Merck Headquarters

Kenilworth, NJ 07033 U.S.A.

Dear Merck:

I have long been disappointed in your unethical manufacturing processes for MMR, Varivax, and Vaqta vaccines.

In the United States, as is evident in the difficulty to achieve high vaccination coverage, we are increasingly dealing with vaccine refusal. One major cause is increasing awareness of the the use of cell lines from aborted human fetuses in the development, testing, and production of some vaccines, particularly the rubella vaccine available in the US, varicella vaccine, and Hepatitis A vaccines. Japan has a Hepatitis A vaccine and a rubella vaccine that do not use aborted human cell lines in production. Please make a deal with those companies to import them. Yes, I know they would be in direct competition with your products, but now that you have competition from GSK for all these vaccines, adding in an alternative that does not tear at the conscience of many Americans might be financially rewarding, as well as the right thing to do.

Since you discontinued selling a measles and mumps vaccine that was not combined with rubella vaccine, there is no vaccine available in the US acceptable to those with ethical objections to the use of cells from intentionally killed humans in vaccine development, testing and/or production.. Please, as an interim measure, offer a measles-mumps combination *or as separate vaccines*. You know the risk if a significant number of people lack immunity against measles. As information on the origins of the cell cultures used in Covid vaccines has been publicized, people are also learning of the origins of other vaccines as well. The number of MMR refusers is rising, increasing the risk of a measles epidemic.

I do not know why you made the decision to discontinue separate measles and mumps vaccines- I am guessing that there may have been little demand before the public knew of the abortion of numerous babies to make the rubella vaccine you combine with measles and mumps. Demand will be higher now.

I also urge you to either change the manufacture of Vaqta to avoid human fetal cell lines or to contract with the Japanese manufacturers of Aimmune to import it.

Please in all your future research, use only cell cultures whose origin did not involve the killing of a human – whether preimplantation, embryo, fetus, or postnatal.

The desire for vaccines from ethical sources comes not only from patients and parents but also from pediatricians, family practices, and health departments, many of which would preferentially choose vaccines which were not connected with the use of cell lines from aborted humans, as this is a matter of conscience for us*.*

Sincerely,