

Letter to the Editor: The Pundit Speaks

By Randolph M. Howes, M.D., Ph.D.

December 29, 2013

“Flu Vaccine Facts”

With the return of flu season, it is time to update pertinent data. In short, flu vaccines do not work in 99 out of 100 people. My recent articles on the hidden epidemic of adverse drug reactions revealed that only a small percentage of medications are effective and FDA approved drugs cause over 130,000 deaths annually. The current flu season is due to the H1N1 virus (swine flu) and we must rely on evidence-based medicine (reliable scientific studies) to evaluate its effectiveness or necessity. We can not continue to be misled by "scare tactics" or false claims that a flu vaccination will provide you with 100% protection. As far as I can determine, there are no statistically validated, independent, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled studies (RCTs) proving the over all effectiveness of the flu vaccines. That is the first red flag. So, we are primarily left with the conclusions of so-called studies performed by the same people who manufacture and sell the vaccines. We are certainly aware of data manipulation, fraud and bribery having influenced other such pharmaceutical studies. Big Pharma claims it would be unethical to conduct flu vaccine RCTs; so, they will continue to manufacture, sell and administer vaccines that might be useless or even harmful. That is the second red flag. And, the government has given immunity from prosecution to the manufacturers of the vaccines, which is a third red flag. In 2010, the respected Cochrane Collaboration group came to some alarming findings on the ineffectiveness of flu vaccines. Their stated objective was to "Identify, retrieve and assess all studies evaluating the effects of vaccines against influenza in healthy adults." Their studies encompassed over 70,000 people and about half of the trials (15 out of 36 trials) were funded by the drug industry. Still, the study results showed that in most circumstances, influenza vaccines are basically worthless. Even when studies "matched" vaccines to the viral strain (which is uncommon in the real world) 97% of those injected received no benefit. Additionally, vaccinations had "no effect on hospital admissions or complication rates." Even though the vaccines do not affect transmission of the disease, vaccine advertisements push the notion that the vaccines will prevent a flu epidemic. Another red flag was the concluding statement of the Cochrane group, which stated, "Our results may be an optimistic estimate because company-sponsored influenza vaccines trials tend to produce results favorable to their products and some of the evidence comes from trials carried out in ideal viral circulation and matching conditions and because the harms evidence base is limited."

In the America that I love, we realize that you would have to vaccinate 100 people to reduce the number showing influenza symptoms by just one.

Randolph M. Howes, M.D., Ph.D.

Surgeon/Scientist/Patient Advocate

27439 Highway 441, Kentwood, LA 70444

985-229-6955 Home | 985-229-3760 – Fax | 985-514-0578 – Cell

rhowesmd@hughes.net |

www.iwillfindthecure.org

