

Conspiracy vs Reality

THE SCIENCE BEHIND BABY BRAINS

Presented by:

WPLab

[REFERENCE GUIDE]

We are aware that most physicians are unfortunately not aware of all of the evidence we have about the connection between acetaminophen and chemical injury to babies. However, WPLab, Inc. does not provide medical advice and does not recommend any particular method of treating fevers or pain in children. This resource is a free resource for parent education, and should not be used as a medical recommendation or take the place of medical advice.



CONSPIRACY OR REALITY

HOW TO TELL THE TRUTH

WITH THE VIRALITY OF SOCIAL MEDIA, THE SPREAD OF INFORMATION CAN BE OVERWHELMING.

How do we separate what is a conspiracy theory vs reality?

Conspiracy theories often involve linking a series of apparently unconnected factors together in a chain that creates the appearance of a conspiracy. If one link breaks, then the conspiracy theory falls apart. Fortunately, reality is subject to scientific evaluation, and multiple lines of independent evidence can generally be used to support reality.

REALITY BEARS THE WEIGHT OF EXAMINATION

There are new things we learn about the human body regularly, and baby's bodies are no different.

The number one difference between a conspiracy theory and reality, no matter how bad and shocking that reality may be, is that reality bears up under close examination.

Key elements of data from conspiracy theories may be impossible to verify, may depend on "secret" knowledge, may contain distortions of actual evidence, or may even be completely false. In contrast, all available evidence for reality will point towards a singular conclusion, and the scientific method



can be used and applied to test the theory. For example, all available evidence points toward the view that early-life exposure (before age 5) to acetaminophen causes neurodevelopmental problems in susceptible children.

Conspiracy theories have become an influential part of society, with some theories deceiving millions of people. University professors have studied conspiracy theories and how to detect them. For example, Timothy R. Tangherlini, Professor of Danish Literature and Culture, University of California, Berkeley, is one such professor... (CONTINUED ON PG. 2)

IS THIS TRUE?





















IS THIS TRUE?



IS THIS TRUE?

(CONTINUED FROM PG. 1)

His work and the work of others tells us the best way we know now to detect a conspiracy theory. The table below provides some common features of conspiracy theories, and compares those with the view that early-life exposure to acetaminophen causes neurodevelopmental problems in susceptible children.

QUESTIONS TO DETECT A CONSPIRACY THEORY	FEATURES OF A CONSPIRACY THEORY	FEATURES OF A SCIENTIFIC CONCLUSION	EXAMPLE: ACETAMINOPHEN CAUSES NEURODEVELOPMENTAL PROBLEMS
Is critical supporting evidence based in reality?			
Was the scientific method applied to test conclusions?			
Are supporting facts linked together in a fragile chain of logic?			
Do independent lines of supporting evidence point in the same direction?			
Was the viewpoint developed slowly over time as evidence emerged?			
Does the viewpoint fit Occam’s Razor: the simplest explanation for the data?			

IT’S NOT A CONSPIRACY THEORY

Early-life exposure of susceptible babies and children to acetaminophen causes neurodevelopmental problems. There are more than 24 lines of evidence, and even if one line of evidence turns out to be difficult to verify, it does not affect the other lines of evidence.

Conspiracy theories often appear fully formed overnight, connecting many complex ideas together. Our understanding of real-life problems can develop quickly if key pieces of evidence are suddenly uncovered. However, our understanding of complex, real-life problems tends to develop slowly over time

as information becomes available. Our understanding that early-life exposure to acetaminophen causes neurodevelopmental problems in susceptible children has progressed slowly over time, starting from the first study published in 2008 by Stephen Shultz.

Conspiracy theories tend to offer horrific explanations for observations that have otherwise simple explanations. In contrast, no alternative explanation exists for the wide range of evidence pointing toward the view that early-life exposure to acetaminophen causes neurodevelopmental problems in susceptible children.

More about WPLab Inc.
WPLab is a not-for-profit company that conducts research and education related to immune system dysfunction in high-income countries. A current focus is the interaction between the immune system and acetaminophen (paracetamol) early in life, and how that interaction affects brain development. We are currently conducting laboratory work, and, at the same time, work with social media and other venues to educate caregivers about what is known regarding the impact of acetaminophen (paracetamol) on the developing brain. For more information about WPLab, please see our website at www.WPLaboratory.org.