

# What the News Isn't Saying About Vaccine-Autism Studies

Informed Choice – Sharyl Attkisson  
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## Talking Points

- So, what isn't the news saying about vaccine-autism studies? Why does it seem that whenever a new study comes out disproving the link between the two it makes headlines? Why aren't potential conflict-of-interests ever mentioned when reporting on these studies? What about all of the studies that say otherwise? The news outlets seem to think these studies don't exist. Is it because the studies that have found possible links between vaccine and autism weren't promoted and backed by the government?
- The scientists doing the studies that support a possible link between vaccines and autism are believed to be incompetent only because the propagandists declare them to be. They happen to be well-published neurologists, pharmacists, epidemiologists, immunologists, Ph.D.s, chemists and microbiologists from reputable universities, medical centers, research institutes and hospitals yet their work gets ignored and possibly attacked by the media.
- So what are these studies saying? "Many of the studies have common themes regarding a subset of susceptible children with immunity issues who, when faced with various vaccine challenges, end up with brain damage described as autism." (p. 26) Did you know that "permanent brain damage" is an acknowledged, rare side effect of vaccines? However, "the question is whether the specific form of autism brain injury after vaccination is in any way related to vaccination." (p. 26) Attkisson lists specific studies starting at the end of page 26.
- What about research on the other side of the argument? A quick internet search will show you what you're looking for. This is where the astroturfers come into play. They exist with the support of the vaccine industry and government supporters. They "debunk" each other studies to sound credible and exist so when a news reporter, or anyone for that matter, hops on the computer to do some last minute homework they are found and quoted. Somehow these are the articles that come up first in Google searches.
- Dr. Paul Offit, director of the Vaccine Education Center at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, and someone who is often used as an expert on vaccine safety, "denies a connection with vaccination and autism." Did you know he has made millions inventing a vaccine for Merck?

Merck makes the MMR vaccine in question and his rotavirus vaccine has, itself, been the subject of safety concerns. The news presents him as an unbiased expert, what do you think?

- Everything is open to interpretation. We can believe what we want to believe. However, “it disingenuous to pretend they do not exist.” (p. 28)

### Resources

Full references for each article are available at <http://pathwaystofamilywellness.org/references.html>

National Vaccine Information Center (NVIC): <http://www.nvic.org/>

Center for Personal Rights: <http://www.centerforpersonalrights.org/>

Institute for Vaccine Safety: <http://www.vaccinesafety.edu/>

Vaccine package inserts:

<http://www.fda.gov/BiologicsBloodVaccines/Vaccines/ApprovedProducts/ucm093830.htm>

Vaccine ingredients: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/downloads/appendices/B/excipient-table-2.pdf>

“Columbia University Press and Dr. Paul Offit Sued for Autism’s False Prophets”

<http://www.ageofautism.com/2009/02/columbia-university-press-and-dr-paul-offit-sued-for-autisms-false-prophets.html>

“CDC Responds to Allegation it Omitted Vaccine-Autism Study Link” by Sharyl Attkisson

<https://sharylattkisson.com/cdc-responds-to-allegation-it-omitted-vaccine-autism-study-link/>