GSK USA Philadelphia Navy Yard

5 Crescent Drive

Philadelphia PA 19112

GSK USA – Research Triangle Park

Five Moore Drive

Durham, NC 27709-3398

Dear GSK:

I was very disappointed to learn of your application for Priorix and related products in the US because I had been hoping that you would provide an ethical alternative to Merck’s MMR and Varivax.

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 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 for children, 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. Merck discontinued selling measles and mumps vaccine that was not combined with rubella vaccine. Please, also, until you can arrange to import the rubella vaccine from Japan, as an interim measure, offer a measles-mumps vaccine that would be acceptable to those with ethical objections to the use of cells from intentionally killed humans in vaccine development, testing and/or production.

I want to thank you for the development of Shingrix, an ethical alternative to Zostavax for the prevention of shingles. Are you working on testing a lower dose in children for the primary prevention of chickenpox? I know this will take extensive testing, which could be done in countries where chicken pox vaccine is not yet given.

I also urge you to either change the manufacture of Havrix 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,