

[Letter of Complaint to ABC Board members, ABC journalists, and others: Reporter Norman Swan prioritised his private client's needs over reporting scientific misconduct to ABC audiences](#)

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Sydney NSW
17 July 2023

Dear ABC Chair Ita Buttrose, Managing Director David Anderson, Board Member Laura Tingle, Media Watch's Paul Barry, other ABC officials and journalists, and interested observers,

I am writing to make a formal complaint about your reporter Norman Swan, for prioritising his personal-business interests over reporting to the ABC's audience a stunning incident involving University of Sydney superstar Professor "GI Jennie" Brand-Miller's increasingly obvious scientific misconduct.

If Norman Swan is indeed still an ABC employee, I believe he should be fired for dereliction of ABC duty. This week, he failed to report an incident of national significance, and **unethically helped to suppress stunning new evidence for what I've called "The biggest medical scandal in Australia's history", and the associated governance crisis - involving corrupt conduct - at the University of Sydney** (which enjoys a disproportionate ~\$400m worth of research funding each year from Australian taxpayers).

In June, I provided evidence on the latter two matters to the **Chancellor of the University of Sydney, Belinda Hutchinson**: pp. 9, 34 and 70-77 at <https://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/Letter-to-BelindaHutchinson.pdf>

Beyond the broader research fraud and institutional corruption documented in my letter to Ms Hutchinson, the **"stunning new evidence"** to which I refer involved my latest effort to give Professor Jennie Brand-Miller (JBM) the opportunity to deny that she has published false and deceptive conflict-of-interest statements for decades. **Spoiler: In front of ~600 people last Wednesday evening, superstar Professor JBM chose not to deny my claim that she has deceived the global scientific community for decades; instead, remarkably, she stood up and walked silently towards the exit, and out of a Diabetes Australia event in the Warrane Theatre at the Museum of Sydney.**

As a courtesy, I have CC'd Norman Swan; Jennie Brand-Miller (JBM); Justine Cain, CEO of Diabetes Australia; Stephen Simpson, founding Academic Director of the Charles Perkins Centre (overseeing ~1200 taxpayer-funded researchers at the University of Sydney); and Mark Scott, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sydney (and formerly Managing Director of the ABC). I encourage each of them to publicly dispute any of my observations in this letter, any of the detailed evidence provided in my letter last week to the *American Journal of Clinical Research* (AJCR; attached, below), and any aspect of my 12 years' worth of evidence published at <https://www.australianparadox.com/>.

Is Norman Swan still an ABC reporter, or is he now devoted to his private clients and business interests?

Importantly, before I proceed, this formal complaint assumes Dr Norman Swan is still an employee of the ABC and still receives an income from taxpayers as a reporter and producer of content, not now retired from the ABC and 100% devoted to his private business interests, including public speaking:
<https://au.linkedin.com/in/dnormanswan>

I've been told Norman's public-speaking engagements command payment of up to \$10,000 per night. Good luck to him - "Dr Norman Swan AM is a multi-award-winning producer, broadcaster and investigative journalist" - except to the extent that his devotion to private interests - including staying cosy-cosy with his customers in the "health" space - interferes with his taxpayer-funded job as an ABC reporter.

