

I am a 49, a mother to two young girls, and a medical science (physiology & pharmacology) and Occupational Therapy graduate from The University of Queensland. While I am no longer working in the medical field I have many friends, some of whom have children who suffer from severe anaphylaxis. My oldest daughter suffers from very severe asthma, irregularly triggered, and allergic rhinitis. I suffer from severe environmental allergies as well, but fortunately not anaphylactic. This inquiry is very close to my heart.

I am very aware that vaccination can cause anaphylaxis directly in some as is listed in the Australian Government immunization handbook. I am aware of many anecdotal and some literature reports, that other people develop anaphylaxis to new foods or environmental agents in the period closely following vaccination. Considering that: -

1. Vaccine antigens have to be grown on live cells and in growth mediums which necessarily include nutrients sourced from various food products, and other components that arise from the manufacturing processes
2. Even with the purification processes it may be impossible to completely remove all traces of these growth media from the final product,
3. Vaccines contain adjuvants to enhance immune system response to the antigens, however, it is also conceivable that these same adjuvants also trigger an immune response to the unavoidable traces of food and other contaminants.
4. Vaccines unlike natural infections bypass the normal barriers of mucous membranes and gut and stimulate the adaptive arm of the immune system (vs. the innate arm of the immune system). Overstimulation of the adaptive immune system without appropriate balance from the innate immune system is known to trigger allergies and autoimmunity.
5. The childhood and adult vaccination schedule has greatly expanded over the past 30+ years, in parallel with the explosion in allergies, anaphylaxis (and autoimmunity).
6. Repeated aggressive immune system stimulation of laboratory animals, using vaccine products such as DTP, can be used to trigger allergies and anaphylaxis in experimental settings.
7. The repeated, and closely timed triggering of the immune system when vaccines are given following the current schedule, could be interpreted to be not dissimilar to the methods used to experimentally induce anaphylaxis in laboratory settings.

Therefore, I would like to request that this very welcome and timely Grand Enquiry should use best available impartial scientific evidence and latest research tools (using a system such as GRADE, https://ktdrr.org/products/update/v1n5/dijkers_grade_ktupdatev1n5.pdf) to examine if there is any association between vaccination and the increasing levels of allergies and anaphylaxis seen in our population. I would ask specifically that: -

8. Rates of allergies and anaphylaxis should be examined and correlated against the vaccine schedule and changes in that schedule, both looking at historical trends and timing of population increases in atopic disease,

9. Timing of the development of allergies and anaphylaxis should be studied relative to sufferer receipt of vaccines. As there are reports of persons developing additional allergies over time and following different sets of vaccination, this review should be longitudinal to also determine if development of allergies and anaphylaxis is progressive and responsive to the re-challenge of repeated vaccination.
10. Allergy and anaphylaxis incidence should be compared in vaccinated and non-vaccinated populations, which data is available through Australia's comprehensive and world class Medicare system which gives excellent tracking of health care access, medications, and medical conditions.
11. Attempts should be made to identify persons who are most at risk of reactions and development of atopic disease, for consideration of alternative management strategies relative to vaccination.

With so many people suffering so terribly with these issues, prevention is just as critical and management and treatment. Please for the sake of our people and our children assess this situation impartially so that true advances can be made.