

Vaccine education is completely one-sided. The packet was given to me by Wayne County. Written by Paul Offit, a vaccine developer. The paragraph noted on the next page shows how real information is not being relayed

VACCINE SAFETY

in a serious manner.

and

YOUR CHILD

Lia Giannotti
-parent of vaccine injured child

Separating Fact from Fiction

Excerpted from:

VACCINES and YOUR CHILD

by Paul A. Offit, M.D., FAAP, and Charlotte A. Maser

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This is what was used to "educate" me about vaccines when I went to the Wayne County health dept. I was sent home with this packet.

GENERAL QUESTIONS ABOUT VACCINE SAFETY

Are vaccines safe?

A vaccine is safe if its benefits clearly and definitively outweigh its risks. But any medical product that has a positive effect—whether it is a drug or a vaccine—can have a negative effect. So no vaccine is absolutely safe. All vaccines that are given as shots can cause pain, redness, or tenderness at the site of injection. And some vaccines cause more serious problems. For example, the measles vaccine can cause a decrease in platelets, which help the blood to clot. This happens in about 1 of 25,000 children who get the vaccine. This particular reaction, called thrombocytopenia, shouldn't be surprising since natural measles infection can do exactly the same thing, except much more commonly and much more severely.

The chickenpox vaccine contains gelatin as a stabilizer. Some people are severely allergic to gelatin and develop severe allergic symptoms in response to the chickenpox vaccine. Symptoms can include aches, difficulty breathing, low blood pressure, and even shock. That's why doctors often ask patients to stick around for about fifteen minutes after they get vaccines—because this type of severe allergic reaction, although quite rare, happens very quickly.

But while there are small risks to vaccines, nothing is risk free. Probably the most dangerous aspect of vaccines is driving to the doctor's office to get them. Every year about 30,000 people die in car accidents. Walking outside on a rainy day isn't entirely safe; every year in the United States about 100 people are killed when they are struck by lightning. And hundreds of people die every year when they slip and fall in the bath or shower. So, even routine daily activities pose a certain degree of risk. We choose to do them because we consider the benefits to outweigh the risks.

How do I know if a problem is caused by a vaccine?

Because we are all human, we naturally look for reasons something happened. The process of seeking to understand what causes various problems has been crucial to our success as a species. And sometimes bad things happen to young children. They suffer asthma, allergies, autism, developmental delays, hyperactivity, or attention deficit disorder, among other health problems. Worse: sometimes they die of poorly defined disorders like Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). Some of these problems might occur soon or immediately after receiving vaccines.

So how can you know whether symptoms that follow a vaccination were caused by the vaccine? The best way is by performing controlled studies. For example, in 1998, British investigators proposed that the combination measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine might cause autism. At the time, about 1 in 2,000 children in England were diagnosed with autism and about 9 of 10 were given