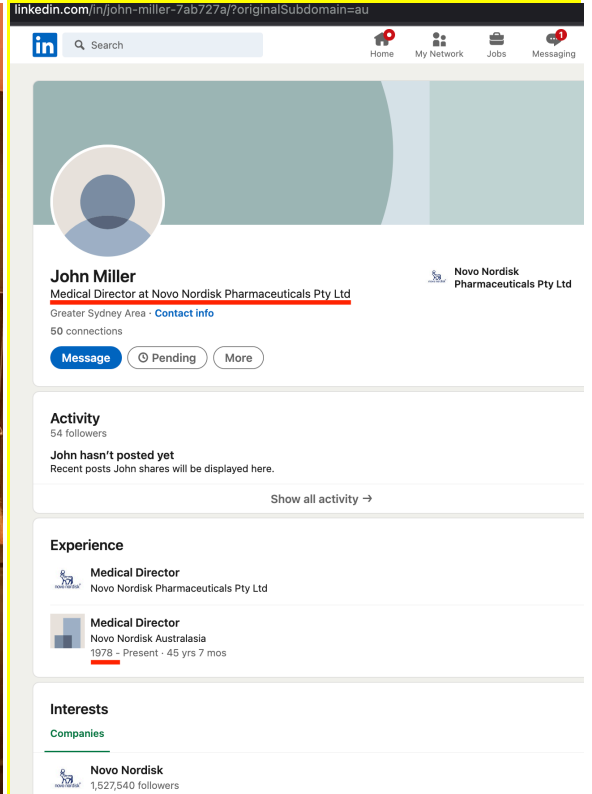
The issue here is that Australians are still expecting ABC reporter Norman Swan to report to them serious misconduct by dodgy scientists when it is paraded in front of him, but Norman's private business in the "health" space means that no longer happens. Australians now need to be told that Norman Swan can no longer be trusted to "call out" scientific fraudsters or corrupt conduct by institutions harming public health.

Once a fearless investigative reporter - who brought great credibility to the ABC by famously taking down prominent gynaecologist Dr William McBride and his fraudulent research - Dr Norman Swan appears to have become a meek puppy devoted to servicing his private clients in the "health" sector.

What am I talking about? ABC reporter helping suppress - rather than report - evidence of scientific misconduct

Last Wednesday evening, ABC reporter Dr Norman Swan presided over an extraordinary incident while "moonlighting" as a (paid?) Master of Ceremonies and public speaker. Rather than asking critical questions and then reporting for the ABC, Norman Swan as MC chose to help his customer - Diabetes Australia CEO Justine Cain - to suppress from the wider Australian community all evidence of a stunning episode in the fight against corrupt conduct in the diabetes space, a malignant matter of fact that has long fuelled Australia's type 2 diabetes (T2D) epidemic (see pp. 4-26 in my letter to Belinda Hutchinson, above).
(Letter continues on p. 3, after exhibits overleaf)

Exhibits: Diabetes Australia event (pre drama) + RR's evidence in letter to *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*



Below are seven points of evidence for Jennie Brand-Miller's marriage to Dr John Miller, Medical Director, Novo Nordisk Australasia since 1978, taken from RR's letter to *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, 11 July 2023 (full letter reproduced p. 8, below). Sarah L. McCormack, Director of Scholarly Publications, American Society for Nutrition (Ph: 1 240-428-3616; email: SMcCormack@nutrition.org) has advised that an investigation has begun.

How do I know that JBM has hidden a multi-million-dollar Novo Nordisk competing interest? Well, for starters, a doctor at the Royal Prince Albert Hospital in Sydney in January innocently dropped into our informal conversation that the Medical Director of Novo Nordisk Australasia since 1978 is JBM's husband: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/john-miller-7ab727a/?originalSubdomain=au>

I doubted that could be true because it would mean that JBM, your distinguished AJCN colleague, has provided false and deceptive "conflict of interest" declarations in most of the diet-and-health papers she has ever written. As you know, "Each Author [publishing in AJCN] must disclose all possible conflict of interest situations including, but not limited to: 1. Having a close relative (eg, child, sibling, parent, spouse, or domestic partner) or a professional associate with financial interest in the outcome or otherwise having a relationship that might affect judgment or could be seen as doing so by a reasonable person familiar with the relationship..."

I wasn't immediately convinced of JBM's longstanding deception of our global scientific, medical and diabetes communities. But the evidence I have accumulated (below) now is clear, convincing, and undisputed by JBM and her close colleagues (including Stephen Simpson, Stewart Truswell and Stephen Colagiuri), despite many recent opportunities for them to inform me I am wrong. I am not. Indeed, JBM's undisclosed multi-million-dollar Novo Nordisk competing interest is just a small part of the research misconduct and corrupt conduct running wild at the University of Sydney at present: pp. 9, 28-34 <https://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/Letter-to-BelindaHutchinson.pdf>

Please urgently investigate the veracity of the following seven observations, and then correct the deception promoted to the world by JBM and AJCN: "no conflicts of interest".

