Vicki Best: Good afternoon everyone and welcome to today's diving deeper discussion on vaccine hesitancy!

Arnold Sikkema: Good morning from Vancouver!

Heather Prior: Hi from sunny Edmonton!

Heather Prior: Patrick is our CSCA President too!

Arnold Sikkema: "Proof Talks" - cool!

Ken Touryan: Thank you Rebecca for an excellent article covering most of the issues that are being raised related to vaccine hesitancy. It was very educational. One question I have that was not covered is concerning vaccinations for children. Since this is an 'experimental' vaccine, particularly the mRNA, could there be unexpected side effects into the future for the vaccinated children as they become adults. Is the risk worth it?

valerio: has there ever been any other vaccines produced so quickly and with no long-term study?

Terry Gray: Don’t forget that there are 10 years of research behind mRNA vaccines. It’s not just one year. And AZ and J&J are based on gene therapy techniques that have been around for over a decade. There’s been more testing than you think.

Joseph Lechner OH: Autism is vastly more common (estimated at 1 in 54 in the USA) than known vaccine side effects...

Dan: It’s a matter of risk identification, analysis and management. There's no risk-free environment short of the grave.

Vicki Kyarsgaard: if gene modification was that easy....well, we would be far ahead in treating congenital disease!

Terry Gray: It comes down to comparative risk. Is the risk of the treatment (vaccine or any drug) greater than the risk of the virus or the “treatable” medical condition?

Vicki Kyarsgaard: I point out to my students that Helen Keller was a normal, hearing and seeing child before she contracted the measles at age 3.

Terry Gray: The opening opinion piece in the most recent Science magazine discusses the difference between anti-vaxx ideas and vaccine hesitancy.

Bruce Schweitzer: Vaccine development was also jump started because several of the companies had done work on trying to develop a vaccine for SARS and MERS. So many of the basic issues in COVID vaccine development had been thought through.

Vicki Kyarsgaard: Yes, unfortunately, the hesitancy often stems from historic mistreatment by the health care and research community of specific groups of people.

Arnold Sikkema: From Rebecca's article: "Vaccination is considered one of the greatest life-saving medical achievements of all time."

Vicki Kyarsgaard: There are differences between vaccines that contain live material versus "dead" material....

Emily H: There are COVID vaccine options that do not include fetal cell lines.

John Wood: On the fear of mind control it reminds me of the 1950's when the first space flights took place. There were articles in Christian journals, with pastors claiming that space was the realm of Satan (with proof texts), and that humans had no business going into space. In fact, God would not allow us to do so! There have been throughout history worries about new ideas and inventions.

Dan: I remember similar gloom and doom conspiracy tales about the polio vaccine.

Vicki Kyarsgaard: Moral pressure is specifically egregious when it comes from politicians!

Arnold Sikkema: For more about the abortion-related issue see https://www.christiansandthevaccine.com/episodes/05 including especially the section "Imaging redemption"

Kristine Johnson North Star Chapter: I appreciated the discussion on fetal cell lines in this Language of God podcast: https://www.podbean.com/ew/pb-nzxn7-fdec17

Bruce Schweitzer: A number of universities are now requiring students to have COVID vaccine now.

Rick Baartman: But I wasn’t initially persuaded to wear a seatbelt. I was coerced. And now, 40 years later, I’m fine with it.

