

My Response to Comments for Debate

2014

1. Many journalists and the ABC have officially stated they will not present the other side of the vaccination debate and the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) has supported this position when I made a complaint. These comments and the ACMA Report are published on the '*Lobby Groups*' page of my website. Evidence for the suppression of the vaccination debate in Australia is also provided on this page.
2. Diane Harper and many other scientists are speaking against using HPV vaccines. Researchers at the University of British Columbia (Canada) have produced many articles on the dangers of HPV vaccines. Investigate [Tomljenovic and Shaw](#). Several governments including India and Japan have removed HPV vaccines from the recommended national schedule of vaccines and a class action has been initiated in France. Denial of the science against a vaccine does not represent a consensus on the science. It represents the 'selection' of the science.
3. A letter to the editor of the South Asia Journal of Cancer by Sudeep Gupta (Vol 3 Iss 1, Jan-Mar 2014) summarises the concerns about HPV vaccines that I discussed in my article published in the *Infectious Agents and Cancer* Journal (June 2013). This letter confirms the lack of safety and efficacy of HPV vaccines that was described in my article [HPV vaccines have not been shown to be cost-effective in countries with comprehensive Pap screening and surgery](#). Gupta's letter to the editor confirms that governments globally are ignoring the safety signals that have been detected by the CDC's VAER's data base and that HPV vaccines have not been proven safe or effective in preventing cervical cancer. The case reports demonstrating the association of HPV vaccine with neurological damage in many women are published on the '*Invitation to Doctors*' page of my website. Here is the link to the latest VAERS report listing the thousands of adverse events that have been voluntarily reported to the regulators since June 2006 www.sanevax.org
There is no active follow up of all health outcomes of women who are vaccinated with HPV vaccine therefore it will never be possible to make causal relationships to

the vaccine (CDC VAERS). The most frequent reactions are neurological and at least 155 deaths have been associated with HPV vaccination. These are believed to represent only 10% of the adverse events that are actually occurring. Here is a link to these reports of [deaths and serious adverse reactions](#).

4. My PhD includes a discussion of the science, politics and ethics of the Australian government's vaccination policy. It is a critique of the rationale for the expanding vaccination schedule that is recommended by the Australian government hence it examines the underpinning science for this policy. Informed choice is an important principle in the recommendation of any medical procedure - for sick or healthy people in the community – and my research examines the information that is being provided to Australian parents to encourage them to use 12 vaccines in their infants before 1 year of age: a policy that was not necessary in 1950.
5. In 2007 I completed a Master of Science in the Health and Behavioural Sciences Faculty at University of Wollongong (UOW). This included a research project on the whooping cough vaccine for the partial completion of my Master of Science Degree (Population Health). This project received a High Distinction. When I requested that I continue my research with a PhD in this department I was advised that this topic was political and that it should be completed in the area of Science and Technology Studies (STS) in humanities. This school is now included in the Faculty of Law, Humanities and the Arts at UOW.
6. In 2001 the Institute of Medicine (IOM) stated an association between mercury exposure and neurodevelopment disorders including autism, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and speech or language delay was biologically plausible. However it was considered that further studies were needed to prove a causal link. After assessing further *epidemiological* studies the IOM rejected a causal relationship between mercury containing vaccines and neurodevelopment disorders in 2004. However, it should be noted that *epidemiological* studies are observational studies and the outcomes of these studies are dependent upon the parameters and criteria that are selected by the researchers. Epidemiological studies need to be independently assessed to determine the validity of the outcomes. The rejection of a causal link by the IOM has not been proven using all the available scientific evidence, e.g. animal studies, biological studies and clinical evidence. That

is, empirical evidence. Evidence from these types of studies is suggestive of a causal link yet public health authorities have not funded large scale animal studies to prove that the combined schedule of childhood vaccines is not the cause of autism and other neurodevelopment disorders. Please also read the testimonials that have been given in the US Congressional hearing on autism in November 2012:

<http://oversight.house.gov/hearing/1-in-88-children-a-look-into-the-federal-response-to-rising-rates-of-autism/>

7. I have seen several animal studies that suggest a link between vaccines and autism. Epidemiological studies that claim to disprove this link are open to criticism. As in many areas there are biases in completed research and biases in the lack of funding for certain types of studies. The fact that chemicals are known to be linked as a possible cause of autism was discussed in the program *Tales of the Unexpected* (SBS 6 April 2014). The only source of environmental toxins that is not discussed with relation to autism and neurodevelopment disorders is *the combined schedule of childhood vaccines*: the 12 vaccines that parents in Australia are now expected to give infants before they are 1 year of age – the time of greatest physical development. Most of these vaccines also contain antibiotics which have also been linked as a possible cause of autism.
8. There is plenty of support for the possible causal link between chronic illness and vaccines and a claim that vaccines are not a cause of autism can only be made by ignoring the evidence that supports this position. Public health authorities have not funded the studies that would provide empirical evidence to *disprove* a causal link between vaccines and autism/chronic illness. Many social scientists - especially those in the field of Science and Technology Studies - examine scientific claims as part of their research.
9. The fact that ACCME is based in the US is not irrelevant to the Australian situation. Medical education globally is now largely influenced by the pharmaceutical industry. There is a link on the 'Invitation to Doctors' page to an article that demonstrates that all medical research is now influenced at every stage by industry. Clinical trials for vaccines are funded by the pharmaceutical companies and many of the researchers have financial ties to industry. Conflicts of Interest are not necessarily a problem but it is the duty of the government to ensure all COI are declared to the public.

Currently science that demonstrates the risks of vaccines is being suppressed from public debates - not addressed with scientific arguments - and this is not in the public interest.

10. This issue is about population health and all the risks need to be addressed in weighing up the benefits of using an increasing number of vaccines in healthy children/adults. Pharmaceutical companies and doctors stand to gain financial rewards and status from this policy hence it is important that governments reveal any COI in the decisions that are made about vaccines in public health policy.

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www.vaccinationdecisions.net