

## Abstract

### Investments in Pharmaceuticals Before and After TRIPS: How Public Policy, Technology and Globalization Shaped Drug Development

In 1994, the TRIPS agreement was adopted by the World Trade Organization to create incentives for new-drug development on diseases that primarily affect the poor. This paper analyzes the effectiveness of the TRIPS policy at multiple levels. The results point to a subtle, complex interplay of globalization, technology and policy. While relatively little new research on poverty diseases (other than HIV) was stimulated, the agreement sparked significant research in least-developed and developing countries on global diseases. The results suggest that effective policies for shaping investments in technology under globalization account for local context and institutions.