1. **JBM in 2003 told a journalist that she married a co-author of her first big "peer reviewed" paper: "It not only led to a paper in a prestigious medical journal - a fillip for a young PhD student - it threw her together with her future husband and collaborator, John Miller, a scientist and businessman..."** <https://www.smh.com.au/world/taking-the-sweet-with-the-sour-20030419-gdgmis.html>
2. Here is that 1977 paper, by JBM and co-author John J. Miller: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.5694/j.1326-5377.1977.tb107779.x>
3. **In 1992, JBM's husband John J. Miller published on "human insulin" with JBM's closest University of Sydney colleague, Professor Stephen Colagiuri:** [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PII0140-6736\(92\)92387-U/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PII0140-6736(92)92387-U/fulltext)
4. Here's Novo Nordisk's Dr John Miller in 2004 "fixing" a sneaky unethical Novo Nordisk insulin tangle: "invitations asked patients to 'Come and make your life a little easier and gain control of your diabetes. With [Novo Nordisk's] FlexPen, there is no easier way to inject insulin.' Mr Miller could not confirm whether Novo Nordisk or the pharmacist planned the meeting, nor could he say how often such promotion meetings took place." <https://www.smh.com.au/national/education-meeting-used-to-push-drug-20040617-gdj53q.html>
5. **More recently, here's JBM and (John J. Miller's co-author) Stephen Colagiuri's millions-sold LowGI Diet handbooks, in which they falsely claim "There is absolute consensus that sugar in food does not cause [type 2] diabetes":** p. 10 <https://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/Letter-to-BelindaHutchinson.pdf>
6. A recent scroll through the Miller's public Facebook postings reinforced the evidence above that University of Sydney superstar JBM is/was married for decades to Dr John Miller, Novo Nordisk's Medical Director Australasia since 1978: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/john-miller-7ab727a/?originalSubdomain=au>
7. Here's a photo circa 2007, reportedly of "Scientist Jennie Brand-Miller at home with her husband Dr John Miller": <https://www.gettyimages.com.au/detail/news-photo/scientist-jennie-brand-miller-at-home-with-her-husband-dr-news-photo/540183657>

All up, it seems clear that the University of Sydney's diet-and-health superstar Jennie Brand-Miller has enjoyed millions of dollars of undisclosed household income/wealth over recent decades via a spousal link to Novo Nordisk's diabetes-drug sales. That helps to explain some of the false and harmful diet-and-health nonsense pushed by JBM and her Novo-Nordisk funded University of Sydney colleagues: pp. 9-26 and 36-39 <https://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/Letter-to-BelindaHutchinson.pdf>

Ita, David and Laura and Paul, in greater detail, last Wednesday evening Dr Norman Swan - as MC of a taxpayer-funded Diabetes Australia debate - presided over my (unplanned) "confrontation" with food-science superstar Professor Jennie Brand-Miller (JBM) about the truth or not of my claims that JBM has published false and deceptive conflict-of-interest statements in almost every diet-and-health study she has ever published; JBM has dishonestly hidden a multi-million-dollar Novo Nordisk conflict of interest from the global medical, scientific and diabetes communities for decades; and **JBM is in serious breach of the University of Sydney's "External Interests Policy", which states that staff "must" publicly declare all "external, personal or financial interests" in all relevant publications; persistent failure to do so may be regarded as "corrupt conduct"** (pp. 27-34 in my letter to Belinda Hutchinson). Norman chose to suppress the stunning new evidence, rather than report it to the ABC's audience (more on how/why below).

