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Vaccines & Vaccination

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Giulio Filippo Tarro

Foundation T. & L. de Beaumont Bonelli for Cancer Research, Italy

Human vaccines and vaccination for non infectious diseases

Misconceptions and misinformation pose barriers to vaccinations. For instance a report linking the measles vaccine to autism, the paper was later retracted but it was used by ill informed peers and anti-vaccine groups. Research is badly needed to develop strategies to communicate the importance of vaccinations to uncertain parents. The 2008 San Diego measles outbreaks cost over 10.000 dollars for each infection in comparisons to the total cost to contain the outbreak (approximately 124.000 dollars). Even if there are rare cases of vaccine damage, the research to facilitate vaccination must be done to prevent diseases. HBV virus, responsible for hepatitis B infection, is able to prevent 50% of all liver cancers. Human Papilloma Viruses (HPV) has been correlated with the cervical cancer (genotypes 16 and 18 particularly oncogenic in humans): The USA Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in 2006 released the first vaccine against HPV. Long years of research where required for busting the new system to fight cancer. Research is going to obtain the complete sequence by proteomics approaches, in order to achieve adequate antigen preparations that might be used to generate assays for a specific anticancer vaccine. Finally, the ability of the immune system to recognize a tumor associated antigen, thus enabling development of a vaccine approach for therapeutic application, represents a main target of this field of research.

Biography

Giulio Filippo Tarro was graduated from Medicine School of Naples University in 1962. He has worked as an Assistant to Medical Pathology at Naples University, Research Associate at Division of Virology and Cancer Research, Children's Hospital, Cincinnati, Ohio, Assistant Professor of Research Pediatrics, University of Cincinnati and Professor of Oncological Virology at University of Naples. He has also worked for National Research Council, Rome and for National Cancer Institute, Frederick Center, Maryland. Since 2007 he is a Chairman Committee on Biotechnologies and Virus Sphere World Academy Biomedical Technologies, UNESCO and Adjunct Professor Department Biology Temple University College of Science and Technology, Philadelphia. He is the recipient of the Sbarro Health Research Organization Lifetime Achievement Award in 2010.

giuliotarro@gmail.com

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