

## Commentary

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Dr. King's editorial highlights the important point that healthcare is more concerned about treating illness rather than curing it. There seems to be more profit in treating the symptoms of illness, rather than in understanding the causes, thereby preventing their occurrence and lessening the need for cures.

Vaccines, instead of contributing to "cures" may, in part, contribute to the ongoing cycle of disease and treatments. While many see vaccines in terms of a positive cost-benefit, the deleterious effects of vaccines are rarely ever documented as such, and adverse effects are only infrequently reported. A passive national reporting system exists called the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS), but it is admittedly incomplete with an estimated 10% or fewer cases reported. At least some cases of SIDS and SBS (Shaken Baby Syndrome), upon closer scrutiny, have been determined to be the result of vaccine-related deaths. Difficult neurological conditions such as ADD, ADHD and the more serious disorder called autism, are increasingly being seen as attributable to Thimerosal, a mercury "preservative" used in several childhood vaccines through year 2000 and even beyond. When we consider that in the past 10 years autism has increased over 800% in school children aged 3 to 21 years, manifesting in 1 in 166 children (or impacting 1 in 68 families), this is a most sobering fact that is claimed by healthcare to be a "mystery." When we factor in vaccine-related deaths and a \$1 million cost to raise each autistic child, this dramatically impacts the cost-benefit equation and should require intense investigation.