Background to stunning "RR confronts JBM on existence of Novo Nordisk conflict of interest" incident

As you may know, JBM - aka "GI Jennie" - probably is Australia's most globally influential and distinguished nutrition "scientist", ever: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Jennie-Brand-Miller-2/5>

Unfortunately, JBM also is a shonk. And not just because of her infamous *Australian Paradox* sugar-and-obesity fraud, impressively reported in its early stages by Emma Aberici and Wendy Carlisle, via the ABC's excellent *Lateline* (now discontinued) and *Background Briefing* programs: <https://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/ABC-A-CA.pdf> ; <https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/backgroundbriefing/independent-review-finds-issues-with-controversial-sugar-paper/5618490> ; <https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/backgroundbriefing/5239418>

Ita, David, Laura and Paul, it turns out JBM also is **99.9999% likely** to have published deliberately false and deceptive "conflict of interest" disclosures for several decades (**please see pp. 27-34 in my letter to Belinda Hutchinson, above**).

As background, I should advise that over recent months I have written to and left phone messages for JBM (using publicly available email and phone contacts), **getting no response at all to my multiple efforts to allow her to definitively deny my convincing evidence** that for several decades her husband has been Dr John J. Miller, the Medical Director of Novo Nordisk Australia since 1978: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/john-miller-7ab727a/?originalSubdomain=au>

Your ABC reporter Norman Swan was in a position to be aware of JBM's scientific misconduct, being a recipient of (on top of various other alerts) my letter last week to the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* (AJCN; attached, below) **highlighting seven specific pieces of evidence** that together show JBM has indeed, for decades, deliberately hidden a must-report multi-million-dollar Novo Nordisk conflict of interest from the global medical, scientific and diabetes communities.

So what happened, and why exactly am I complaining about what Norman Swan did last Wednesday?

Ita, David, Laura and Paul, my complaint is that your reporter Dr Norman Swan was recklessly derelict in his ABC duties last Wednesday evening. I think he prioritised keeping his private client - Diabetes Australia CEO Justine Cain - happy, while unethically helping to suppress from public attention a national scandal involving research misconduct by famous researchers, growing harm to public health, and a governance crisis at the University of Sydney, with dishonest senior managers nevertheless enjoying disproportionate research funding of ~\$400m per annum from Australian taxpayers: pp. 9, 27-34 and 70-77 at <https://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/Letter-to-BelindaHutchinson.pdf>

On the detail of the extraordinary incident last Wednesday, your ABC reporter Norman Swan was the MC of a taxpayer-funded Diabetes Australia debate in front of maybe 600 or more people. Only deciding in the hour beforehand to show up to the free/taxpayer-funded event, I was not expecting much as an on-site attendee of "**Australia's obesity crisis: Is there a magic pill?; Wednesday 12 July, 6.15pm (AEST) ; Warrane Theatre, Museum of Sydney (in-person) and live-streamed**" <https://www.diabetesaustralia.com.au/national-diabetes-week/great-debate-series/>

Discovering on arrival that Dr Alan Barclay (JBM's long-time colleague and co-author of the *Australian Paradox* sugar-and-obesity fraud) was on the six-person panel, I decided to try to ask Barclay and Norman Swan (who has known JBM for decades) a question about JBM's hidden must-report Novo Nordisk conflict of interest. After 45 minutes or so of panel discussion, **I was handed the microphone as the first contributor from the audience**. I provided my name, and then my introduction touched on prominent investigative science journalist Gary Taubes, excess sugar and carbohydrates as the main driver of the T2D epidemic, US firm Virta Health using its low-carbohydrate approach to reverse T2D in hundreds of thousands of T2D victims as we speak, some of the things documented on pp. 4-26 in my letter to Belinda Hutchinson (see link above).

I then turned to my specific scientific-integrity concerns, and started to ask panel member "Dr Barclay" and MC "Dr Swan" about JBM's must-report Novo Nordisk conflict of interest. **Dr Swan then interrupted proceedings, to promptly and appropriately advise me and the rest of the ~600-person audience that "Jennie is here", tonight, in the room (below, to the right of me).**

I was a bit shocked, as the possibility of JBM's attendance hadn't crossed my mind. **But then, naturally, I addressed my**

question directly to JBM, maybe 10 metres away across the room, asking something like: Is it true that your husband is Dr John J. Miller, the Medical Director of Novo Nordisk Australia since 1978?

