



Wilson: Some Vaccines Still Contain Mercury

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Anchor Lead:

It's the controversy that won't go away. Is the skyrocketing rate of Autism in children due in any way to the mercury long contained in childhood vaccines? It's an issue our chief investigative reporter Steve Wilson has stayed with from the start...and Steve will science ever answer this one?

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Wilson Live Open:

It could happen one day but only if researchers keep looking... and with 1 in 150 children now diagnosed with Autism in this country—more than 100 new, young victims every single day—a lot of skeptical parents and others believe there's a big incentive for industry and government to cover up the truth.

Dr. Renee Jenkins, M.D./Pediatrician: I don't think anybody is saying you want to inject mercury. (Wilson) Why would I do it? Why would I allow it to happen? (Jenkins) Well, for routine vaccinations, we don't allow it to happen.”

A loving grandmother and president of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Dr. Renee Jenkins is among those in medicine, in government, in the media, pretty much telling parents this problem's been solved...there is no mercury in the routine schedule of childhood vaccines anymore, except maybe just “trace” amounts. She's talking about a mercury-based vaccine preservative called Thimerosal...and the truth is there's still as much as ever in 11 vaccines including most flu vaccines injected into pregnant women and kids, and some of them younger than 9 get two doses in a season. And also high levels of mercury from Thimerosal in tetanus shots and the boosters routinely injected into 11-year-olds...and also in some meningitis and diphtheria-tetanus formulas, too.

Heidi Scheer/Mother of Autistic Child: ...and I know for a fact people that have gone to their physician and have been told there was no Thimerosal in their vaccine, then the parents asked to see the package insert and they find it there.

Mrs. Michigan joined parents of other autistic children marching on Washington just recently not only to alert new parents but to point out the half-million children already stricken, they believe by the large doses of mercury they got in the increasing number of vaccines the government and their doctors recommended.

A congressional committee that studied the matter has already concluded: “Thimerosal...is directly related to the Autism epidemic.”

It could have been prevented or curtailed “had the FDA not been asleep at the switch” allowing the untested toxic to be part of the vaccine recipe, something the committee report blamed on “misplaced protectionism of the pharmaceutical industry.”

Presidential candidate John McCain says now there's “strong evidence” of a link between skyrocketing Autism and the mercury in vaccines. Boyd Haley is a scientist and pioneer in the study of this issue.

Dr. Boyd Haley/Researcher: And I want to talk to a lot of the journalists here because you're a big part of the problem. Most of you... (crowd cheering) ... you've allowed the CDC to hijack what's perceived as the science of Autism. There hasn't been one publication ever published where Thimerosal was tested against a living cell, a living animal, where it wasn't found to be severely toxic, psydotoxic and neurotoxic, and yet you can go in there and they'll tell you 'Oh we know it's not connected.' Why don't you go read the papers?

Some examples of the scientific papers he's talking about?

- A study of monkeys that showed vaccinated primates showed increased neurological disorders and non-social behavior similar to Autism;
- Another animal study that shows the kind of mercury used in vaccines ends up in the brain and stays twice as long as the mercury in fish;
- A study of vaccination records which seems to match increased Autism with increased vaccinations containing mercury.

And then there's the circumstantial evidence:

UPI found only 4 cases of Autism among a community of 22,000 Amish people who generally shun vaccines. Statistically there should be about 130.

Robert Kennedy/Environmentalist: ...and three of them were adopted after receiving their vaccines and the fourth on lived outwards of a coal-burning power-plant

Environmentalist Robert F. Kennedy has also studied the issue and wrote about it in a recent edition of Rolling Stone. America hasn't heard enough of the truth, he too believes, partly because the mainstream media too often just blindly reports the press releases of mainstream medicine and public health agencies and Congress is too slow to act.

Robert Kennedy: So we know what the truth is...and let's not let them go another day without some legislation banning this stuff!

And then there are those remarkably similar stories from tens of thousands of parents who say within hours of vaccination, their children became withdrawn, socially uncontrollable...and ultimately diagnosed with Autism.

