

Autism Becomes an Epidemic

This is going to be an unusual article for Health Alert because it does not offer a specific protocol to combat a health problem. Rather it is designed to make you and other people—especially physicians—think. This article is about the **epidemic of autism** in this country. It comes hot on the heels of the release of an autism study in Japan where they looked at the Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR) vaccinations as a potential cause. The study seemed to rule out MMR as a cause of autism—providing a major sign of relief for most parents. But already, the very premise of the study is being questioned. Many experts feel that this study did not give the green light to the MMR vaccine as related to autism.

What is Autism?

For those of you who do not know what autism is, it is scary indeed. Infants and children with autism run the gamut of neuro-psychiatric problems—from becoming suddenly quiet or silent to major antisocial behaviors. It is a heartbreaking disease because for more parents, their loved and loving child simply suddenly “goes away.” Some seemingly don’t even recognize their parents, many can’t communicate, and many experience horrific repetitive and fit-like behaviors.

Some of these kids get better over time, though there is no cure. The psychological, social, and economic ramifications of this disease are truly daunting. This is especially true now because autism is becoming **epidemic**. As the number of suffering families grows exponentially, any true scientific or medical thinker must ponder the things that have changed in recent years that many together are at the root of conditions like autism.

Looking for Causes

Perhaps the greatest major change in the US has been the stepped up rate and volume of vaccinations. The reason vaccinations are so suspect is that so many infants and kids develop autism shortly or even immediately after their shots. Doctors and public health officials call this coincidence. Even if the MMR short itself does not cause autism, surely we should be able to see with clear eyes what is so glaringly apparent.

If you are around kids as much as I am, the common threads of vaccinations and autism-like syndromes is as clear as a bell. Even after initial serum sickness (rash, flu-like problems, etc.,etc.) following vaccinations have disappeared—it becomes obvious that a percentage of kids suddenly go quiet. Their communication and speaking skills suffer, they go silent, and their entire speech development is slowed. This is so noticeable that it can be seen **simply by observation**.

These little “mini-autistic” episodes have to tell scientists something. I believe that certain shots, or a combination of shots, causes mini-autism that may be short lived or may last for months. Medical scientists ignore these observations because they are convinced that the mass inoculation of the public (herd immunity) is the way to fight “deadly” childhood disease like measles, mumps, chickenpox, or even the remarkably rare hepatitis B.

Suffering “For the Good”

Vaccination history shows much of the same thing. In 1796, Edward Jenner came up with a smallpox vaccine. We learn from studying it that about one in 300 suffered brain inflammation. Louis Pasteur came up with the rabies vaccine in the 1800s and about one in 400 suffered brain inflammation. In September 1977, High Fudenburg, MD—who spent 20 years on the World Health Organization’s immunology panel—cited flu shot statistics that were shocked indeed. He found that oldsters who **had five consecutive flu shots** between 1970 and 1980 had a **ten times higher rate of developing Alzheimer’s** due to the mercury and aluminum in the shots.

Are we doing more harm than good? All physicians must practice, according to their oath, “Primo no nocere.” This means **first do not harm**. Rather than taking a long, hard look at the vaccination policies of this nation, medical science plods ahead, with more and more shots rather than less. And these may be taking their toll.

Modern-day Epidemic

As we stated, autism, relatively unheard of in the past, is now epidemic—**second only to diabetes!** Think not? Here are the statistics about epidemic problems our country has experienced. In 1992 one in 1,966 persons (**of all ages**) had cancer. In 1996 one **child** in 166 had autism. In the measles epidemic of 1925, one child in 154 got the measles. According to the highly touted Japanese study, autism now strikes **one child in 62!** That is topped only by the rate of diabetes in 2002 of one in every 16 people.

Lots of experts feel that Alzheimer’s and autism are not only not new, but also very similar—a result of brain insult from a variety of sources, including mercury and aluminum from shots. Perhaps they are the modern day form of Mad Hatter’s disease from the 1800s. But where are our protective agencies? Is the fox protecting the hen house? Representative Dan Burton (R-IN) has said that the FDA and our other agencies are asleep at the switch.

Just Take a Look

As medical scientists, we are obligated to look hard and long at our practices and procedures. We are not doing that with vaccinations and autism. For myself, I

doubt that MMR alone causes autism. But the onslaught of more than 22 shots before age two surely takes its toll. Simple observation of children, their vaccinations schedules, and their social and communicative skills and behaviors prove this with no study at all. Like governmental possibilities that **a major mistake has been made.**

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