

# Vaccination



How is it that doctors like Phyllis Taylor do not seem to be able to get their facts right?

In the 1991 measles epidemic in New Zealand (vaccination rate 60 per cent, according to Public Health Commission), of the six deaths four were too young to be vaccinated and the other two were vaccinated.

Is that not stated because it doesn't quite fit the theory? Sixty-eight per cent of the cases were vaccinated. A second MMR was introduced because one doesn't work, even though we had been told for 25 years that it did.

In America in 1990-91 there were more than 45,000 reported cases of measles, 100 deaths, most in immunocompromised people, and more than half of these were in vaccinated persons.

In Australia, of the four measles deaths in 1994 three were "immunised" with 74 per cent of cases in vaccinated children. In 1994, 80 per cent of whooping cough cases were in vaccinated children.

Could it be that parents' faith has been visibly shaken? The Australian

Government's damage control was draconian legislation financially penalising parents who chose not to vaccinate.

By 1995 Australia's immunisation rate was 53 per cent.

Interesting that so many cases were vaccinated. If vaccines protect, then only 2.5 per per cent of all immunable diseases in Australia, at the most, would be in vaccinated people.

Asking corporate medicine whether it has told the whole truth is like asking Shell if Mobil's petrol is better. You pay for a vaccine through your taxes, and as in buying any product the motto should be "Buyer beware".

The Immunisation Awareness Society can provide information which fills in the gaps that corporate medicine won't tell you. The right to choose, and the responsibility to inform yourselves, are yours.

Don't allow a doctor to make your decision, because doctors don't look after your child 24 hours a day. You do.

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## Measle remarks irresponsible

SIR. — Dr Martin Tobias' remarks are not only unscientific, they are also irresponsible.

He implies there has been no measles since 1991, which is totally wrong. Three years ago, lots of children around here had "measles without spots".

This year, Auckland is having lots of "measles with spots", the "hot spot" being Manurewa, and most children being "vaccinated".

When is the Health Department going to be vigilant about collecting those statistics?

In 1995, we had a major outbreak of whooping cough, diagnosed as asthma in this area. We proved that many of these cases were whooping cough, but when we confronted Starship doctors, and the Health Department, with evidence of gross misdiagnosis, they didn't want to know.

So now we are told 140,000 susceptible under 9-year-olds are about to cause an epidemic. Using Dr Tobias' stats, if 60,000 children are born every year, nearly 300,000 will be under five.

Of five-year-olds, 56,400 (94 per cent) will be "immune". Of the 165,000 15-month to four-year-olds, 140,250 (85 per cent) will be immune. Of those under 15 months, most should have maternal antibodies, which is why the vaccine is given at that time. This is a total of 28,350 non-immune under 5s.

That leaves 240,000 children from 6-9. The 8 and 9-year-olds are the very group targeted in 1991, televised being jabbed on the streets, given extra shots regardless of how many they had had. They were also part of the 30,000 cases of measles, of whom 69 per cent were appropriately vaccinated (slated at a health meeting by the Waikato officer of health), which was why the Health Department introduced a second shot.

The proportion of non-immune of 6 and 7-year-olds, of whom more than 90 per cent have had at least one MMR, is not able to be estimated, but to imply that 111,750 6 to 9-year-olds are susceptible stretches credibility.

Or could it be that maybe this group of most vaccinated children in New Zealand are actually not immune. Perhaps two don't work any better than one did? What about a third? That might even postpone it until the year 2001. Perhaps it could then become a four-yearly booster from cradle to grave regardless of age. Then maybe the zealots will at least be happy.

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