## Wetenschappelijke fraude ten behoeve van het behoud van de mythe

Nadat Jenner en Pasteur met hun misvattingen een lucratieve vaccinatie-industrie hadden gegrondvest, moest deze natuurlijk liefst wel expansief gecontinueerd worden, zonder de fabrikanten al te veel in de problemen te brengen door de vele slachtoffers van bijwerkingen. Daartoe werd – zoals we in het voorgaande deel van dit vierluik al zagen – een wet in het leven geroepen die schadeclaims zoveel mogelijk moest beperken. Maar gaandeweg werd de bevolking wakker en begon te begrijpen dat veel van die bijwerkingen veroorzaakt werden door het toegevoegde kwik (in Thiomersal/Thimerosal), zoals bijvoorbeeld ook autisme.

Daarom moest aan de wereld worden duidelijk gemaakt dat autisme absoluut niet gerelateerd kon zijn aan het inspuiten van kwik in jonge kinderen. Dat zou mogelijk maken dat men doodgewoon kwik kon blijven gebruiken in de vaccins en bovendien dat er een eind zou komen aan de claims vanwege autisme door vaccinaties.
Natuurlijk had de vaccinatielobby altijd al glashard ontkend dat er een link bestaat tussen vaccinaties en autisme, maar een wetenschappelijk bewijs zou de discussie helemaal moeten doen verstommen. En daarvoor werd dan ook gezorgd.
In september 2003 werd onderstaand artikel – waarvan hier de samenvatting – gepubliceerd in het vakblad *Pediatrics*:

Pediatrics. 2003 Sep;112(3 Pt 1):604-6.

## Thimerosal and the occurrence of autism: negative ecological evidence from Danish population-based data.

Madsen KM, Lauritsen MB, Pedersen CB, Thorsen P, Plesner AM, Andersen PH, Mortensen PB.

### Source

Danish Epidemiology Science Centre, Department of Epidemiology and Social Medicine, University of Aarhus, Denmark. kmm@dadlnet.dk

### Abstract

### OBJECTIVE:

It has been suggested that thimerosal, a mercury-containing preservative in vaccines, is a risk factor for the development of autism. We examined whether discontinuing the use of thimerosal-containing vaccines in Denmark led to a decrease in the incidence of autism.

### DESIGN:

Analysis of data from the Danish Psychiatric Central Research Register recording all psychiatric admissions since 1971, and all outpatient contacts in psychiatric departments in Denmark since 1995.

## PATIENTS:

All children between 2 and 10 years old who were diagnosed with autism during the period from 1971-2000.

## OUTCOME MEASURES:

Annual and age-specific incidence for first day of first recorded admission with a diagnosis of autism in children between 2 and 10 years old.

## RESULTS:

A total of 956 children with a male-to-female ratio of 3.5:1 had been diagnosed with autism during the period from 1971-2000. There was no trend toward an increase in the incidence of autism during that period when thimerosal was used in Denmark, up through 1990. From 1991 until 2000 the incidence increased and continued to rise after the removal of thimerosal from vaccines, including increases among children born after the discontinuation of thimerosal.

## CONCLUSIONS:

The discontinuation of thimerosal-containing vaccines in Denmark in 1992 was followed by an increase in the incidence of autism. Our ecological data do not support a correlation between thimerosal-containing vaccines and the incidence of autism.

PMID: 12949291 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE] Free Article

De conlusie van dit artikel was dus dat er inderdaad geen causale link bestaat tussen het inspuiten van kwik in baby's en jonge kinderen en autistische stoornissen. Maar…eind april 2011 werd bekend gemaakt dat de CDC-onderzoeker Poul Thorsen – één van de auteurs van het bovenstaande artikel over de uitkomst van deze 'Denemarken Studie' - in Atlanta door een 'federale grand jury' is aangeklaagd op beschuldiging van wetenschappelijke fraue, witwassen van geld en oplichting van onderzoeksinstellingen betreffende subsidie.
Poul Thorsen is een wetenschapper die voorheen voor de CDC werkte. In de afgelopen jaren eigende hij zich miljoenen dollars subsidiegeld toe dat werd gebruikt in onderzoek om te bewijzen dat vaccins geen link naar autisme hebben. Op basis van gegevens van de Deense bevolking leverde hij het ecologische bewijs van deze non-relatie.

