



LEARN MORE AND **DOWNLOAD**
A FREE **eBOOK** ON ITIL >



- Get your Complimentary issue
- See what's inside (Free registration)
- Change your address



March 24, 2006
Updated Daily

Health

Research: Vaccine Ingredient Can Disrupt Immune System



March 21, 2006 1:19PM

"This is important because it does add to our knowledge of the potential effects of thimerosal," said Cindy Lawler, a program administrator for the NIEHS in charge of the UC Davis research grant. **"It provides a good clue for other studies that can be conducted in other animals or in biological samples from humans."**

[advertisement]

Interested in technology and innovation news? Add this site to your "Favorites" to find your way back easily next time.

- Home
- Innovation
- Health
- Discovery
- Space
- Science
- Environment
- Computing
- NewsFactor Magazine
- Blog Bytes **NEW**



» In a study sure to fuel the controversy about the role of childhood vaccines in autism, scientists at UC Davis have found that a preservative used in some vaccines can disrupt the immune system, at least in mice.

Study authors caution the findings do not specifically link use of thimerosal, which contains mercury, to autism and other neurodevelopmental disorders.

"This is not a smoking gun," said Isaac Pessah, the University of California, Davis toxicologist who led the study for the university's MIND Institute and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. "This provides a framework, but not the answer."

Pessah's study, part of a large, federally funded research effort exploring the role of environmental toxicants autism and other disorders, will be published this morning in the online edition of Environmental Health Perspectives, a peer-reviewed publication of the NIEHS.

"This is important because it does add to our knowledge of the potential effects of thimerosal," said Cindy Lawler, a program administrator for the NIEHS in charge of the UC Davis research grant. "It provides a good clue for other studies that can be conducted in other animals or in biological samples from humans."

The results come seven years after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American Academy of Pediatrics asked drug makers to remove thimerosal from childhood vaccines.

Except for trace amounts used in vaccine production, thimerosal is no longer used in

▼ advertisement

Health

1. [Jordan Confirms First Bird Flu Case](#)
2. [Mucus Test Could Predict Lung Cancer](#)
3. [Resistant Tuberculosis: 'Death Sentence'](#)
4. [Panel Warns of Ritalin Hallucinations](#)
5. [New Remedies for Allergy Sufferers](#)

▼ advertisement



» CALL 877-215-8584
OR CLICK HERE

Most Popular Articles

1. [Research: Vaccine Ingredient Can Disrupt Immune System](#)



The HP ML110 G3 Server with the Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor

Only \$668
after \$100 instant savings + additional \$100 rebate



» [Shop now](#)

» [Roll over for specs](#)

- Dependable—rigorously tested for constant reliability
- Expandable—grows as your business does
- Easy-to-use—preconfigured to meet your needs



childhood vaccines. The exception is the flu vaccine; although manufacturers are now producing a thimerosal-free version of the flu shot, the lion's share of vaccine supplies still contain the preservative.

Concerns about the safety of the preservative grew after the Food and Drug Administration concluded that babies up to 6 months old were getting more mercury than considered acceptable by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Several large-scale studies failed to establish a link between mercury-containing vaccines and autism. That has not deterred parents who believe their child was developing normally until receiving the recommended childhood immunizations.

Researchers now believe that autism is a disorder -- or group of disorders -- with many possible causes. A prevailing theory is that autism is caused by several genetic abnormalities, which may be the basis for a heightened susceptibility to certain chemical exposures.

The UC Davis study is not likely to settle the matter, but does indicate that the preservative may leave the immune system vulnerable in susceptible groups.

Based on earlier and yet-to-be published studies establishing differences in the immune systems of autistic children from children without the disorder, Pessah looked for clues to those discrepancies. [\(continued...\)](#)

1 | [2](#) | [Next Page >](#)

© 2006 The Sacramento Bee . All rights reserved.
© 2006 Sci-Tech Today. All rights reserved.

Related Topics

- » [Vaccines](#)
- » [Immune System](#)
- » [Bacteria](#)
- » [Medical Research](#)

Latest News & Special Reports

- » [Colonial Skeleton Stumps Archaeologists](#)
- » [Jordan Confirms First Bird Flu Case](#)
- » [Missile Scientists in Short Supply](#)
- » [Mars Orbiter Returns First Test Images](#)
- » [Spanish Ship Uncovered in Florida Sand](#)

2. [Hubble Confirms New Moons of Pluto](#)
3. [Chocolate Linked to Low Blood Pressure](#)
4. [Businesses Advised To Plan Ahead for Bird Flu Epidemic](#)
5. [Scientists Claim To Have Found Lost Civilization](#)

Security Spotlight



[Report: Spyware Threats Tripled in 2005](#)

Last year was the biggest year yet for spyware, as consumers, small businesses, and enterprises across

▼ advertisement

the globe were invaded by a plague of malicious software.



[Microsoft Sets Pricing on OneCare Live Security Service](#)

Microsoft has detailed pricing and availability for OneCare Live, a security service that brings antivirus, antispyware, and backup capabilities into one constantly updating package.



[The Worst-Case Hack Scenario](#)

Most CIOs will tell you that getting hacked is inevitable. But there is getting hacked, and then there is getting sacked. What do you do if your CEO wants a refresher on a worst-case scenario?

Navigation

Sci-Tech Today

[Home](#) | [Innovation](#) | [Health](#) | [Discovery](#) | [Space](#) | [Science](#) | [Environment Computing](#) |

NewsFactor Network Enterprise I.T. Sites

[NewsFactor Technology News](#) | [Data Storage Today](#)
[Enterprise Linux I.T.](#) | [Enterprise Windows I.T.](#) | [Enterprise Security Today](#)

NewsFactor Network Enterprise Applications Sites

[BPM Today](#) | [CRM Daily](#)

NewsFactor Business and Innovation Sites

[Sci-Tech Today](#) | [NewsFactor Business Report](#)

NewsFactor Services

[FreeNewsFeed](#) | [Free Newsletters](#) | [XML/RSS](#)

[About NewsFactor Network](#) | [How To Contact Us](#) | [Article Reprints](#) | [Careers @ NewsFactor](#) | [How To Advertise](#)

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Service](#)

© Copyright 2000-2006 NewsFactor Network. All rights reserved.