

BLOG: Ignorance is Bliss

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I know this may hit a nerve with some, but I would like to offer my opinion about natural medicines versus conventional medicines. There is a fact, it is not a conspiracy theory, but a fact, today's society is based on money; money provides the means for "scientific studies". Another fact, natural medicine can not be patented therefore opens the door for many companies providing the same medicine.

Big corporations need to patent medications in order to get control and make big money. Big corporations fund the "medical research" on new drugs. They are not going to fund studies on natural medicine, find a cure and allow the general public to then go out and buy it anywhere or pick it in their own backyard and make their own.

Secondly, all products manufactured come with a material safety data sheet (MSDS) this offers the minimum information required to be available to the public. A material safety data sheet is provided by the manufacturer selling a product, the "studies" performed on their products are done by companies paid to do so by the manufacturer. These studies are then submitted to government for registration.

Government registration of a product does not mean that any product is safe.

Government agencies simply review the "studies" provided by the manufacturer and base

the registration on the merit of those studies paid for by the manufacturer of the product. Government agencies do not have any in-house third party testing. Many times products are manufactured with a mixture of active ingredients and inert, both of which can be toxic and almost never are they tested for their synergistic effect, meaning that each individual ingredient may be tested but the final product; a combination of ingredients, may never have been tested.

Another major problem is rat studies, if there were one mammal on earth that could be the furthest in comparison to humans its rats. Rats do not have gall bladders and they have special detoxification genes that allow them to live in deplorable conditions; these genes are absent in humans.

Government registration of a product does not ensure safety of any product; rather products are put on the market as innocent until proven otherwise. Some government registration agencies depend on the fees from manufactures for their operation, even up to 30% of their budget can come from manufacturers which could make one believe that their opinion for product registration could be skewed in favor of revenue-generation activities.

Reports by analysts estimate that getting a new product approved by the FDA may cost in excess of 100 million dollars. Remember, the agencies depend on these fees for operation. These costly fees will show that only the large corporations with patented products are able to register products, this is a good way to discourage small companies

that can not patent natural products thus will not generate such high revenue as the large corporations.

Thirdly, some people use the source Quackwatch when trying to convince you that natural medicines do not work. Quackwatch is far from a legitimate source. Barrett and his "quackbusting" colleagues say they are working to protect the public against health frauds. They don't want the public to waste its money on "sham" treatments that don't work. In the paradox of "quackbusting," the quackbusters say they're protecting public health, but in fact, they're abandoning the public to their own suffering to protect the financial interests of conventional medicine, which has no interest in or ability to produce benefits for these conditions.

Barrett claims he's using science to protect the public from expensive fad diagnoses, but if this "quackbuster" has his way, the public will have no recourse but conventional medicine for their health problems.

Recently, Dr. Stephen Barrett of Quackwatch was exposed in court. At trial, under a heated cross-examination by Negrete, Barrett conceded that he was not a Medical Board Certified psychiatrist because he had failed the certification exam.

This was a major revelation since Barrett had provided supposed expert testimony as a psychiatrist and had testified in numerous court cases. Barrett also had said that he was a legal expert even though he had no formal legal training.

The most damning testimony before the jury, under the intense cross-examination by Negrete, was that Barrett had filed similar defamation lawsuits against almost 40 people across the country within the past few years and had not won one single one at trial.

During the course of his examination, Barrett also had to concede his ties to the AMA, Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and Food & Drug Administration (FDA).

[QUACK WATCH UNVEILED](#)

[Not an Expert," Declares Judge!](#)

So to conclude, if you are to dig a little deeper into those who are actually behind all the scientific studies on pharmaceuticals, pesticides and synthetic consumer products you will almost always find that these “studies” and people such as Mr. Barrett who would like for you to believe that natural medicine is “quackery” have their hands in the pockets of big corporations.

Even our Doctors and veterinarians may not always know it but the very bases of their teachings, what they are taught in medical school is not based on unbiased literature but rather, current medical literature journals are supported by educational grants from the pharmaceutical companies. And these product manufacturers play a large role in what is written for our doctors to learn in medical school. These companies are not interested in providing physicians with information on alternative medicine that will not generate revenue for their corporations. Just take a look at the right hand side of this medical literature site: [Literature funded by pharma](#)

Now on to Herbal, homeopathic and natural remedies such as colloidal silver.

First of all I would like to discuss colloidal silver. Colloidal silver is not a herb or a homeopathic medicine; it is a mineral therapy. This is one of the most misunderstood and maybe one of the most important medications. Why is it misunderstood? Because corporations know that the general public do not have the time to do the research so they use scare tactics by showing studies of toxic reactions to silver products such as silver nitrate and silver salts, none of which are colloidal silver, however for those who don't know the difference, this confusing inaccurate information can scare one away from using colloidal silver.