Vicki Kyarsgaard: How is the "persuasion" or coercion issue any different than all of the mandates that have come down on a "free" people this past year. Are we going to hold this for ALL public
health concerns?
01:34:51 Joseph Lechner   OH: How is proposed requirement for COVID vaccine any different than childhood immunizations that have long been required for enrollment in public schools?
01:35:02 Dan: how does requiring COVID vaccination differ from requiring measles, mumps... vaccination for kids to attend school?
01:35:50 Vicki Kyarsgaard: Most states have "out" clauses for parents who object. However, our nursing students must have all required vaccines.
01:36:22 cindyharvel: This site from Minnesota’s health organizations helps answer the fetal cell question in a “short, easy-to-understand” way: https://www.icsi.org/covid-19-vaccine-faq/are-the-mrna-vaccines-made-with-fetal-cells/
01:39:05 Vicki Kyarsgaard: I have no problem with parents refusing for their children, as long as they take on the risk personally for any other person who is injured by a transmission.
01:40:04 Emily H: @ Vicki Kyarsgaard, but if a child goes out into public at all, there is no way for the risk to only be on the parent.
01:40:13 John Wood: How does a lay person make a risk assessment when you may have a disease but not express symptoms? This goes to individualism - vs - communal participation and knowledge.
01:41:09 Dan: Risk assessment and management must include the probability of an adverse event, and the likely severity of that event.
01:43:53 Terry Gray: Sy, vaccines are given to “everyone” whereas a specific drug is for a specific group.
01:46:03 Terry Gray: My attitude about injecting foreign substances into our body changed when I reflected on all sorts of strange things we put into our bodies: Jack Daniels, tobacco products, marijuana, raspberry bush pokes, bee stings, kombucha
01:46:11 Joseph Lechner   OH: A person takes medicine because they ARE sick. He / she gets a vaccine lest he/ she MIGHT get sick. It's like "enter for a chance to win..."
01:47:31 Vicki Best: https://biologos.org/virtual-event-how-christians-can-help-end-the-pandemic
01:47:41 Arnold Sikkema: Here is Francis Collins / BioLogos event: https://biologos.org/virtual-event-how-christians-can-help-end-the-pandemic 7pm EDT Sunday 11th
01:48:41 Terry Gray: http://ow.ly/gVd50EjXhq
01:47:44 Dana Oleskiewicz: BioLogos presentation tomorrow at 7:00 p.m. https://biologos.org/virtual-event-how-christians-can-help-end-the-pandemic?mc_cid=191d210fdb&mc_eid=d7b2a9857b
01:47:56 Vicki Kyarsgaard: Viruses are viruses, and they are not going away!
01:48:25 David - Ruth Ellyn: Here is the link yo Biologos event: https://biologos.org/virtual-event-how-christians-can-help-end-the-pandemic
01:48:59 Clarence Classen: Politics is a factor as well. I might not trust politicians who tell me that I MUST get vaccinated.
01:50:03 Vicki Kyarsgaard: Messages that those who have been vaccinated must still follow all mandates, does not help the get vaccinated argument!
01:51:18 Vicki Best: https://network.asa3.org/page/DivingDeeper
01:52:37 Sy Garte: Medication are indeed given to sick individuals. Vaccines are given to sick populations to prevent disease onset. This is expecially important when a medication is not available (as for COVID).
01:52:42 Emily H: Elaine Ecklund is a great resource for Christian response to science in general
01:53:21 Emily H: She is a sociologist with several books about what scientist think about religion and what religious people think about science
01:53:22 Terry Gray: I wonder if vaccine hesitancy is a few loud voices. At our Christian Reformed Church there is no hesitancy as far as I can see. The numbers and demand for vaccines around the US as a whole seems pretty good from what I see.
01:53:47 Heather Prior: Of course there is a lot of diversity among Mennonites, including many who strongly support vaccination (me being one!)
01:56:40 David - Ruth Ellyn: Can Rebecca comment on treatment vs vaccination for COVID-19? I have no microphone on this computer.
01:59:18 Rick Baartman: Thanks, Rebecca, I feel your emotion. I have it too.
02:00:36 Terry Gray: The monoclonal antibody treatment is on emergency use approval.
02:01:19 Terry Gray: YES! It’s very flexible.
02:01:29   Joseph Lechner   OH: cost of a course of treatment with remdesavir?
02:03:37   Dana Oleskiewicz:   Thank you, Rebecca! This was a great conversation. I especially
appreciated your comment about showing empathy as we walk this earth.
02:03:51   cindyharvel:   Thank you!
02:03:59   Osowoayim:   bye
02:04:39   Del, Fozzie, Quack-Quack, Little Quack-Quack:   Excellent! I really appreciate Rebecca's
evenhanded presentation of the reasons & replies. Excellent, Rebecca!