

HCCC REFERENCE 09/1695

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MARCH 7, 2010

**TO: MS LEANNE EVANS
INVESTIGATION OFFICER
HEALTH CARE COMPLAINTS COMMISSION**

**RE: MERYL DOREY AND THE AVN RESPONSE TO HCCC COMPLAINT
OF 7 SEPTEMBER 2009 – AN ANALYSIS OF HER SOURCES**

Dear Ms Evans,

The following document details a worrying discovery made regarding where Ms Dorey, current president of the Australian Vaccination Network (AVN), sourced some of her references used in her reply to Mr Ken McLeod's initial complaint.

The following material covers information on page 23 of the 27 page version of the AVN reply available at http://avn.org.au/library/images/pdfs/hccc_reply.pdf

Ms Dorey begins: "*Below are just a few of the hundreds of references to peer-reviewed studies which demonstrate the [sic.] vaccines are indeed immune-suppressive*". She then references five articles [1, 2, 3, 4 and 5].

Three of the five references are incorrect.

One article, "*Susceptibility to Infection After Vaccination*" [1] has the correct title, journal name, date of publication and page number, however it is attributed to *W. Ehrland* – the actual author being *W. Ehrengut*.

Another article, "*Vaccines May Cause Immune Suppression*" has the authors' names, journal, date of publication and page numbers correct. However, the name of the paper has been incorrectly cited, the paper's actual title being: "*Epitopic overload at the site of injection may result in suppression of the immune response to combined capsular polysaccharide conjugate vaccines*" [2].

The other, "*Depressed Lymphocyte Function after Measles-Mumps-Rubella Vaccination*" [4] has the correct title, authors and date of publication. The journal name is incorrect. The paper appears in the *Journal of Infectious Diseases*, which is abbreviated to *J Infect Dis*. It is cited, in Ms Dorey's reply, as being from "*Jour Infection Disorder*". It appears the abbreviated form of the journal title has been incorrectly expanded by someone unfamiliar with the journal. The page numbers are also incorrect, being cited by Ms Dorey as "*p 75-80*", when the article actually spans pages 75-78. It appears the notation of 75-8 (meaning 75-78) has been incorrectly expanded by someone unfamiliar with scientific references.

The fact that these articles are mis-referenced would suggest that either Ms Dorey has made the above mistakes, or she has copied the citation from another source without actually reading the papers. Below is evidence that the latter option is correct.

As it turns out, these same errors of attribution do appear in other places which pre-date Ms Dorey's response.

A simple Google search for the two longest incorrect terms (of "*Vaccines May Cause Immune Suppression*" "*Jour Infection Disorder*") yields several sites which contain these erroneous sources. I intend to demonstrate that all of these sites are disreputable – thus demonstrating that Ms Dorey uncritically copied and pasted references *for a document to be submitted to a government body* directly from an obviously disreputable and biased source.

Discounting sites that post-date the submission of the AVN's HCCC response, five remain [6, 7, 8, 9 and 10]. All five of these sites reference all five articles in question [1, 2, 3, 4 and 5], *with the same errors of attribution found in Ms Dorey's HCCC reply*.

Two of the five websites [6 and 7] have the articles referenced in a list of '*Vaccination and Allergy Citations*'. The list of articles on these two sites is largely identical, however neither site refers to any of the five papers as proving vaccine-mediated immunosuppression.

One of these sites, *Mercola.com* [6], sells multiple unproven and disproved products and treatments, and has many articles extolling the benefits of these products (found at reference [11]). The mandatory disclaimers on the product pages say much, beginning with: "*The entire contents of this website are based upon the opinions of Dr. Mercola, unless otherwise noted...*". The pages detailing his products are filled with unsourced, absurd assertions, each one with an asterisk, discretely linking to the following disclaimer "** These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent any disease*".

The other of the two sites, *Dr Eddy's Clinic* [7], says on its vaccine page [12] that "*vaccines lay the foundation for auto-immune diseases and other disorders of the immune system*". It claims that the definition of an 'epidemic' was changed with the introduction of the Salk polio vaccine to trick the public into thinking the vaccine was working, doctors knowingly and deceitfully changed the criteria for polio diagnosis to manipulate statistics and hide vaccine-induced infection, vaccines are used to insert genetic material that will be activated in the future to cause disease/infection, vaccines kill people, and that this is covered up: "*Asthma, however, acute lymphatic leukemia, streptococcal Cellulitis, tubercular meningitis, and infantile paralysis are just a few of the fake causes of death listed on the death certificate of people who are dying from vaccinations*".

The other three sites [8, 9 and 10] list, as Ms Dorey does, all five articles as proof that vaccines suppress the immune system.

One of these three, *VACINAÇÃO X PESQUISAS CIENTÍFICAS* [8], is a vaccine conspiracy page in Portuguese. It suggests that vaccines are responsible for AIDS, cancer, allergy, autoimmune disease, neurological disorders (apparently including depression and ADHD), and that vaccines overload the immune system, physically block the lymphatic system and deplete the body's stores of vital nutrients. As can be seen, this site is not an accurate, unbiased source of information.

The other two of these three sites, *vaccinetruth.org* [9] and *whale.to* [10] both claim vaccines cause autism [13 and 14], shaken baby syndrome [15 and 16], SIDS [17, 18 and 19] and Gulf War syndrome [20 and 21], along with the typically misquoted and fabricated information on vaccine ingredients such as thimerosal [22 and 23], squalene [24 and 25] and aluminium [26 and 27].

