Deadly vaccination

Sir,

All doctors treating children need to know about a recently published paperback which catalogues in some detail the hazards of vaccination.¹

The gist of this alarming book is that vaccinations are dangerous and ineffective, and that safe alternatives are available. Measles vaccine is said to carry a high risk of sequelae including meningitis and multiple sclerosis. Tetanus vaccine is alleged to cause a 'severe compromising of the immune function.' Pertussis vaccine is proposed as a cause of the learning disability currently suffered by 15–20% of American schoolchildren, not to mention a range of other neurological disorders. BCG, diphtheria, rubella, typhoid, influenza, and mumps vaccine are apparently just as bad, causing diseases such as cancer, diabetes, and arthritis. The hazards of all immunisation procedures are alleged to be compounded by their supposed ineffectiveness.

The solution, urges the author, is to avoid conventional vaccination procedures. Instead, parents are advised to improve nutrition and hygiene, promote exercise, use homoeopathic vaccination procedures (for example, against pertussis), use acupuncture, give zinc and vitamin supplements, and massage the spleen (50 times per minute for

five minutes, twice daily, for a week at a time). By a deft use of quotations from medical, alternative, and antivivisectionist material, as well as authorities such as George Bernard Shaw, and bolstered heavily by vague pseudo-scientific innuendo, the author marshalls his arguments. Shortly after the book was published, the author declared that AIDS is not a new disease at all,² and is in fact the result of polio immunisation.³

Most doctors will not wish to read or possess this book, but they ought to be aware of its existence as it is being read by parents, some of whom have found the propaganda compelling.

References

- ¹ Chaitow L. *Vaccination and immunization: dangers, delusions and alternatives (what every parent should know)*. Saffron Walden: CW Daniel Company, 1987.
- ² Chaitow L. Is Aids scare a medical con? *Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine* 1987;5(10):21.
- ³ Chaitow L. I accuse: Aids a legacy of polio vaccine. *Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine* 1987;5(9):23.

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