Deze paper concludeert dat thimerosal, het wereldwijd in vaccins gebruikte conserveermiddel, geen statistisch significant verband heeft met autisme. Het is een van de belangrijkste documenten die door voorstanders van vaccinatie worden gebruikt om te beweren dat thimerosal veilig in jonge kinderen kan worden geïnjecteerd.
Door de federale aanklacht van wetenschappelijk fraude tegen Poul Thorson is nu de geloofwaardigheid van deze bewering weer opnieuw ter discussie gesteld.
Hieronder volgt een artikel over de kwestie van deze aanklacht dat ik in zijn geheel weergeef:

## Poul Thorsen's Mutating Resume

 By Dan Olmsted and Mark Blaxill

In bits and pieces, in Danish and English, from three universities in two hemispheres and the CDC in Atlanta, a picture has begun forming in the past few days that is already startling in its outline: Paul Thorsen, one of the key scientists involved in CDC-backed studies exonerating vaccines as a cause of autism, is under investigation for collecting millions of dollars in bogus "grant" money, misrepresenting himself to his employers and the world and possibly forging the documents that enabled the scam.

Even more astonishing, it appears the CDC and several other major autism research centers have known about this for months and stayed publicly silent, even as the debate over autism and vaccines has reached several decisive moments -- and a new decision is expected any day from U.S. vaccine court. The CDC in particular would have a hard time claiming ignorance about the suspected crime -- at least three of the forged documents were in the agency's name, and it helped uncover the fraud last year.

In addition, several current CDC employees including Drs. Diana Schendel, Marshalyn Yeargin-Allsopp and Catherine Rice were affiliated with Thorsen's now-defunct research group. Age of Autism has obtained Internet-archived pages from the Web site of the North Atlantic Neuro-Epidemiology Alliances (NANEA) that list the members of the "Atlanta autism team" including Schendel, Yeargin-Allsopp and Rice, all of whom have been in leadership positions in the CDC's autism epidemiology projects. Schendel is described as NANEA's "coordinator at Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, USA." (The CDC did not respond to phone and e-mail requests for comment.)

Meanwhile, Thorsen apparently continues his involvement on an American Psychiatric Association committee that is revising the classification of autism for the next Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders – a change that could affect how the prevalence of the disorder is calculated and its victims compensated and treated. (The APA did not respond to phone and e-mail requests for comment.)

Thorsen's resume, dated Jan. 22, 2010, remains on the DSM 5 Working Group members page. (View HERE.) He lists himself as "Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of Public Health, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA, USA." (Calls and e-mails to Drexel seeking confirmation of his status there have gone unanswered.)

There is also an earlier Thorsen resume still available on an APA directory dated Jan. 12, just 10 days earlier, (View HERE) that differs substantially from the Jan. 22 update. On that earlier resume, Thorsen calls himself "Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology, Institute of Public Health, University of Aarhus, Denmark, & Professor, Department of Epidemiology, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, Atlanta, USA."

What happened in 10 days to change Thorsen's bona fides so substantially – going from apparently tenured positions at two leading autism research universities to a part-time adjunct professorship at another school?

Follow the chronology: On Jan. 22 – the day the new resume is dated – the University of Aarhus issued a statement "to whom it may concern" (View HERE) contradicting key parts of that first resume: "In March 2009, Dr. Thorsen resigned his faculty position at Aarhus University," the statement said, meaning, obviously, he could not have been an associate professor of epidemiology as he was claiming as late as Jan. 12, 2010. "In the meantime, it has come to the attention of Aarhus University that Dr Thomsen [sic] has continued to act in such a manner as to create the impression that he still retains a connection to Aarhus University after the termination of his employment by the university." Of course, one way this could have come to its attention was through a resume posted at the American Psychiatric Association in which Thorsen still stated exactly that.

"Furthermore," the statement said, "it has come to the attention of Aarhus University that Dr Poul Thorsen has held full-time positions at both Emory University and Aarhus University simultaneously. Dr Thorsens [sic] double Full-time employment was unauthorised by Aarhus University, and he engaged in this employment situation despite the express prohibition of Aar- hus University."
Thorsen's resume, revised and re-posted the same day as the Aarhus statement, drops the statement that he is a professor at Aarhus AND Emory, now citing only a loose academic affiliation with Drexel. It also now says his affiliation with Aarhus ended in 2008, not, as he had said 10 days earlier, that it existed "from 1998" forward to the present day. And in the update he cuts short his Emory professorship as well, saying he was at the Atlanta school in 2008-2009 (rather than from 2008 through the present). That chronology makes his tenures at Aarhus and Emory consecutive, not concurrent. Unfortunately for Thorsen, that contradicts his own original resume – and Emory contradicts the claim he was still there in 2010. On Feb. 21, 2010, the Danish publication Politiken reported [in translation]: "'He is no longer employed at Emory. He was part time occupied at the department of epidemiological research from 2003 and from April 2008 to June 2009 as full time research professor' informs assistant vice director at Emory University Sarah E. Goodwin."

