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# **Review of Online Publication Policies: Pharmaceutical Companies and US Medical Colleges**

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# Methods

- Review online publication policies
  - Top 50 US medical colleges<sup>1</sup> (n=50)
  - Pharmaceutical members of PhRMA.org<sup>2</sup> (n=50)
- Research
  - Publication policy available online?
  - Content?
  - Part of overarching policy or standalone?

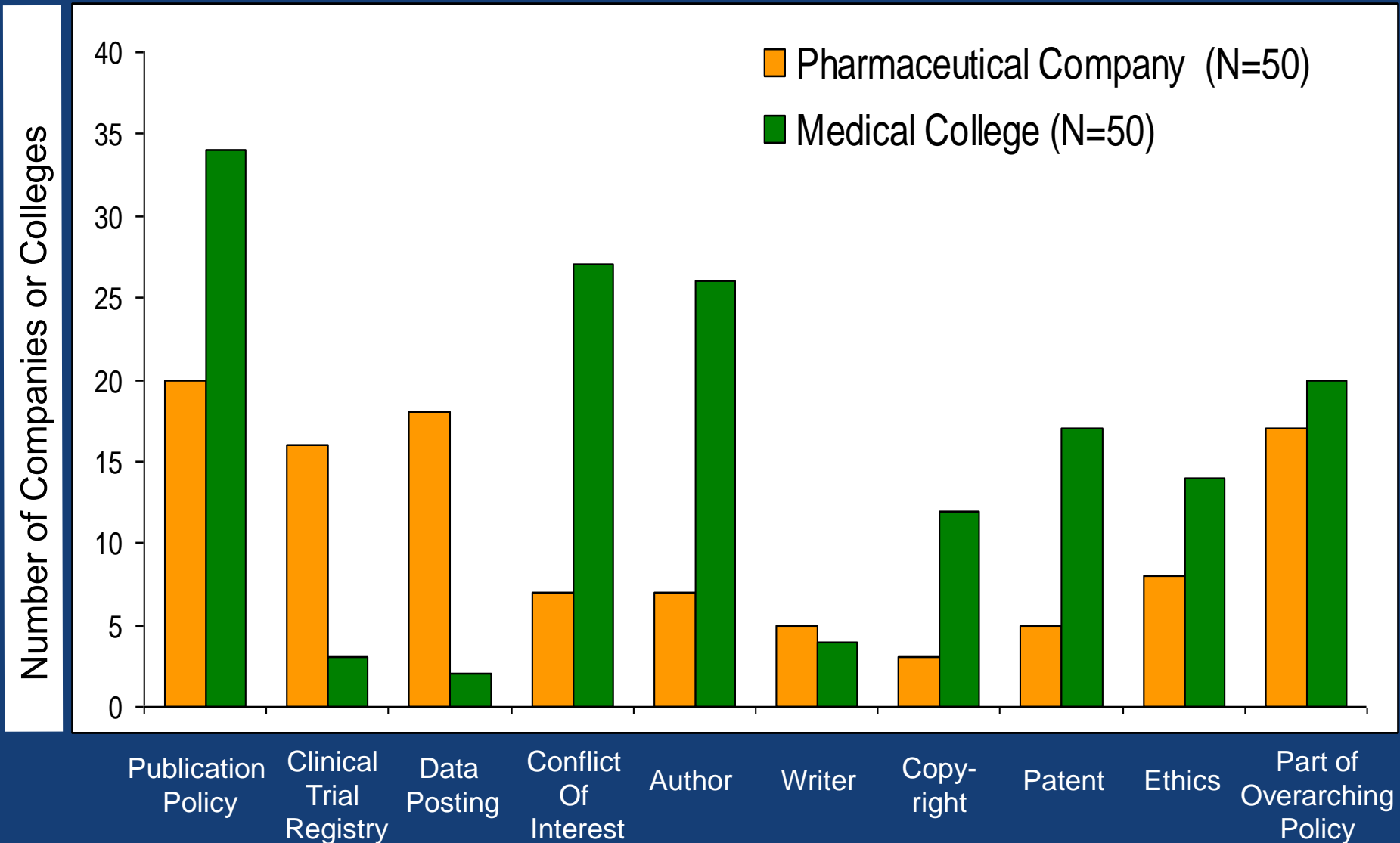
1 Best Medical Schools (Ranked in 2008). *US News and World Reports*. <http://grad-schools.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/grad/med/search>.

2 PhRMA Member Company List. [http://www.phrma.org/member\\_company\\_list/](http://www.phrma.org/member_company_list/)

# Methods (cont)

	<u>Search Terms</u>
Publication policy? (first terms searched)	publication(s), publish, policy, guideline(s), manuscript, abstract, poster*
Content of available publication policy (second terms searched)	author(ship), writer, clinical trial registry, clinical trial data posting, patent, ethics, copyright conflict of interest/ disclosure/acknowledg(e or ment)*
Overarching policy *Combination of terms	Publication policy standalone or part of overarching policy?

# Publication Policy Results



# Conclusions

More medical schools (68%) had online publication policies than pharmaceutical companies (40%)

- Medical schools - conflict of interest and authorship
- Pharmaceutical companies - clinical trial registry and data results postings
- Overarching policy
  - More than half of medical colleges publication policies (20/34)
  - Nearly all pharmaceutical publication policies (17/20)

## Suggestions

- Post publication policy summary on external pharmaceutical company website
- Ask authors for link to institution's publication policy