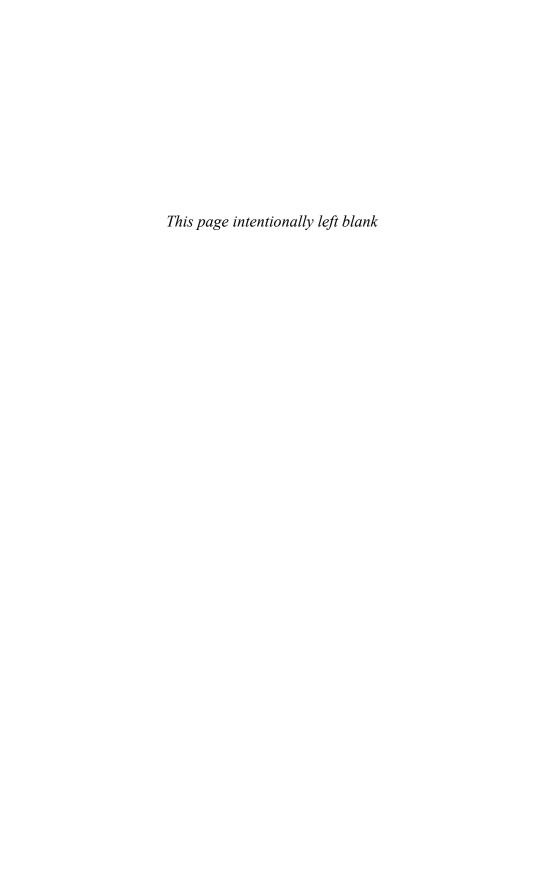
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to Sheridan



Acknowledgments

I am grateful to dozens, scores, and possibly hundreds of physicians. Many contributed their time, knowledge, and wisdom to help me delve into the kind, extent, and consequences of physicians' collaborations with industry. Many were forthcoming and eager to get the problem exposed. I also interviewed many who were defensive, even angry at the inference that financial conflicts might have influenced their medical decisions. I understand their attitude: because financial arrangements with industry create an impossible-to-resolve dilemma between a doctor's professional role and his or her personal responsibilities, exposure of their conflict is a moral stigmatizer. Interestingly, I also interviewed many others who had no financial conflicts and expressed their moral indignation about the misdeeds of their colleagues who did, yet demurred when I asked to cite their quotes by name. They disappointed me. Financial conflicts of interest invoke strong emotions.

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