Whale.to does not restrict itself to vaccines, it also informs readers that HIV does not cause AIDS [28], polio's true cause is DDT [29], measles is a vitamin deficiency [30], as well as some other common conspiracy theories about aspartame [31], fluoridation [32], 9-11 [33] and UFOs [34 and 35]. Perhaps most bizarre is the belief that "deadly orgone radiation" - a mythical form of radiation which it claims is visible to 'energy psychics', it "hurts people" and "destroys the atmosphere's health" - is emitted by cell phone towers and chemtrails (the supposedly harmful trails of chemicals that planes leave behind them, as opposed to contrails, which is the reality) [36]. The site claims that this deadly orgone radiation can be neutralised by 'orgonite', a mixture of metal shavings and fiberglass resin [37].

All five of these sites contain the same misspelled and misused references used in Ms Dorey's response to the HCCC. This implies that any of these sites are likely to have been the source of Ms Dorey's 'supportive' evidence. All five sites are also shown to be utterly unreliable. They are not sites from which a person can sensibly defend the uncritical copying of references. All have shown to endorse the unbelievable, incorrect, and downright absurd, with no regard for correct information.

The nature of the errors of attribution included in Ms Dorey's reply demonstrate that, at best, she did not read the articles she cites nor did she commit to any kind of follow up. At worst, she uncritically copied her references from known conspiracy sites, assuming that there would be no detection of such lazy and completely unprofessional referencing on her part. This kind of cavalier attitude toward providing reliable sources *in a submission to a government body* shows a distinct lack of respect for any standards of evidence, and should not be tolerated by a person, or organisation, providing health care advice.

While it is disgraceful that Ms Dorey treats her submission to the HCCC with such disdain, the nature of the many complaints against her and the AVN are that their actions endanger public health. Not only is it dangerous to make bold medical claims with no regard for evidence, but this demonstrably sloppy approach by Ms Dorey and the AVN toward gathering reliable, reputable medical sources undermines any claim to benefit the public.

Yours sincerely,

Tom Sidwell

References:

Note: All URLs listed were accurate as of 3rd March 2010

- [1] Susceptibility to infection after vaccination; Ehrengut W. Br Med J. 1972 Mar 11;1(5801):683. PMID: 5015300
- [2] Epitopic overload at the site of injection may result in suppression of the immune response to combined capsular polysaccharide conjugate vaccines; Fattom A, Cho YH, Chu C, Fuller S, Fries L, Naso R. Vaccine. 1999 Jan;17(2):126-33. PMID: 9987146
- [3] Depression of the immune response to an inactivated hepatitis A vaccine administered concomitantly with immune globulin; Green MS, Cohen D, Lerman Y, Sjogren M, Binn LN, Zur S, Slepon R, Robin G, Hoke C, Bancroft W, et al. J Infect Dis. 1993 Sep;168(3):740-3. PMID: 8394864
- [4] Depressed lymphocyte function after measles-mumps-rubella vaccination; Munyer TP, Mangi RJ, Dolan T, Kantor FS. J Infect Dis. 1975 Jul;132(1):75-8. PMID: 1151122
- [5] Immunosuppression with combined vaccines; Beckenhauer WH, Gill MA. J Am Vet Med Assoc. 1983 Aug 15;183(4):389-90. PMID: 6618962
- [6] <http://www.mercola.com/article/vaccines/citations.htm>
- [7] http://www.dreddyclinic.com/integrated_med/parasites.htm
- [8] <Http://www.vivendasantanna.com.br/vacina.htm>
- [9] http://www.vaccinetruth.org/excellent_vaccine_articles.htm
- [10] <http://www.whale.to/vaccines/immune.html>
- [11] <http://products.mercola.com/>
- [12] http://www.dreddyclinic.com/online_recources/articles/vaccination/danger_vaccination.htm
- [13] http://www.vaccinetruth.org/the_cause_of_autism.htm
- [14] <http://www.whale.to/vaccines/autism.html>
- [15] http://www.vaccinetruth.org/is_it_child_abuse_or_something_else_entirely1.htm
- [16] <http://www.whale.to/m/sbs24.html> A list of articles on shaken baby syndrome – many of which blame vaccines for the syndrome
- [17] http://www.vaccinetruth.org/page_9.htm

- [18] <http://www.whale.to/m/sids.html>
- [19] <http://www.whale.to/vaccine/sids.html>
- [20] http://www.vaccinetruth.org/new_page_7.htm
- [21] <http://www.whale.to/vaccines/army.html>
- [22] http://www.vaccinetruth.org/new_page_4.htm
- [23] <http://www.whale.to/vaccines/thimerosal.htm>
- [24] <http://www.vaccinetruth.org/mf-59.htm>
- [25] <http://www.whale.to/v/squalene.html>
- [26] http://www.vaccinetruth.org/aluminum_hydroxide1.htm
- [27] http://www.whale.to/a/aluminium_q.html
- [28] <http://www.whale.to/a/hivfraud.html>
- [29] http://www.whale.to/vaccine/polio_ddt_h.html
- [30] <http://www.whale.to/m/measles.html>
- [31] <http://www.whale.to/w/excitotoxins.html>
- [32] <http://www.whale.to/d/fluoride.html>
- [33] <http://www.whale.to/b/911.html>
- [34] <http://www.whale.to/b/lear2.html>
- [35] http://www.whale.to/b/ufo_man_h.html A page suggesting that most UFOs are man-made.
- [36] http://www.whale.to/b/dor_h.html
- [37] <http://www.whale.to/b/organite.html>