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LETTERS

Shots contain damaging mercury

January 10, 2007

My daughter began the downward spiral into autism following her four-year immunizations. At the time, I had no idea most of the vaccines she received since infancy contained mercury in the form of a preservative called Thimerosal. All I knew is that my healthy, happy, engaging little girl was slowly slipping away.

Today, my daughter has confirmed mercury poisoning and suffers from many other health issues acquired along with her symptoms of autism. Mercury is a known neurotoxin suspected of contributing not only to autism, but to Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease as well. Yet many people do not realize Thimerosal is still used today in vaccines and many common medications.

A typical flu vaccine contains 25 micrograms of mercury. A liquid containing just a fraction of this amount is considered hazardous waste. Where is the logic in injecting infants with one of the most toxic substances on earth? Why are pregnant women urged not to eat fish for fear of exposure to mercury, yet encouraged to receive a flu vaccine? Where is the evidence that these standard medical practices are "safe"?

New York, California, and other leading states recently passed laws restricting the use of Thimerosal. Let's be proactive and join them in protecting the public from added mercury exposure by banning the use of Thimerosal in Vermont. Please do not wait until someone you care about suffers the devastating effects of mercury poisoning. Urge our legislators to seriously consider the issue of Thimerosal in the upcoming legislative session.

KAREN McCCLURE

Rutland Town



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