All this, telling though it is in terms of favoring Aarhus's version of events, is the least of it. The other part of the Aarhus statement said that Thorsen administered a multimillion-dollar grant from the CDC. Without naming him further, Aarhus goes on to state: "Unfortunately, a considerable shortfall in funding at Aarhus University associated with the CDC grant was discovered. In investigating the shortfalls associated with the grant, DASTI and Aarhus

University became aware of two alleged CDC funding documents as well as a letter regarding funding commitments allegedly written by Randolph B. Williams of CDC's Procurement Grants Office which was used to secure advances from Aarhus University. Upon investigation by CDC, a suspicion arose that the documents are forgeries.

"DASTI conducted an internal investigation of the authenticity of the documents and have filed a police report with no specific person named in the filing. A police investigation is ongoing."

Multiple Danish news sources make clear that the only suspect in any ongoing investigation anywhere is the person who held the administrative post in question and subsequently left the university – Thorsen. By now, given the fact that the CDC's own investigation turned up the fraud, the agency presumably has had plenty of time to mull the implications. Just last month, well after the CDC had been contacted by Aarhus and determined that documents had been forged in its name, and in the middle of the Lancet's retraction of a paper on the MMR's possible role in the autism epidemic, the CDC's Tom Skinner told the New York Times that the retraction "builds on the overwhelming body of research by the world's leading scientists that concludes there is no link between M.M.R. vaccine and autism."

Thorsen, of course, is pre-eminently one of those leading scientists and was a co-author of a New England Journal of Medicine study on the MMR. Thorsen and Aarhus, as we've reported for years, made important contributions to some of the most influential autism-vaccine mercury (thimerosal) studies – studies disputed as poorly done and unconvincing by critics that over the years have grown to include the head of a panel mandated by Congress to study the issue. But based on five studies, three of which included Aarhus – and one of which Thorsen co-authored -- the U.S. Institute of Medicine concluded in 2004 that "the evidence now favors rejection of a relationship between thimerosal and autism."

The question becomes, how strong is that evidence *now*?
--
Dan Olmsted is Editor of Age of Autism. Mark Blaxill is Editor at Large.

Een interessante mogelijke achtergrond voor de hierboven beschreven fraude met autisme-gegevens trof ik aan in het **'Statistics Report' d.d. April 4, 2011, van het 'National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program'** (dat genoemd wordt in het vorige deel van dit vierluik), zoals gepubliceerd door de HRSA (Health Resources and Services Administration).

De eerste tabel toont twee kolommen, eentje met niet-autistische meldingen en eentje met meldingen betreffende autisme.
De jaren 1988 tot en met 1998 tellen geen meldingen betreffende autisme, maar dan zien we ineens een snelle toename ontstaan:
1999: 1 x autisme; 2000: 2 x autisme; 2001: 23 x autisme; 2002: 773 x autisme en in 2003 zijn er 2437 meldingen van autisme.
Na verschijnen van dat artikel in 2003 zien we in 2004 een afname tot 1087 meldingen van autisme; 2005 heeft er nog 588; 2006 heeft er nog 170 en in 2010 stokt de teller bij 18.
Zo te zien had dat frauduleuze artikel dus wel enige impact bij het behandelen van meldingen van autisme door vaccinaties.

Ik krijg uit deze gegevens de indruk dat men schrok van de snelle stijging van de meldingen van autisme en dat men gemeend heeft om deze trend zo snel mogelijk de kop in te drukken. De beste methode leek dan om onderzoeksgegevens te produceren/manipuleren - en zo snel mogelijk te publiceren – die moesten aantonen dat er geen significant statistische verband bestaat tussen vaccinaties en het ontstaan van autisme. En die opzet leek gedurende een aantal jaren nog gelukt te zijn ook.

**Merck fraudeert jarenlang met onderzoek en onderzoeksdata betreffende bofvaccin**
Op 28-6-2012 werd ik geattendeerd op een uitgave van *Courthouse News Service* van woensdag 27 juni 2012 onder de titel ***Class Says Merck Lied About Mumps Vaccine***.
Twee voormalige virologen van Merck hadden uit de school geklapt en verteld hoe Merck al ruim een decennium had gefraudeerd bij de uitvoering van onderzoeken naar de effectiviteit van het bofvaccin en de bijbehorende data.
De verklaring van deze twee virologen werpt tevens nog een extra verhelderend licht op de door onze gezondheidsautoriteiten niet begrepen toename van bofuitbraken. Om de hele gewetenloze knoeierij correct weer te geven volgt hieronder het complete bericht van *Courthouse News Service*:

