

Research is Clear: Vaccines Do Not Cause Autism

THE FALSE CLAIM WASTES RESOURCES, WEAKENS TRUST, AND HURTS AMERICA'S HEALTH.



to undermine trust, contributing to a dangerous decline in childhood vaccination rates. Here are the facts.

THE MYTH'S ORIGIN

In 1998, British physician Andrew Wakefield speculated about a possible a link between the MMR vaccine and autism.

- Based on 12 children
- Data manipulated via falsified timelines and diagnoses
- Retracted by its publisher, The Lancet
- Wakefield lost his medical license

FOLLOW THE STUDIES AND EVIDENCE

1999

Lancet (United Kingdom):

498 autism cases

→ no causal association

2010

Pediatrics (United States): ~1K children → thimerosal

exposure not linked to autism

2014

Vaccine (metaanalysis): 1.2M children across

10 studies → no causal relationship Annals of Internal Med. (Denmark): 657K children

→ no increased risk

2002

Pediatrics (Finland): 535K

children → no link

2006

Pediatrics (Canada): 27K children

→ no link with thimerosal, 1 vs. 2 MMR doses

2013

Journal of Pediatrics (U.S. CDC): 1K children,

vaccine timing

→ no differences

2015

JAMA (United States): 95K

children, including siblings of autistic children → no

harmful association

2025

Annals of Internal Med. (Denmark): 1.2M children

→ No link between aluminum exposure and autism or other chronic conditions.

WHY ARE AUTISM DIAGNOSES RISING?



- **✓** Broader diagnostic criteria
- ✓ Increased awareness and screening
- Better access to services and health care

WHY DOES THE MYTH PERSIST?



- X Disinformation and anti-vaccine online networks
- X Discredited actors gaining federal platforms, including appointments of prominent vaccine cynics
- X Misstatements by public officials sow uncertainty

BY ACCEPTING DECADES OF PROVEN SCIENCE, WE CAN DEVOTE RESOURCES TO MEANINGFUL AUTISM RESEARCH AND HELP AMERICANS MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR CHILDREN.

LEARN MORE AT FIGHTINFECTIOUSDISEASE.ORG.