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/john-miller-7ab727a/?originalSubdomain=au>

Ita, David, Laura and Paul, we now come to the extraordinary bit. The bit that your ABC reporter Norman Swan should have reported, not suppressed. Instead of denying that she has hidden from the scientific community for decades a must-disclose Novo Nordisk conflict of interest, JBM and a male acquaintance (was he Dr John J. Miller, the Medical Director of Novo Nordisk since 1978?) stood up and, bizarrely, without saying a word, walked slowly across the room, in the front of MC Norman Swan and the assembled six-person panel, towards the exit of the theatre. I was a bit gobsmacked that suddenly things had escalated into a confrontation - a la "A Current Affair" - but from my chair I went with (I think I recall) "Excuse me Sir, are you Dr John J. Miller, the Medical Director of Novo Nordisk since 1978"? Again no answer, as JBM and her male acquaintance literally exited stage left.

Critically, JBM's long, silent, undignified "walk of shame" towards and then out of the exit - without uttering a word of denial in answer to a profoundly important yes-or-no question - is perfectly consistent with my convincing evidence via those seven key points below (in my attached letter to the AJCN) that JBM continues to dishonestly hide a must-report Novo Nordisk conflict of interest from everyone who trusts her "science".

[And then RR tried to stop Norman Swan et al/pretending nothing happened re JBM's corrupt conduct](#)

I was stunned. I assume others in the room and online following proceedings also were stunned. But ABC reporter Dr Norman Swan, instead of being properly amazed - following up with maybe: "That's amazing! Why did my old friend Jennie not answer that simple-but-important question about that must-report Novo Nordisk conflict of interest? Could Rory be right, that Jennie - a famous and highly influential Australian scientist - really is hiding something important?" - unreasonably pretended as event MC that nothing important just happened, seeking to restart with something like, "Okay, let's address that carbohydrate issue".

That's when I got a bit unruly, insisting loudly that MC Norman Swan (the ABC's once-feared investigative journalist) and his panel address the scientific-integrity issue, the Novo Nordisk conflict-of-interest-in-diabetes-advice issue that remarkably just paraded slowly and silently across the room. Then Sof Andrikopoulos, the CEO of the Australian Diabetes Society, the panel member closest to Dr Swan, piped up, loudly insisting I must stop, Stop!, STOP!!! I didn't, as I was outraged that the JBM-friendly panelists out front and MC Norman Swan wanted to pretend nothing just happened, and that I had been unreasonable just asking the question.

Loudly protesting, I refused to let the "debate" slide quietly back into the usual "It's all so complicated" and "More public money is needed for our research into treatments" nonsense. I'm not proud of the big fuss I made jousting with ABC reporter/MC Norman Swan and Australian Diabetes Society CEO Sol Andrikopoulos for control of "the next leg of the debate" before I was quietly asked to please leave, but a couple of minutes of extreme discomfort and anxiety for me in front of a bemused 600-person audience seems a small price to pay to try to stop the University of Sydney's dishonesty and corrupt conduct that together are significantly fuelling our disastrous T2D epidemic: pp. 4-25, 27-34 and 70-77 at <https://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/Letter-to-BelindaHutchinson.pdf>

When quietly asked to leave by a calm and pleasant security guard, I did so promptly, and headed home. On arrival, my sons were rather bemused by my account of what just happened. As we all watched the final State of Origin rugby league match together, I placed a brief version of events on Twitter, in a three-tweet thread at <https://twitter.com/OzParadoxdotcom>

[Norman Swan played dead as whistle-blower confronted sci-fraudster, then helped with client's JBM cover-up](#)

I agree that my public confrontation with JBM, her male companion on the night (was it Dr John J. Miller, the Medical Director of Novo Nordisk Australasia since 1978?), MC Norman Swan and Sof Andrikopoulos, CEO of the Australian Diabetes Society, was not my finest moment. But after hundreds of letters over the past decade to thousands of people supposedly interested in improving public health, I've become aware that there is no quiet, cosy, polite way that is going to prompt the change needed to fix the T2D crisis, notwithstanding that the widespread use of low-carbohydrate diets could easily put the T2D epidemic into reverse:

