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Amir Attaran is an Associate Professor in the Faculties of Law and Medicine at the University of Ottawa, and holds the Canada Research Chair in Law, Population Health and Global Development Policy. Dr. Amir Attaran is by training both a lawyer (LL.B., Vancouver) and a biologist (D. Phil, Oxford; M.S., Caltech), whose research covers the gamut of both fields to explore different drivers of human well-being, particularly in the fields of human rights, health, and/or international development. Current research interests include research into the financial and legal duties of international aid donors; evaluation of policy development in the UN's technical agencies; the role of intellectual property and trade law on access to medicines in less developed countries; and the engagement of the NATO militaries (particularly Canada's) in the armed conflict in Afghanistan and its implications in human rights law and the law of armed conflict.

Dr. Attaran has published widely in the leading journals of both the legal and biomedical professions, such as the Yale and Stanford Journals of International Law, The Lancet, and The Journal of the American Medical Association. He is also a frequent commentator in the press, having written for the Globe and Mail, New York Times, The Guardian, and the Literary Review of Canada, among others.

Dr. Attaran has advised and collaborated with numerous NGOs, UN agencies, governments and corporations on aspects of international development, primarily in the area of public health.