In February 1998, The Lancet published an article titled “Ileal-Lymphoid-Nodular Hyperplasia, Non-Specific Colitis, and Pervasive Developmental Disorder in Children,” which suggested that MMR vaccine could contribute to the development of autism. Intense media coverage of the article followed its publication, and many parents, particularly in the UK, refused MMR vaccination of their children.

In 2004, The Lancet published a retraction submitted by 10 of the 13 original authors. The authors stated that there was no connection between the MMR vaccine and the bowel disease/autism syndrome.

A decade later, the number of articles published in peer-reviewed medical journals that refute a connection between MMR vaccine and autism totals more than 20; whereas the number of articles that suggest a connection between the vaccine and autism stands at 3.

The following list of studies published in peer-reviewed journals is provided so that parents and practitioners can themselves compare the balance of evidence about MMR and autism.

23 studies that refute a connection between MMR vaccine and the development of autism


(continued on page 2)
23 studies that refute a connection between MMR vaccine and the development of autism


15. Measles-Mumps-Rubella and Other Measles-Containing Vaccines Do Not Increase the Risk for Inflammatory Bowel Disease: A Case-Control Study from the Vaccine Safety Datalink Project. Davis RL et al. Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med 2001;155(3):354-9 *Subjects: 155 persons with IBD with up to 5 controls each


21. No Evidence for Measles, Mumps, and Rubella Vaccine-Associated Inflammatory Bowel Disease or Autism in a 14-year Prospective Study. Peltola H et al. Lancet 1998; 351:1327-8 *Subjects: 3,000,000 doses of MMR vaccine