<https://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/Colaquiuri-misconduct-diabetes-2022.pdf>

Unfortunately, the widespread use of low-carbohydrate diets as the simple and effective fix for T2D - standard medical advice a century ago - remains officially blocked from almost all Australians who need help, blocked by distinguished-but-inept-or-dishonest diabetes careerists in Group of Eight universities, many with bank balances enjoying the malignant financial influence of Novo Nordisk and other firms in the business of selling diabetes and obesity drugs, not of fixing those readily fixable maladies (see pp. 4-34 in my letter to Belinda Hutchinson above).

After Wednesday evening's extraordinary events, ABC reporter Norman Swan chose not to report anything to the ABC's audiences. Indeed, ABC reporter Swan was part of the cover-up by his private client Diabetes Australia,

with Norman Swan's national tour alongside CEO Justine Cain simply rolling on to Adelaide on Thursday, as Norman's private client Diabetes Australia unethically deleted my appropriate questioning of JBM and her male acquaintance from the taxpayer-funded video. Norman and Justine are keen to pretend nothing happened, but you can see the break in continuity - via the deletion of my contribution - at minute 47:37 of the video online: (scroll down to Wednesday's video) <https://www.diabetesaustralia.com.au/national-diabetes-week/great-debate-series/>

Again, Ita, David, Laura and Paul, my complaint is that your ABC's taxpayer-funded reporter Norman Swan played dead during and after an amazing incident involving a whistle-blower confronting epic scientific misconduct. Your ABC reporter Norman Swan as MC controlled this taxpayer-funded event, so why did he ask no questions? Why did he pretend nothing happened? **Why did he prioritise his private client's needs over the needs of the ABC's audience, and over the Australian community's expectation that he and we will always try to root out scientific misconduct and other corrupt conduct when we find it, to help improve public health?**

And why did your ABC reporter Norman Swan again stay silent when Diabetes Australia CEO Justine Cain gave me a smack in her "editorial" at the end of her truncated video? She said (as best I can hear from minute 49:05): "I just would like, as everyone leaves...I'm sure this is going to generate much conversation... there's some really powerful words that have been used tonight. ... We have individuals who are slowly ... down a sinkhole... that is heartbreaking, absolutely heartbreaking. And then we hear the more positive words... Let's make the correct choice, the easy choice...": <https://www.diabetesaustralia.com.au/national-diabetes-week/great-debate-series/>

Summary: The ABC's only reasonable path ahead

Ita, David, Laura and Paul, please ensure that the ABC's integrity unit assesses whether Dr Norman Swan appropriately managed his private and ABC roles in this matter. In my opinion, Dr Swan's unethical behaviour as an ABC reporter will need to be carefully investigated, including via a formal interview on the extent to which the protecting of his private client Diabetes Australia was prioritised over properly reporting an amazing incident at a taxpayer-funded national event, a remarkable incident involving a reliable and well-credialled whistleblower with hard evidence of corrupt conduct confronting a famous-but-dishonest Australian scientist.

By the way, taxpayers own the three-or-so-minute video of the incident that Diabetes Australia is suppressing. Perhaps the ABC's investigation unit could ask Diabetes Australia CEO Justine Cain (email address CC'd above) for a copy of the extraordinary incident involving my confrontation with shonk Jennie Brand-Miller and her male partner (was he Dr John J. Miller, Medical Director of Novo Nordisk from 1978??), ABC reporter Norman Swan and then Sol Andrikopoulos, CEO of the Australian Diabetes Society?

Similarly, to get to the bottom of the profoundly important-but-simple conflict-of-interest matter, our ABC's investigations unit could contact superstar JBM and politely ask her to explicitly deny my claim that for decades she has dishonestly hidden a must-report Novo Nordisk conflict of interest from the global scientific community. Before approaching JBM, **please first assess my seven points of evidence** highlighted last week in my letter to the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* (attached, below).

