

Do Terminally Ill Patients Have a “Right to Try” Experimental Drugs

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What does the “right to try” mean? What does this actually mean for a patient? What does it mean for a pharmaceutical company? How did the president intend to use this phrase in his address?

What are some potential consequences for allowing terminally ill patients to try experimental drugs? What makes this more problematic than a simple transaction between a willing participant and the purveyor of a cutting-edge medical treatment? Why should outside parties get involved in what appears to be an agreement between consenting adults?

Why is it a problem that “terminally ill patients are uniquely vulnerable to the allure of ‘miracle cures’”?

How would “right to try” legislation differ from current “compassionate use” regulations? Should we pursue “right to try” legislation? Why or why not?