Vaccines – Truth, Lies and Controversy Peter Gotzsche

This book finds a rare middle ground in the vaccine controversy.

This book was mostly complete at the time that Covid19 appeared on the scene. It addresses the standard vaccines that have been available for decades: measles mumps rubella (MMR), diphtheria pertussis tetanus (DTP), the flu vaccine and human papillomavirus (HPV).

The author starts out with a strong case in favor of the MMR vaccine, with graphs showing the dramatic reduction of measles since its introduction. The case for measles is the strongest – mumps and rubella are not such a big threat.

Since I have a decision to make in my own children's life, I researched measles most thoroughly. I found that the CDC's vaccine adverse affect reporting system VAERS, though difficult to use – I am a database expert, and the difficulty appears intentional – does allow one to find out how many people die from the vaccine. You have to understand that death is categorized several ways – death, sudden infant death syndrome, and others – so you add them all up properly.

It is also clear that the powers that be are manipulating the story. When I mentioned that I had researched the subject, a correspondence sent me the following headline: "Measles killed an estimated 207,500 people last year after a decade-long failure to reach optimal vaccination coverage, resulting in the highest number of cases for 23 years, the World Health Organization (WHO) and US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) said in a joint report on Thursday."

Since Ukraine was named as one of the countries with the highest rate of deaths, and I had read that the highest recent death toll was 16 and 2018, I wondered. The other countries named were Madagascar, India in the Philippines, with a total death toll of about 1600. The World Health Organization figure is more than 100 times as great as the sum of the numbers provided by the individual countries. It appears there is a strong desire to mislead.

That's my take on the one vaccine that this author recommends. He had severe misgivings about the flu shot. Other authors such as Judy Mikovits have taken on the HPV vaccine.

As I write, the consensus on Covid 19 seems to be shifting away from the WHO/CDC/EHO narrative. There is a large body of evidence that the vaccines are dangerous in both the near and the long term. Would recommend that readers read Mikovits, Stephanie Seneff, Brett Weinstein and others prior to making their decisions.

A very good effort. It raises the right questions.

In his conclusion, the author writes

"Furthermore, people with an influence on guidelines often have financial conflicts of interests in relation to the vaccine industry. Even when there are no such issues, the authorities sometimes spread information that is seriously misleading. After having read what the US diseases US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) writes about flu shots, I don't trust anything this agency writes about the necessity of being vaccinated." "It has been abundantly documented that we cannot trust the drug agencies either. In their work, they rely far too much on what drug companies tell them even though they know very well that fraud, bias, and underreporting of serious drug harms in industry sponsored trials are common. It cannot be repeated often enough that our prescription drugs are the third leading cause of death, which demonstrates that the drug agencies are dysfunctional; they did not protect us against the lethal harm to drugs."

Notes:

Vaccines book review notes

Effectiveness versus efficacy: what did they mean the different kinds of trials, and why the gold standard is essential: large numbers double-blind genuine placebos for the half long-duration

Problems with logistic regression. Book doesn't mention it, but with logistic regression there is a binary variable. Setting up binary variable on or off can be arbitrary. Other arbitrary steps that they take our using polynomial approximations for curve fitting – without a theory this is worthless – and using logarithmic/exponential fits. All of these can be used to force the data to fit the model rather than to find out what is happening.

Discuss the themes of the major analyses in the book: measles, influenza and HPV.

Jump to the chapter of recommendations – what should you do.

A note on the Covid 19 chapter. Written in the spring of 2020, before we knew how things will turn out. Very prescient. Erase the right questions, although we had more faith in distancing and lockdowns then turned out to be appropriate.

Everybody is lying. The vaccine manufacturers, elected officials, public health officials, journalists. The Covid affair has made this all the more clear. It is up to the individual to research things on his own.

A summary of the recommendations, and my additional takes. He recommends measles, mumps, polio for everybody. He recommends against influenza

Neutral on rubella, chickenpox, HPV.

Talks about the signal successes of vaccination: smallpox, rabies – Pasteur, polio, measles. These cannot be denied.

Talks about the dangers of aluminum adjuvants. See sin of 2024 a fuller discussion of measles and mumps, live and aluminum.

Author attacks wake field, ignores Vernon Coleman, Judy McKevitt's, others. RFK Junior.