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Opencard and electronic drug auctions

When Czechs hear mention of "electronic auctions" for buying reimbursable drugs, they tend to think of a sophisticated system that will reduce corruption and lead to lower drug prices. But until they have proof to the contrary, they should probably think instead of "Opencard." That's the electronic transit-card system that was supposed to cost Kč 89m but that has risen to more like Kč 1bn. It's the deal that turned their [personal data](#) over to unknown Haguess and Cyprus-owned Cross Point. It's the deal that led to higher-priced transit tickets. Electronic auctions can indeed work, but it all depends on the details. Such as who wins the contracts to write the software and to run the auctions. If it's another Haguess, the result will likely be higher drug prices. It's curious that the same Boris Šťastný of ODS who is pushing so hard for electronic drug auctions was also one of the Opencard's champions.

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