

**DR. ANDREW WAKEFIELD WAS RIGHT. BRIAN DEER IS THE LIAR.  
THERE WAS NO FRAUD. NO HOAX. HERE'S PROOF.**

Parent from THE LANCET case series also complains to BMJ about Deer lies

**STATEMENT FROM DR. ANDREW WAKEFIELD**

I am accused of altering the clinical histories and test results in autistic children in order to manufacture a disease – a disease described in The Lancet in 1998 that Brian Deer says does not exist.

I have documents that confirm beyond a shadow of a doubt that I did not falsify the data, that the findings are real, and that these findings were accurately reported in the Lancet.

**CALL TO ACTION FROM THE BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL because:**

- New document confirms that there was no fraud (see below)
- BMJ failed to check facts before making allegations

**NEW DOCUMENTS REVEALED**

New documents have come to light confirming our report of intestinal disease and autistic regression following MMR vaccine published in the medical journal THE LANCET in 1998, The documents prove that there was no fraud. They describe 7 of The Lancet children, and were written by Professor John Walker-Smith in December 1996, 14 months before our team's paper was published.

Professor John Walker-Smith prepared the documents as a report for a scientific meeting based upon his own assessment of the children's disorder, supported by the study's senior pathologist Dr. Dhillon. I was not involved in these assessments (see **Level 4**, Walker-Smith's sworn testimony). I am accused of altering the findings to report disease where none existed and deceiving my colleagues in the process.

It has also been revealed that Dr. Godlee, the responsible editor at the British Medical Journal that published the allegations, did not adequately check these facts – facts that were referred to in both my book, [Callous Disregard: Autism and Vaccines – The Truth Behind a Tragedy](#), published by Skyhorse Publishing in May 2010, and my complaint about Brian Deer to the UK's Press Complaints Commission.

## THE PROOF

I present evidence that completely negates the allegations that I committed scientific fraud. Brian Deer and Dr. Godlee of the British Medical Journal (BMJ) knew or should have known about the facts set out below before publishing their false allegations<sup>1</sup>.

On December 20<sup>th</sup> 1996 a meeting was held at the Wellcome Trust in London. This meeting was an annual gathering of doctors and scientists either collaborating with or guests of my group, The Inflammatory Bowel Disease Study Group, based at the Royal Free Hospital Medical School. For the purpose of this meeting Professor Walker-Smith prepared a presentation on our initial experience of children with developmental disorder and gastrointestinal symptoms – children who were to become part of THE LANCET 1998 paper. Professor Walker-Smith did so on the basis of his own detailed review of the endoscopic and microscopic findings<sup>2</sup> in the intestinal biopsies. The title of his presentation was:

### **Enterocolitis and Disintegrative Disorder Following MMR A Review of the First Seven Cases**

His notes of the presentation<sup>3</sup> continued:

“I wish today, to present some preliminary details concerning seven children, all boys, who appear to have enterocolitis and disintegrative disorder, probably autism, following MMR. I shall now briefly present their case history [sic].”

Professor Walker-Smith then set out, for each child, the details from the clinical history obtained by him and his medical team (of which I was not part) and the results of his own review of the tissue findings supplemented by those of Dr. Amar Dhillon, the senior pathologist involved in the investigation of this syndrome. The relevant behavioral and intestinal pathology findings were documented by him and are set out below for each of the seven children.

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<sup>1</sup> Footnote 73 in “Deer”. Callous Disregard: Autism and Vaccines – The Truth Behind a Tragedy. 2010. New York. Skyhorse Publishing. p.220. and Complaint against Brian Deer to UK’s Press Complaints Commission (pending).

<sup>2</sup> All intestinal biopsy tissues went through three rounds of microscopic review: the first from the duty non-specialist histopathologist, the second by Professor Walker-Smith and his team, and the third – a blinded review – by Dr Amar Dhillon, the senior pathologist with expertise in intestinal diseases. (Statement of Dr. A.P. Dhillon to the GMC lawyers, footnote 14. p. 214 and p. 199-203 Callous Disregard: Autism and Vaccines – The Truth Behind a Tragedy. 2010. New York. Skyhorse Publishing, and Complaint against Brian Deer to UK’s Press Complaints Commission (pending).

Callous Disregard: Autism and Vaccines – The Truth Behind a Tragedy. 2010. New York. Skyhorse Publishing. pp 199-203 and Complaint against Brian Deer to UK’s Press Complaints Commission (pending).

<sup>3</sup> Vaccinesafetyfirst.com. This document was supplied to me by Professor Walker-Smith in advance of the meeting in 1996 and is the only copy he provided to me.