Finally, Ita, David, Laura and Paul, please acknowledge that you have received my letter requesting an ethics investigation into whether your ABC reporter Dr Norman Swan appropriately managed his private and ABC roles last Wednesday evening.

Best wishes,
Rory

Comments, criticisms, questions, compliments, whatever welcome at strathburnstation@gmail.com

Please respond "please delete" if you are not involved in the matters above and would prefer to receive nothing further from me regarding scientific integrity and public health.

rory robertson

<https://twitter.com/OzParadoxdotcom>

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Recipients of letter to ABC Board, other ABC officials and journalists, and interested observers

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[Letter to American Journal of Clinical Nutrition: Please fix Jennie Brand-Miller's false and deliberately deceptive Conflict-of-Interest statements in AJCN](#)

Rory Robertson (+61 414 703 471)
Sydney NSW
11 July 2023

Dear Editor-in-Chief Christopher Duggan, other officials of *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* (AJCN) and American Society for Nutrition (ASN), and interested observers,

Good afternoon. I hope you are well. My name is Rory Robertson. I have been a full-time professional economist in Australian financial markets for 35 years and counting.

I am writing to you today regarding my concern that your AJCN Editorial Board colleague Jennie Brand-Miller (JBM) has been providing you and your thousands of distinguished readers with false and deceptive "conflict of interest" disclosures. I document below that the University of Sydney's globally influential Glycemic Index promoter has deliberately misled many of you for decades.

Specifically, JBM's usual "conflict of interest" disclosures are designed to dishonestly hide her major financial relationship with Novo Nordisk's sales of diabetes drugs. Some examples: "The authors declare no conflicts of interest. JB-M is the President of the nonprofit Glycemic Index Foundation and oversees a glycemic index testing service at the University of Sydney. She is the coauthor of *The Low GI Diet* (DeCapo Press) and other books on healthy eating", in <https://academic.oup.com/ajcn/article/112/2/284/5857407>; "JCB-M reported no conflicts of interest related to the study", in <https://academic.oup.com/ajcn/article/105/4/854/4633970> ; and (only) "JCB-M is a coauthor of *The Low GI Diet* (New York, NY: Marlowe and Co, 2005) and a coauthor of *The New Glucose Revolution* book series (New York, NY: Marlowe and Co).", in <https://academic.oup.com/ajcn/article/86/4/1249/4649647>

How do I know that JBM has hidden a multi-million-dollar Novo Nordisk competing interest? Well, for starters, a doctor at the Royal Prince Albert Hospital in Sydney in January innocently dropped into our informal conversation that the Medical Director of Novo Nordisk Australasia since 1978 is JBM's husband: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/john-miller-7ab727a/?originalSubdomain=au>

I doubted that could be true because it would mean that JBM, your distinguished AJCN colleague, has provided false and deceptive "conflict of interest" declarations in most of the diet-and-health papers she has ever written. As you know, "Each Author [publishing in AJCN] must disclose all possible conflict of interest situations including, but not limited to: 1. Having a close relative (eg, child, sibling, parent, spouse, or domestic partner) or a professional associate with financial interest in the outcome or otherwise having a relationship that might affect judgment or could be seen as doing so by a reasonable person familiar with the relationship..."

I wasn't immediately convinced of JBM's longstanding deception of our global scientific, medical and diabetes communities. But the evidence I have accumulated (below) now is clear, convincing, and undisputed by JBM and her close colleagues (including Stephen Simpson, Stewart Truswell and Stephen Colagiuri), despite many recent opportunities for them to inform me I am wrong. I am not. Indeed, JBM's undisclosed multi-million-dollar Novo Nordisk competing interest is just a small part of the research misconduct and corrupt conduct running wild at the University of Sydney at present: pp. 9, 28-34 <https://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/Letter-to-BelindaHutchinson.pdf>

Please urgently investigate the veracity of the following seven observations, and then correct the deception promoted to the world by JBM and AJCN: "no conflicts of interest".

