

February 16, 2022

## VIA EMAIL

Susan Wojcicki  
Chief Operating Officer  
Legal Support, YouTube  
901 Cherry Ave.  
San Bruno, CA 94066  
legal@support.youtube.com

Dear Ms. Wojcicki and YouTube Legal Support,

We write regarding your unfortunate decision to delete the video by Dr. Peter Aaby discussing the increased mortality caused by the product known as DTP.<sup>1</sup> The discussion in this video is not only backed by peer reviewed science that remains uncontested in the literature, but it also is critical to an ongoing conversation about the use of DTP in nations across the globe.

The diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis vaccine (“DTP”), first developed in the 1940s, began being widely used in the low-income countries in the 1970s. The clear scientific evidence reflects that the use of DTP appears to reduce the risk of whooping cough but at the same time it is significantly associated with increases the risk of mortality in infants who receive this product in areas with high risk of infectious diseases and high child mortality.<sup>2</sup> The immunological mechanism for this effect is that DTP introduces “tolerance” in the immune system. So even though DTP appears to prevent cases of pertussis, tetanus and diphtheria, it simultaneously increases susceptibility to many other infections resulting in overall higher mortality.

Dr. Peter Aaby is renowned for studying and promoting vaccines in Africa and has authored over 700 published studies. Among other things, in 1978, he established, and continues to direct, the world renown Bandim Health Project, a Health and Demographic Surveillance System site in Guinea-Bissau. In 2000, he was awarded the Novo Nordisk Prize, the most important Danish award within health research. In 2009, the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs selected Dr. Aaby as one of the leaders in the fight against global poverty.

Dr. Aaby is a proponent of vaccines and has been relied upon by the World Health Organization to promote and study vaccines. In his seminal study regarding DTP vaccine and mortality, Dr. Aaby found that children receiving this product during the first six months of life died at least at a two times higher rate when compared to unvaccinated children, with some studies

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.scientificfreedom.dk/2021/11/17/youtubes-removal-of-a-lecture-on-the-effects-of-vaccines-on-mortality-horrible-censorship/>

showing an even higher rate. This confirmed what nearly a dozen other prior studies had shown: DTP increases mortality.

Specifically, the naturally randomized study of infants who received and did not receive DTP in the first six months of life found:

All currently available evidence suggests that DTP vaccine may kill more children from other causes than it saves from diphtheria, tetanus or pertussis.<sup>2</sup>

Surprisingly, this study found that children vaccinated with DTP were dying from causes never associated with this vaccine, such as respiratory infections, diarrhea, and malaria. This indicated that while DTP reduced the incidence of diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis, it increased susceptibility to death from other infections.

To date, this study and more than 12 other studies showing increased risk of mortality from DTP remain effectively uncontested by world health authorities.<sup>3</sup> This is not a matter of speculation. On December 5, 2017, the Informed Consent Action Network (“**ICAN**”) sent Dr. Aaby’s shocking study to the United Nations Children’s Fund (“**UNICEF**”) with a demand that it provide proof that DTP does not increase mortality **or** that it stop purchasing, distributing, and pushing this vaccine into babies in dozens of developing countries.

UNICEF responded to ICAN’s demand on February 6, 2018 and failed to directly address Dr. Aaby’s seminal study. That refusal continued despite ICAN’s follow-up demands over the next year. It also continues despite the fact that Dr. Peter C. Gøtzsche, a world-renowned physician and medical researcher drafted a report with the same concern that was also sent to UNICEF.<sup>4</sup> Nonetheless, UNICEF failed to provide any data or studies to rebut the findings of the 2017 study or the others thereafter that confirmed its findings.

In the face of UNICEF’s intransigence, on July 29, 2020, ICAN, through its attorneys, submitted a formal complaint<sup>5</sup> to the International Criminal Court (“**ICC**”) for crimes against humanity against the UNICEF officials involved in injecting and killing babies with the DTP

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<sup>2</sup> P. Aaby *et. al.*, *The Introduction of Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis and Oral Polio Vaccine Among Young Infants in an Urban African Community: A Natural Experiment*, 17 *EBIOMEDICINE* 192–198 (2017), available at <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5360569/>.

<sup>3</sup> J. Higgins *et. al.*, *Systematic Review of the Non-specific Effects of BCG, DTP and Measles Containing Vaccines*, Report to WHO (Mar. 13, 2014), available at [https://www.who.int/immunization/sage/meetings/2014/april/3\\_NSE\\_Epidemiology\\_review\\_Report\\_to\\_SAGE\\_14\\_Mar\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.who.int/immunization/sage/meetings/2014/april/3_NSE_Epidemiology_review_Report_to_SAGE_14_Mar_FINAL.pdf).

<sup>4</sup> <https://vaccinescience.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Expert-Report-Effect-of-DTP-Vaccines-on-Mortality-in-Children-in-Low-Income-Countries.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.icandecide.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Referral-to-the-ICC-Final-DTP.pdf>.

vaccine. ICAN has supplemented<sup>6</sup> its formal complaint by providing the ICC with the video testimony<sup>7</sup> of the parents of an infant who senselessly died from a DTP vaccine

The ICC has thus far declined to proceed with a prosecution for technical reasons and ICAN has contacted special rapporteurs within the United Nations Human Rights Council. ICAN lodged complaints with the special rapporteurs of (i) health,<sup>8</sup> (ii) torture,<sup>9</sup> (iii) poverty,<sup>10</sup> and (iv) indigenous peoples<sup>11</sup> regarding the continued use and supply of DTP by UNICEF to the world's poorest countries – a product that is known to increase fatality rates in children.

**Given all these efforts and public demands for UNICEF and the world scientific community to prove that Dr. Aaby and his team of vaccine safety scientists are wrong, one would assume that they would have produced at least one study since Dr. Aaby's seminal study showing that his team of scientists were incorrect. Instead, all studies since Dr. Aaby's 2018 study have all had the same finding: DTP increases overall mortality.**

Dr. Aaby, Dr. Gøtzsche, and the dozens of scientists involved in the 2017 and subsequent and related studies rightfully assert that all available evidence clearly reflects that DTP increases overall mortality in infants.

Instead of supporting the clear weight of the science, YouTube has also chosen to be complicit in the unconscionable conduct of continuing to cause the needless death of infants in the poorest countries in the world. YouTube has prized itself to be the platform that facilitates freedom of expression and information. Providing basic information about key aspects of medical science lies at the very heart of freedom of expression and information, and that is exactly what was occurring in the Dr. Aaby's video censored by YouTube. Therefore, we write to request that YouTube restore Dr. Aaby's video so that healthy conversation surrounding medical science can continue.

Very truly yours,



Aaron Siri, Esq.  
Elizabeth A. Brehm, Esq.

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.icandecide.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Cover-Letter-Oral-Testimony-Re-Latifa-ICC-Petition-DTP.pdf>.

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pm3A6Bq5JWU>.

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.icandecide.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/SR-Health.pdf>.

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.icandecide.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/SR-Torture.pdf>.

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.icandecide.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/SR-Poverty.pdf>.

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.icandecide.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/SR-Indigenous-people.pdf>.