

## **Newsletter 4: HPV Vaccine: Answers Needed from Government Health Ministers**

**18 July 2012**

On the 12th July Australia was the first country to start a government sponsored vaccination program offering HPV vaccine to boys 12 -13 years of age. This has been implemented despite significant consumer concerns about the ingredients of this vaccine and the efficacy against any type of cancer. Below is a letter that has been sent to the TGA and other prominent public health officials in 2011 but no satisfactory answers have been provided.

Please investigate the ingredients of this vaccine before you give consent for your child to be inoculated. There is no active surveillance of this vaccine for causal relationships of adverse events with the vaccine. In other words, the safety of this vaccine will never be known as nobody is studying the long-term health effects; many of which have a delayed response.

**Here is the letter sent to Professor Fiona Stanley and the TGA in 2011 with questions that remain unanswered:**

In Australia, as in some other countries, the HPV vaccine - Gardasil® - is being promoted to adolescents, woman and now boys, as a vaccine to prevent cervical cancer. Government health departments are not addressing the concerns parents have about this vaccine.

There are many scientific and ethical concerns regarding the HPV vaccine and the community would like the following issues addressed:

- This vaccine was not proven to be safe or effective against cervical cancer (CC) prior to its marketing in 2006. Phase 3 trials were not completed until 2007 1. The vaccine was trialed against pre-cancerous lesions in women 16 – 26 yrs of age in the Phase 3 trials only 2. Most pre-cancerous lesions in this age group are known to clear quickly without treatment and do not lead to cancer later in life. The relationship between pre-cancerous lesions in young adults and cervical cancer 20 to 40 years later is unknown 1. This vaccine has only been assumed to be effective against CC and now industry sponsored research is suggesting it is effective against anal cancers in men.
- Gardasil® has 3 times the number of adverse reactions reported as all other vaccines *combined* 4
- Each of the 3 injections contains 225 ug of aluminium hydroxyphosphate sulfate, an adjuvant known to be linked with autoimmune diseases, the chronic illnesses that are increasing in our population 5, 6

- Each of the 3 injections contains sodium borate (a pesticide), which has been linked to infertility, seizures and paralysis. In 2005 the National Library of Medicine (NLM) of the National Institutes of Health declared this to be a dangerous poison and stated ‘it is no longer commonly found in medical preparations’ 7, 8. HPV vaccine was approved in 2006.
- Each of the 3 injections also contains polysorbate 80, an emulsifier linked with anaphylaxis, convulsions, collapse, seizure (twitching) and infertility in animals 7, 8.
- Since it was introduced, 94 deaths and 21,635 adverse reactions to Gardasil have been documented. Many have included the events listed above 9.
- There is no systematic, long-term surveillance of adverse events to the HPV vaccine. The reporting system is a passive surveillance system. The CDC states “This (VAERS) data cannot be used to infer causal associations between vaccines and adverse events”4. If no one carefully monitors adverse reactions, there is no proof that it is safe. Yet parents are told combining vaccines is safe. This also means it will not be possible to determine whether women vaccinated against HPV will have a higher rate of infertility and autoimmune diseases in 10 – 15 years time.
- The placebo in the clinical trials contained *more aluminium adjuvant* (a chemical linked with autoimmune diseases) than the vaccine itself 4. This is not a properly designed scientific study.

Why has this vaccine been marketed so aggressively to Australian women when cervical cancer is a very low risk in Australia (1.9 deaths per 100,000 women) indeed in all developed countries, and the vaccine contains chemicals linked with infertility? The other HPV vaccine (Cervarix) does not contain sodium borate or polysorbate 80, so why is it necessary to use infertility chemicals in Gardasil® which is being marketed to adolescent girls and women of all ages?

Please could you provide information and answers to the issues raised above.

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