

Physicians receive “[payments](#)” from device manufacturers and drug companies in three broad categories. Some are royalties and licensing agreements for technologies developed by physicians and used by companies – they run into far larger payments and probably not the ones considers. Some are “free lunches,” used to get into the office and in front of a customer, a physician – but few physicians, especially interventionalists get \$5,000 worth of lunches a year. And then there are payments to physicians to discuss a device or drug with colleagues in the setting of medical education. So while I do not know for sure, I would suspect that most of these payments are for talking to other physicians, advocating for a specific device.

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