

Autism rates parallel exposure to thimerosal (continued from page 1)

The researchers add that a third set of data, this one from the U.S. Department of Education showing the number of new autism diagnoses among children 3 to 5 years old, shows a similar recent drop after years of increases. In addition, they say, the database results are consistent with a growing body of clinical evidence indicating that thimerosal is highly toxic to the developing brain, and that children with autism exhibit evidence of increased vulnerability to mercury damage.

The researchers note that at the time autism rates were rising during the 1990s, vaccines accounted for almost half of the total mercury dose that some infants received from all sources. "The 187.5 micrograms of mercury through thimerosal-containing vaccines plus the average of 164 micrograms from breast milk during the first six months," they point out, "exceeded the methylmercury safety guidelines established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Health Canada, the World Health Organization, the Agency for Toxic Substances Disease Registry, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. With no additional exposure from any source, these doses also exceeded the methylmercury guidelines for the first year of life set by all of these agencies except the FDA."

Geier and Geier conclude, "The present controlled assessment of VAERS and CDDS databases shows that very specific neurodevelopmental disorders are associated with thimerosal-containing vaccines. This conflicts with the 2004 conclusions of the Institute of Medicine, largely based upon examination of vaccine safety data from the National Immunization Program (NIP) of the CDC." More research into the effects of mercury exposure through vaccines is needed, they say, particularly in light of the fact that "the handling of vaccine safety data by the NIP has recently been called into question by the Institute of Medicine."

Adding to the urgent need for research, they say, is the fact that thimerosal is still used in pediatric flu vaccines and several vaccines given to older children and adults, and is an ingredient in many vaccines used overseas. Moreover, they say, the Institute of Medicine has backed away from the goal of removing thimerosal from U.S. vaccines as quickly as possible.

"Early downward trends in neurodevelopmental disorders following removal of thimerosal-containing vaccines," David A. Geier and Mark R. Geier, *Journal of American Physicians and Surgeons*, Vol. 11, No. 1, 2006, 8-13. Address: Mark Geier, 14 Redgate Ct., Silver Spring, MD 20905.

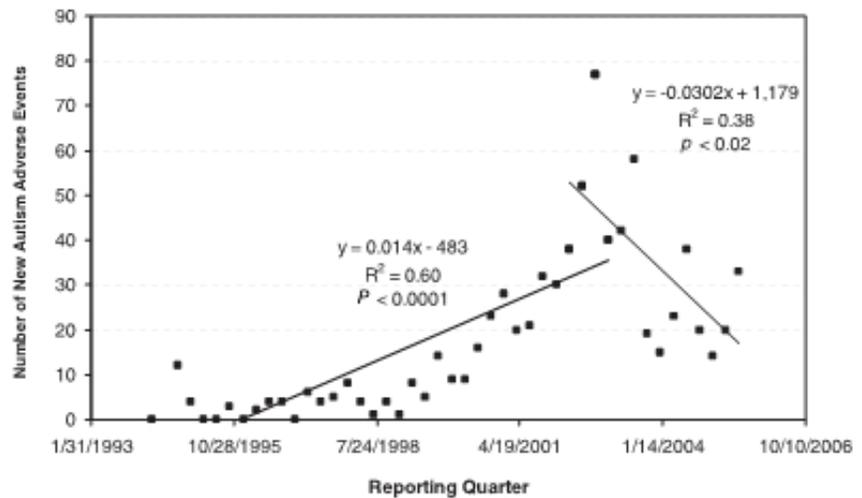


Figure 1. Trends in New Autism Adverse Events Reported to VAERS.

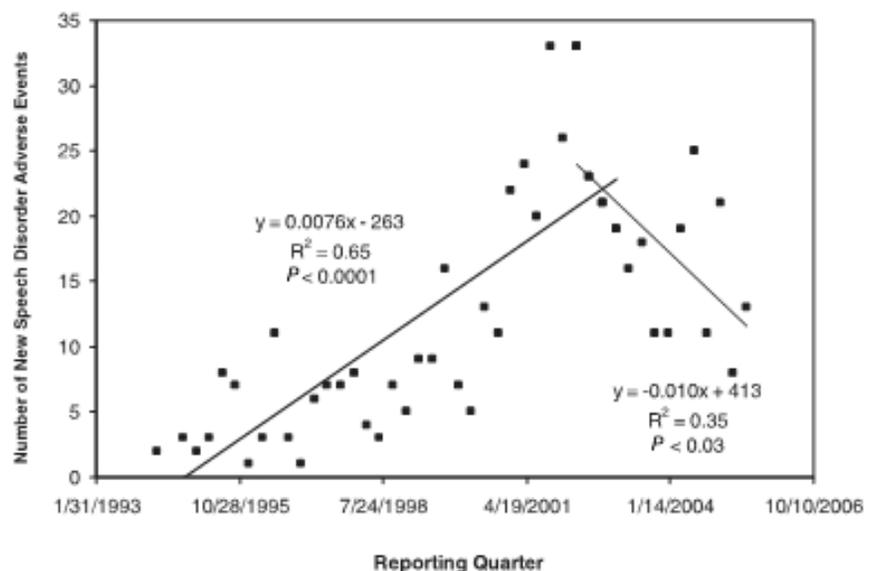


Figure 2. Trends in New Cases of Speech Disorders Reported to VAERS.

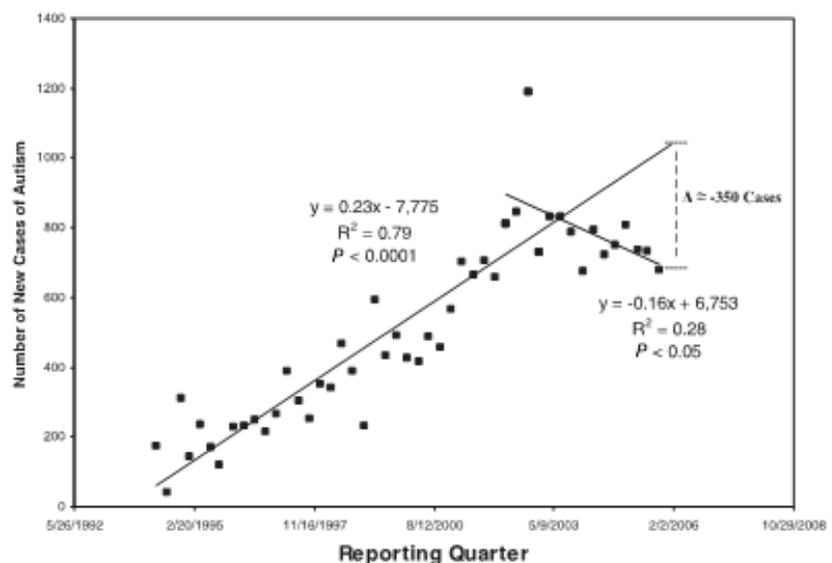


Figure 3. Trends in New Cases of Autism Entered into the CDDS.

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