

VACCINATIONS--PART 1

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As I start to write this I must admit that it is probably one of the most controversial subjects I will ever have to tackle. By now most of you know my own decision was made many years ago to go with a natural form of immunization rather than with the more generally accepted vaccination. But that is only part of a total program that I follow to give me the confidence that the immune system of my dogs is working at it's optimum.

This website is dedicated to providing factual information and background for breeders to become sufficiently informed to make their own decisions. Therefore I will do my best not to allow my personal bias to enter this series of articles and try to bring you facts from both sides of the issue.

You may be asking yourself what all the fuss is about. Plainly stated, **there is no such thing as a 100% effective form of protection against disease !!**

Putting it simply, all animals have a unique means of survival with the ability of the body to recognize foreign substances (proteins) and eliminate them. This is maintained by the production of antibodies by certain of their blood cells, often in response to infections. The body thus gains "immunity" to the infection--if it survives.

Today, immunologists recognize that the 'immune response' is a very complicated process involving many systems in the body. These systems work in specific ways and are inter-dependent. The 'immune response' has been loosely classified into two types--"specific" and "non-specific".

The 'non-specific' response appears to be the first line of defense and is usually invoked when catching diseases naturally. This primary response involves natural substances and natural micro-organisms available throughout the entire body. They are able to destroy unwanted micro-organisms and toxins.

The 'specific' response involves blood antibodies that are produced in response to certain infections. They are effective only against a particular infective agent.

A vaccine is aimed at stimulating this 'specific' antibody response. The injection of a very large dose of the disease agent is used (compared to that obtained through natural infection) without regard to the varying reaction of different individuals. It is hoped that antibodies to these agents are produced, that will protect against future infection, leaving the individual with as few symptoms as possible. It is hoped that the benefits to be gained will outweigh the risks.

It would seem then, that the allopathic approach to immunization concentrates only on the "specific".

Recent research however, suggests that this secondary response occurs only when the primary response has been inadequate (i.e. only when sufficient micro-organisms have entered the body and got past the body's initial line of defense).

The holistic view regards disease as a function of the total state of health in the body, and concentrates its efforts on the first line of defense--the "non-specific" response.

The naturopathic view is that the micro-organism is never wholly responsible for disease. Many individuals with micro-organisms present all the time only succumb to disease when their state deteriorates through: overwork, toxins, poor nutrition, chemical changes from mental and emotional stress, etc.

Similarly, if the state of the body changes for the better (even if the micro-organisms are still present), the disease state can be cured.

This basic division in the theory of immunization is widely misunderstood by the vast majority of people.

There is no doubt that countless millions of lives have been saved (both human and animal) by mankind's attempt to stave off and somehow prevent the onset of a variety of debilitating or deadly diseases. To gain some understanding of how our present protocols arose, we need to know a little about how they got started.

Prior to Samuel Hahnemann's time (1755 to 1843) there existed many "generally accepted" medical practices (such as bloodletting) that we ridicule to-day. But remember at that

time there were no microscopes as we know them, nor any of the modern day instruments that we now take for granted. Hahnemann (the Father of Homeopathy) postulated a theory of chronic diseases that was unheard of in his time. "Like cures like". He went on to experimentally "prove" that his minute doses of various substances could cure and prevent certain sicknesses in people by initiating the very symptoms (in mild form) they sought to cure. More on this later.

It was however, Edward Jenner of England that is credited with the process of 'vaccination'. At the beginning of the 19th Century he noticed that milkmaids who had cowpox often developed an immunity to smallpox, a notorious killer in Europe at that time.

By taking pus from blisters on their hands, placing it on the patients skin and scratching it in, the body produced a similar blister to the milkmaid's cowpox, but the patient would not come down with the dreaded smallpox. Jenner became world famous with his process of vaccination.

Of course this was before the days of FDA, double blind studies, etc. Imagine--both Hahnemann and Jenner found effective ways to help people and just went out and did it !! What a Concept !!

The transmission of infectious diseases was still a great mystery, until the work of Louis Pasteur in France during the second half of the 19th century. At the time, his theories were also ridiculed by the 'accepted' medical community. He postulated that 'disease' was caused by micro-organisms too small to see! Everybody "knew" that "modern" science thought this just plain foolishness. "If you can't see, feel it, measure it, it just don't exist".

Bacteria could sometimes be seen under a crude microscope with special staining, but a virus (which is far smaller) could only be seen with an electron microscope--which came around 1950. A virus is so tiny that it cannot have an independent life outside its host, but is obliged to invade the host's cells and use the host's proteins to replicate itself.

Turning our spotlight to our own country, we find that as we

moved into the beginning of the 20th Century, both "homeopathic" and "allopathic" medicine were practiced side by side.

Gradually the tide swung towards the allopathic conventions and these were finally cemented into our society with the formation of the American Medical Association.

To defend the right to practice homeopathy in this country, a homeopath named Dr. Clayton founded the FDA. That's right folks!! The FDA was originally developed in America (1938) as an institution to protect homeopathy!! It was written into the law of America, and written on the first page of the FDA Act about the existence of the Homeopathic Pharmacopeia of the United States, and how a homeopathic pharmaceutical can be used with a patient in America.

My, how times do change!! It seems that the new golden rule is "Thems' that have the Gold make the rules".

Today in North America, conventional medicine recognizes and accepts, only allopathic "vaccination" as the "legal" method of immunization.

The homeopathic form of immunization--called a "Nosode", has not as yet, received acceptance under the law, as a "safe" alternative to the allopathic injection method. Despite 200 years of worldwide usage, and recent scientific proof that homeopathy is a viable alternative, the powers that be refuse to acknowledge its' efficacy. After all, everybody "knows" that "If you can't see, feel it, measure it, it just don't exist".

As the power of the large pharmaceutical companies grew (along with their wealth), there has been an ongoing battle to discredit and if possible, totally deny an individuals right to choose any other form of health care.

Herbal, homeopathic, nutritional, etc. all have come under attack for their removal from the American marketplace.

For example, on September 1, 1994, a petition signed by 42 self styled "quackbusters", was filed with the FDA which basically demanded the removal of all homeopathic remedies. It failed!

It is one thing to be a skeptic. It is another thing to attempt to

impose your narrow vision of the world on everyone else. It's a war out there, and many Americans don't even know it's going on. [\(Part 2\)](#)



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