

Thimerosal is an Ineffective Vaccine Preservative

“Thimerosal is a weak antibacterial agent that is rapidly broken down to products, including ethylmercury residues, which are neurotoxic. Its role as a preservative in vaccines has been questioned, and the pharmaceutical industry itself considers its use historical.”

The case against thimerosal use. Seal D, et.al., Lancet, 1991;338:315-316

“The thimerosal preservative present in DTP vaccine requires substantial time to kill organisms and cannot be relied upon....the most important means of preventing abscesses secondary to DTP vaccination is to prevent contamination by careful attention to sterile technique.”

Outbreaks of Group A Streptococcal Abscesses Following Diphtheria-Tetanus Toxoid-Pertussis Vaccination by Harrison C. Stetler, et.al., Pediatrics, Vol. 75, No.2, February 1985, pg 299-303.

The Food and Drug Administration [FDA] is issuing an advanced notice of a proposed rulemaking that would classify over-the-counter [OTC] mercury-containing drug products for topical antimicrobial use as not generally recognized as safe and effective and as being misbranded.....bacteriostatic action that is capable of being reversed by contact with body fluids.

*Advanced notice of proposed rulemaking regarding thimerosal
Federal Register 436. January 5, 1982*

"It is not highly germicidal and especially does not possess high germicidal value in the presence of serum and other protein mediums. The loss of antibacterial activity of mercurials in the presence of serum proves their incompatibility with serum."

Morton, HE and Engley, FB Bacetriostatic and bacteriocidal actions of some mercurial compounds on hemolytic streptococci. In vivo and in vitro studies. JAMA 136;37-41, 1948

"...mercurials are ineffective in vivo and may be more toxic for tissue cells than bacterial cells, as shown in mice, tissue culture and embryonic eggs and with leucocytes "

Engley, FB Evaluation of mercurial compounds as antiseptics. Annals of New York Academy of Sciences. 53:197-2-6, 1950.

If Thimerosal is known to be ineffective as a vaccine preservative, could the contamination of Chiron's thimerosal-containing flu vaccine in 2004-05 been predicted, threatening half of the U.S. supply?

“Chiron Corporation announced Tuesday that it will be unable to supply any influenza virus vaccine to the U.S. market for the 2004-2005 influenza season, creating an instant and severe vaccine shortage just as flu season begins.”

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“This week, Chiron's Fluvirin vaccine was pulled after contamination with the potentially dangerous serratia bacteria was found. Chiron used the mercury-based preservative thimerosal as a sterilizing agent in making Fluvirin, to prevent exactly this type of contamination,” says Kirby, whose book explores the possibility that thimerosal could have contributed to the rising numbers of cases of autism, ADD and other childhood disorders. “Thimerosal is also used as a preservative in multi-dose vials. By definition, no thimerosal-containing solution should have live bacteria present in its final formula.”

*FLU VACCINE SHORTAGE – THIMEROSAL TO BLAME? David Kirby.
<http://www.evidenceofharm.com/flu vaccine.htm>*