Courthouse News Service

Wednesday, June 27, 2012Last Update: 10:32 AM PT

## Class Says Merck Lied About Mumps Vaccine

By REUBEN KRAMER

PHILADELPHIA (CN) - Merck has known for a decade that its mumps vaccine is "far less effective" than it tells the government, and it falsified test results and sold millions of doses of "questionable efficacy," flooding and monopolizing the market, a primary caregiver claims in a federal antitrust class action.
Alabama-based Chatom Primary Care sued Merck on Monday, the week after the unsealing of a False Claims Act complaint two relators filed in 2010.
Those relators, Stephen Krahling and Joan Wlochowski, were Merck virologists who claim in their unsealed complaint that they "witnessed firsthand the improper testing and data falsification in which Merck engaged to artificially inflate the vaccine's efficacy findings."
Krahling and Wlochowski claimed Merck's scheme caused the United States to pay "hundreds of millions of dollars for a vaccine that does not provide adequate immunization."
"As the largest single purchaser of childhood vaccines (accounting for more than 50 percent of all vaccine purchases), the United States is by far the largest financial victim of Merck's fraud," according to the 2010 False Claims Act complaint. "But the ultimate victims here are the millions of children who every year are being injected with a mumps vaccine that is not providing them with an adequate level of

protection. And while this is a disease that, according to the Centers for Disease Control ('CDC'), was supposed to be eradicated by now, the failure in Merck's vaccine has allowed this disease to linger, with significant outbreaks continuing to occur."
The United States told a federal judge in April that it did not want to intervenein the False Claims case, but reserved the right to do so later.
Chatom says in its antitrust complaint that Merck falsely claims its mumps vaccine is 95 percent effective.
That claim "deterred and excluded competing manufacturers," who would enter the risky and expensive vaccine market only if they believed they could craft a better product, Chatom says in its complaint.
Merck is the only manufacturer licensed by the FDA to sell the mumps vaccine in United States, and if it could not show that the vaccine was 95 percent effective, it risked losing its lucrative monopoly, according to the complaint.
That's why Merck found it critically important to keep claiming such a high efficacy rate, the complaint states.
And, Chatom claims, that's why Merck went to great lengths, including "manipulating its test procedures and falsifying the test results," to prop up the bogus figure, though it knew that the attenuated virus from which it created the vaccine had been altered over the years during the manufacturing process, and that the quality of the vaccine had degraded as a result.
Starting in the late 1990s, Merck set out on its sham testing program with the objective of "report[ing] efficacy of 95 percent or higher regardless of the vaccine's true efficacy," the complaint states.
Chatom says Merck initially called its testing program Protocol 007.
Under Protocol 007, Merck did not test the vaccine's ability to protect children against a "wild-type" mumps virus, which is "the type of real-life virus against which vaccines are generally tested," the complaint states.
Instead, Chatom says, Merck tested children's blood using its own attenuated strain of the virus.
"This was the same mumps strain with which the children were vaccinated," the complaint states.
That "subverted" the purpose of the testing regime, "which was to measure the vaccine's ability to provide protection against a disease-causing mumps virus that a child would actually face in real life.
The end result of this deviation ... was that Merck's test overstated the vaccine's effectiveness," Chatom claims.
Merck also added animal antibodies to blood samples to achieve more favorable test results, though it knew that the human immune system would never produce such antibodies, and that the antibodies created a laboratory testing scenario that "did not in any way correspond to, correlate with, or represent real life ... virus neutralization in vaccinated people," according to the complaint.
Chatom claims that the falsification of test results occurred "with the knowledge, authority and approval of Merck's senior management."
And as Merck's vaccine is the only game in town, the vaccine's "significantly degraded" quality means "there has remained a significant risk of a resurgence of mumps outbreaks," Chatom says in its complaint.
It claims that the degraded quality of the Merck vaccine played a role in a 2006 mumps outbreak in the Midwest, and in another outbreak in 2009.
Those outbreaks caused the Centers for Disease Control to push back its target date for eradicating the disease from 2010 to no earlier than 2020, the complaint states.
"But no amount of extra time or dosages will be enough to eliminate the disease when the vaccine does not work as represented in the labeling," the complaint states. "It will merely allow Merck to continue to misrepresent the vaccine's efficacy and thereby maintain its exclusive hold on the relevant market with an inadequate vaccine."
Merck spokesman Ron Rogers told Courthouse News in a statement that the False Claims lawsuit "is completely without merit," and that Chatom's lawsuit is merely derivative of that case.
"Merck has presented information that demonstrated to the United States Department of Justice that these allegations are factually false, and after the Department conducted its own two-year investigation, it decided not to pursue this lawsuit," Rogers said.
In addition, he said, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration "previously examined the issues raised in the lawsuit, and they were resolved to the agency's satisfaction."
Chatom seeks to represent the class of all those who bought Merck's mumps vaccine from Jan. 1, 1999 to today.
It seeks damages for monopolization under the Sherman Act, violation of state consumer protection laws, unjust enrichment and breach of warranty.
Chatom is represented by Richard Golomb of Golomb & Honik, in Philadelphia.