Amy Carson/Moms Against Mercury: And I have full medical proof that I have a very mercury-toxic 11-year-old child. I gave birth to a very healthy child, a very neuro-typical, normal child who changed with each set of vaccines. But I kept vaccinating because I didn't know any better.

On the other hand, while no study has proved to a scientific certainty that vaccinations have or have not caused a single case of Autism...the government has now conceded the link in the case of Hannah Poling.

Her parents say she developed Autism right after she received five vaccinations in a single day. Now, perhaps she was particularly vulnerable due to a pre-existing condition but the government concession of a vaccine-Autism link in the first of 5,000 such cases pending gives hope to other claimants. Meanwhile, many parents say there's no proof because there's been no serious effort to look.

Indeed, in its last report on the issue issued after this 2004 meeting, the government's Institute of Medicine said there's no point in further research. If a link was found, they reasoned, it might risk "the broader benefit of the current vaccine program."

The health editor of US News & World Report, Bernadine Healy, herself a physician and a former director of the National Institutes of Health, says public health officials have been too quick to dismiss the possibility of a link...
And even the current head of the Centers for Disease Control now seems to agree...

Dr. Julie Gerberding/CDC Director: ...But it's kind of our job to do the science and help clarify and separate concern from scientific fact... Autism is a huge challenge and it is much more common than anybody realized and we need to do more.

And back in Washington again, Robert Kennedy is not the first to ridicule the "science" that is often cited to show there is no problem here.

Robert Kennedy/Environmentalist: ...and I saw studies that weren't good. It wasn't even high-quality fraud. This is low-quality fraud. You don't even need a scientist to tell you where the fraud is.

In his Rolling Stone article, Kennedy lays out evidence of what he calls “a chilling case of institutional arrogance, power and greed.”

His own research has convinced him that Congressional committee was right: for many years vaccine makers and government health officials have colluded to cover up the true dangers of mercury in vaccines. As actor Jim Carey put it at that rally in Washington...

Jim Carey/Actor: And I certainly wouldn't trust the drug companies to regulate themselves. God knows they're too busy fighting the scourge of Restless Leg Syndrome!

Carey's involved now that he shares his life with actress Jenny McCarthy and her son Evan who also contracted Autism which has improved considerably with diet and special treatments.

So now, to keep things in perspective, even in wake of all you've seen and heard, what do most parents of allegedly vaccine-damaged children say you should do when it comes to your own child or one you care about?

Jackie Martin Sibell/Mother of Autistic Child We're not anti-vaccine. We do believe in vaccines. We know that they are doing a lot of good. We know that without them people would be dying

Sheryl Melling/Mother of Autistic Child: We all love our children. We all want to protect our children. We don't want our children to get diseases but on the other hand we certainly don't want our children to get a neurological disorder that is lifelong as well. We want to make this vaccine safer so that we can all have trust in what we're injecting our children.

Tara Glaspie/Mother of Autistic Child: I would never tell anyone don't vaccinate your child but I would definitely tell them to do the research and make sure your comfortable with the decision you make.

And the final word from the doctor who heads the American Academy of Pediatrics, an organization, by the way, that called for the removal of all mercury from vaccines nearly 10 years ago.

Dr. Renee Jenkins, MD/American Academy of Pediatrics: ...the progress we made in keeping children from dying from disease that we give them immunizations for is very important. I think that over the time that we begin vaccinating children we've made these vaccines safer and safer as they've developed...so what you are looking at is not 'here is a perfectly healthy child and I'm giving them something that has no benefit. It has tremendous benefit.

To see which vaccines still include mercury, visit the website below:

<http://www.vaccinesafety.edu/thi-table.htm>

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Dear AutismNewsBeat: WXYZ's info is far more accurate than any reports I have seen to date. Will any of the OTHER thousands of stations/newspapers/magazines correct any of their numerous errors: info they likely received from the CDC or AAP or medical doctors? Info like : "mercury is no longer in any childhood immunizations?" Or will they just keep repeating a big, giant lie??????????

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Outgoing Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick is to answer questions under oath Tuesday in connection with a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit brought by two newspapers.

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