**Child 1.** Immediate reaction to MMR with fever at 1 [corrected, illegible]  
Rapid deterioration in behaviour → autism  
Histology active chronic inflammation in caecum  
Treated Asacol  
**INDETERMINATE COLITIS\*\*<sup>4</sup>**

**Child 2.** MMR at 15 months – head banging 2 weeks later.  
Hyperactive from 18 months.  
Endoscopy – aphthoid ulcer at hepatic flexure  
Caecum: lymphoid nodular hyperplasia with erythematous rim and pale swollen core.  
Histology, Ileum mild inflammation, colon moderate inflammation  
Acute and chronic inflammation.  
Treated CT3211 [a dietary treatment]  
**INDETERMINATE COLITIS\*\* ? CROHN'S DISEASE**

**Child 3.** ? dysmorphism – chromosomes and normal development  
MMR [sic] at 5 months [sic]  
Measles [sic] at 2.5 years\* – 1 month later change in behavior  
Hyperactive with food  
Colonoscopy – granular rectum, normal colon and lymphoid nodular hyperplasia.  
Histopathology: lymphoid nodular hyperplasia.  
Increased eosinophils 5/5 mild increase in inflammatory cells (Dhillon)  
Routine normal  
LYMPHOID NODULAR HYPERPLASIA  
**INDETERMINATE COLITIS\*\***  
[\* correction: he received measles vaccine first at approximately 15 months of age and MMR at 2.5. years]

**Child 4<sup>5</sup>.** Reacted to triple vaccine 4 months – screaming and near cot death (DPT)  
MMR at 15 months – behaviour changed after 1 week.  
“measles rash” week before  
Endoscopy – minor abnormalities of vascular pattern  
Histology – non-specific proctocolitis\*\*  
Treated  
**INDETERMINATE PROCTOCOLITIS**  
LYMPHOID NODULAR HYPERPLASIA

**Child 5<sup>6</sup>.** MMR at 14 months.  
Second day after, fever and rash, bangs head and behaviour abnormal thereafter.

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<sup>4</sup> Inflammation that is not diagnostic of either Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis

<sup>5</sup> Child 6 in *The Lancet* paper. The chronological order was corrected for the final *Lancet* paper.

<sup>6</sup> Child 3 in *The Lancet* paper

Endoscopy – Lymphoid nodular hyperplasia  
Histopathology: Marked increase in IEL's [intraepithelial lymphocytes] in ileum with chronic inflammatory cells in reactive follicles. Increase in inflammatory cells in colon and IELs increased.

LYMPHOID NODULAR HYPERPLASIA  
**INDETERMINATE COLITIS**

**Child 6**<sup>7</sup>. MMR – 16 months – no obvious reaction

2 years behavioral change – 2.5 years

Screaming attacks – / food related

Endoscopy – Lymphoid nodular hyperplasia terminal ileum

Histology – Prominent lymphoid follicles

Dhillon: moderate to marked increase in IEL's, increase in chronic inflammatory cells throughout the colon – superficial macrophages not quite granuloma

**INDETERMINATE COLITIS**

**Child 7**<sup>8</sup>. MMR 14 months

16 months “growling voice”

18 months – behavioural changes – autism diagnosed at 3 years

Barium [follow through X ray] 5 cm tight stricture [proximal] to insertion of terminal ileum

Endoscopy– prominent lymphoid follicle in ileum

Mild proctitis with granular mucosa

Histology

Ileum – reactive follicles

Colon – bifid forms, increased IEL's

Slight increase in inflammatory cells

**INDETERMINATE COLITIS**

? CROHN'S DISEASE

So there it is. These are the considered findings of one of the world's leading pediatric gastroenterologists with an unparalleled experience of intestinal pathology in children, and a blinded<sup>9</sup> review by an expert in intestinal pathology. These details were based upon histories and investigation findings that were independent of my input. The findings were faithfully reproduced in THE LANCET paper which was written pursuant to February 1997, at least two months after the meeting at the Wellcome Trust. There was absolutely no fraud. The remainder of Brian Deer's allegations should be reviewed in light of the above.

## **THE CREDIBILITY OF THE BMJ SHOULD BE QUESTIONED**

As for Dr. Godlee and the BMJ, I have made enquires that have bearing on whether, in their enthusiasm to condemn, they acted with due diligence and caution in coming to

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<sup>7</sup> Child 9 in *The Lancet* paper

<sup>8</sup> Child 5 in *The Lancet* paper

<sup>9</sup> The pathologist is unaware of the symptoms or diagnoses of the patients from whom the biopsies came.

their damning determinations. Here is that correspondence starting with my email to Dr. Godlee on 13.1.2011:

Dear Dr Godlee,

In the light of your many allegations, may I ask first, whether you were made aware by Mr. Deer of the **precise**<sup>10</sup> substance of the active complaint against him and the Sunday Times that is before the UK Press Complaints Commission, and second, whether you read my book Callous Disregard: Autism and Vaccines – The Truth Behind a Tragedy, prior to publishing these allegations? This book deals comprehensively with Mr. Deer’s allegations, including all of the matters that you have labeled as “fraud”.