The information on silver toxicity is based almost exclusively on Silver Nitrate. There have been no known cases of silver toxicity in those using colloidal silver, even the FDA had to confirm this fact. If colloidal silver responded even partially like these compounds, there would be thousands of cases of silver poisoning, with more being diagnosed daily. The facts? Not one case of silver toxicity has been found due to isolated pure colloidal silver. It is quite clear that isolated colloidal silver is not a toxic substance in the body.

Some may be concerned about the effects of colloidal silver because of lack of "scientific" studies, however if you think about it, if it were causing adverse effects big corporations would have the government agencies pull it so quickly from the market your head would spin.

Just like ephedra. More people have died from acetylsalicylic acid than ephedra, however after there were reports of adverse effects ephedra was pulled from store shelves, however acetylsalicylic acid remains.

Homeopathy

Classical Homeopathy is a system of health care using natural remedies to help people with their problems; both physical and emotional. It gets to the root of your problems, and doesn't just cover them up.

Classical homeopathy strengthens your body's defense system, helping you to eliminate many health problems, and increasing your well being and happiness. The British Royal family have used classical homeopathy for generations.

One of the main problems with homeopathy is that it can, at first, be difficult to find the right remedy to fit the problem as well as many people administer it wrong. We have a mindset of administering medications for several doses, we are used to giving x number of pills every x number of hours for x number of days. Classical homeopathy does not work this way. One remedy, one dose for an entire problem that is how homeopathy works.

Once the body as a whole has been examined and both physical and mental symptoms are noted, it is then that the remedy that best matches symptoms is sought after. By best matching the symptoms that are caused in a healthy body by a substance closest to the

symptoms, it will be found that that substance has the best chance of producing a curative response in the patient; this is called the *Law of Similars*.

By choosing to give only one remedy at a time, it is sure that you know what results it will have. By combining several therapies or remedies at one time, not only are you not sure which one of the substances is causing a cure, but you are unable to determine if there is a drug interaction which helps cure or even worse, an effect as a result of the two working against the patient.

The benefit of homeopathy lies not in suppressing symptoms, but in actually treating the body as a whole to excrete the illness adversely affecting health.

Homeopathy is a therapeutic system which has been used for over 200 years. It works on the principle that 'like treats like'. An illness is treated with a medicine which could produce similar symptoms in a healthy person at a higher dose. The active ingredients are given in highly diluted form to avoid any toxicity. Homeopathic remedies are said to be virtually 100% safe.

[Homeopathy can be used in pregnancy and in infants, for example, without harm. A review of the safety of homeopathy, conducted by doctors associated with the Royal London Homoeopathic Hospital \(RLHH\) looked at papers published between 1970 and 1995 for reports of adverse effects of homeopathy. Adverse effects reported in clinical trials were temporary aggravations of symptoms or other mild and transient effects.](#)

Herbal

As for herbal remedies, there is just such a plethora of herbs available that it is important to research each individually. Almost every plant has some medicinal value; however not all are safe and many herbs interact with other forms of medication. That said; many herbs are much safer than their synthetic counterparts.

For example, chemists extracted the constituent salicin from white willow bark and converted it to salicylic acid. At the end of the nineteenth century, acetylsalicylic acid was synthetically produced and aspirin was born. Due to the cheap and easy production of aspirin, and the fact that a natural plant can not be patented, white willow eventually lost its popularity as a pain and fever reliever even though the natural salicylic acid present in white willow reportedly produces fewer side effects than the synthetically produced acetylsalicylic acid of aspirin.

And finally, many people are quick to grab that synthetic fix without diagnosis, many medicate animals regularly with no signs of illness and many use products in an off-label manor. The over-use of antibiotic and antibacterial medicines has only led to more illness and mutated or resistant strains of bacteria. Making a sterile environment and using pharmaceuticals for so-called prevention such as medicated animal feeds and annual wormers is weakening immune systems and killing important good intestinal

bacteria. Recent studies indicate that antibacterial products are not only ineffective, they may actually be harmful.

A 2005 U.S. FDA panel reported that there is "no added benefit" from using antimicrobial products as opposed to plain soap and water. Antimicrobials and antibacterials get into the environment and have the potential to increase the resistance of pathogens to clinical antibiotics.

It just amazes me that some people are so quick to worry about the effects of a natural medicine but will fill themselves and their pets with a barrage of synthetic products that by no means have been proven to be safe. All drugs have adverse effects, some very severe yet people go ahead and use them without question. It just all depends on how much you actually know about behind the scenes of product registration.

Perhaps it's just easier to not know because after all; Ignorance is Bliss.

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Since 1999, Judie has been aggressively researching a wide range of subjects, particularly those pertaining to human health and environmental issues. Judie has written for local, regional and national publications.