1. **JBM in 2003 told a journalist that she married a co-author of her first big "peer reviewed" paper: "It not only led to a paper in a prestigious medical journal - a fillip for a young PhD student - it threw her together with her future husband and collaborator, John Miller, a scientist and businessman..."** <https://www.smh.com.au/world/taking-the-sweet-with-the-sour-20030419-gdgmis.html>
2. Here is that 1977 paper, by JBM and co-author John J. Miller: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.5694/j.1326-5377.1977.tb107779.x>
3. **In 1992, JBM's husband John J. Miller published on "human insulin" with JBM's closest University of Sydney colleague, Professor Stephen Colagiuri:** [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PII0140-6736\(92\)92387-U/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PII0140-6736(92)92387-U/fulltext)
4. Here's Novo Nordisk's Dr John Miller in 2004 "fixing" a sneaky unethical Novo Nordisk insulin tangle: "invitations asked patients to 'Come and make your life a little easier and gain control of your diabetes. With [Novo Nordisk's] FlexPen, there is no easier way to inject insulin.' Mr Miller could not confirm whether Novo Nordisk or the pharmacist planned the meeting, nor could he say how often such promotion meetings took place." <https://www.smh.com.au/national/education-meeting-used-to-push-drug-20040617-gdj53q.html>

5. **More recently, here's JBM and (John J. Miller's co-author) Stephen Colagiuri's millions-sold LowGI Diet handbooks, in which they falsely claim "There is absolute consensus that sugar in food does not cause [type 2] diabetes":** p. 10 <https://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/Letter-to-BelindaHutchinson.pdf>
6. A recent scroll through the Miller's public Facebook postings reinforced the evidence above that University of Sydney superstar JBM is/was married for decades to Dr John Miller, Novo Nordisk's Medical Director Australasia since 1978: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/john-miller-7ab727a/?originalSubdomain=au>
7. Here's a photo circa 2007, reportedly of "Scientist Jennie Brand-Miller at home with her husband Dr John Miller": <https://www.gettyimages.com.au/detail/news-photo/scientist-jennie-brand-miller-at-home-with-her-husband-dr-news-photo/540183657>

All up, it seems clear that the University of Sydney's diet-and-health superstar Jennie Brand-Miller has enjoyed millions of dollars of undisclosed household income/wealth over recent decades via a spousal link to Novo Nordisk's diabetes-drug sales. That helps to explain some of the false and harmful diet-and-health nonsense pushed by JBM and her Novo-Nordisk funded University of Sydney colleagues: pp. 9-26 and 36-39 <https://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/Letter-to-BelindaHutchinson.pdf>

Tragically, some 35% of Australians who began using (exogenous, taxpayer subsidised) insulin to "treat their diabetes" in 2020 were women with "gestational diabetes": <https://www.aihw.gov.au/getmedia/5f4dcfa1-4420-4d54-8618-948ce2d6ac4d/AIHW-CDK-11-Factsheet-2020.pdf.aspx>

That travesty is a triumph for the misinformation and shonky official treatment advice funded by pharmaceutical companies like Novo Nordisk, and a disaster for public health and taxpayers. Yet in 2020 we also had JBM - who for decades has quietly benefited from Novo Nordisk's insulin sales - publishing fluffy, unhelpful "Carbohydrate restriction in gestational diabetes" research in your AJCN, and deceiving all of us with: "The authors declare no conflicts of interest." <https://academic.oup.com/ajcn/article/112/2/284/5857407>

Again, AJCN editors and ASN officials, please fix all of JBM's false and deceptive conflict-of-interest statements in your AJCN. Importantly, if you see anything I have written here or elsewhere that is factually incorrect or otherwise unreasonable, please contact me urgently so that - if I agree - I can correct the public record as soon as possible. (NB: no-one has found anything that needs correcting in over a decade.)

Best wishes,
Rory

Comments, criticisms, questions, compliments, whatever welcome at strathburnstation@gmail.com

Please respond "please delete" if you are not involved in the matters above and would prefer to receive nothing further from me regarding scientific integrity and public health.

rory robertson

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