Yours sincerely,  
Dr Andrew J Wakefield

Dr. Godlee responded on 14.1.2011:

Dear Dr Wakefield,

Mr Deer did make us aware of the substance of your complaint against him and the Sunday Times to the PCC. Your complaint is specifically referred to and summarised in the article headed “How the case against the MMR vaccine was fixed”. Footnote 119 also cross-refers (and in the online version of the article is hyperlinked) to a copy of the complaint itself, enabling readers, if they so wish, to consider it for themselves. As stated in footnote 119, we understand that the complaint was suspended by the PCC in February 2010.

As regards your book, my understanding is that in your book you make the same points concerning Mr Deer’s allegations as you made in your suspended complaint to the PCC. As I have indicated, those points are summarised and cross-referenced in the article.

Yours sincerely,  
Fiona Godlee

I responded the same day, 14.1.2011:

Dear Dr Godlee,

Thank you for your response. I am reassured that Mr Deer made you aware of the substance of the complaint against him – a complaint which is still active and which is being pursued. I take it from your response that you have not actually read the complaint or the relevant chapters in my book. Please could you confirm this.

Yours sincerely,  
Dr Andrew Wakefield

Answer, came there none. I wrote again on 18.1.11

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<sup>10</sup> Emphasis added

Dear Dr Godlee,  
Last week I made a simple request: that you confirm whether or not you have actually read the PCC complaint against Mr Deer and/or the relevant chapters in my book. Clearly my question was with reference to whether you had read these documents before publishing, not after. The question requires a simple yes or no answer and I would be grateful if you could respond by return.  
Yours sincerely,  
Dr Andrew Wakefield

Reply from Godlee 1.21.2011

Dear Dr Wakefield,

Thank you for your further emails. I can confirm that I have read your complaint to the Press Complaints Commission and that we took appropriate account of it in preparing our coverage in the BMJ. Indeed it was essential to the publication of our reports, for which we did not approach you for further specific comment, that your various detailed claims and counter-allegations were available in this form to the BMJ editors and reviewers and to our readers.

As for your book, I have not read it. My understanding, as I have said, is that the relevant chapters, particularly chapter 12 ("Deer"), cover the same ground as your PCC complaint.

If as you say, you now intend to pursue your complaint to the PCC of March 2009, which we understand to have been suspended almost a year ago, we will follow that development with interest.

Best wishes, Fiona Godlee

Reply: 1.21.2011

Dear Dr Godlee,

If, by your response you are seeking to reassure me that you read the relevant Press Complaints Commission documents in advance of publishing Mr Deer's articles and your accompanying editorials, you have failed to do so. Please, for the record, could you state explicitly and candidly whether you **had** read these articles in advance of publication.

Either way, your journal finds itself in some difficulty. I refer you to Professor Walker-Smith's evidence to the GMC on Wednesday 16th July 2008 where he describes the meticulous detail that was applied to resolving the correct histological diagnosis in each of the biopsy samples from seven of The Lancet children over 14 months prior to publication – a process that was completely independent of me but for which I am accused of "fraud".

Your reference to not asking me for "further specific comment" is not relevant to my previous question. It now becomes so in the light of the aforementioned facts. It goes without saying that you should put these facts before your lawyers at the earliest opportunity.

You will be hearing from me.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Andrew Wakefield

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Subject: Re: failure to respond  
From: FGodlee@bmj.com  
To: wakersaj@live.com  
Date: Fri, 21 Jan 2011 13:34:42 +0000

In the absence of an appropriate response from Dr. Godlee I can reasonably assume that she had not read either of the crucial pieces of evidence referred to in my original email.

In allowing itself to become the vehicle for Brian Deer's particular brand of journalism; in circumventing the process of due diligence in its enthusiasm to "kill the beast", the BMJ has taken a huge risk. As the document presented above shows, this was a mistake.

Medicine, presented with the possibility of an iatrogenic catastrophe, has boarded a dissonant bandwagon and has gone after those who have concerns— genuine concerns – that childhood vaccines may be responsible, at least in part, for the autism epidemic.

The relevant science has been grossly misrepresented, crushed beneath the wheels of a Public Relations 16-wheeler that is out of control. In the meantime a relentless tsunami of damaged children claims this land.

LEVEL 4. Walker-Smith's sworn testimony (attached)

#### **DEER MISREPRESENTED HIMSELF TO LANCET CASE SERIES FAMILY**

It has been revealed in a letter to THE SUNDAY TIMES that Brian Deer lied to a parent whose child was in THE LANCET case series in order to obtain information from her about her child and his health records. Mr. Deer "entered her home under a false name" and "claimed to be a health correspondent of THE SUNDAY TIMES." Mr. Deer was not on the staff of THE SUNDAY TIMES.