

May 5, 2015

To: Vermont House Representatives
From: Nicole Matten, Barton, Vermont (802) 673-2947



Dear Lawmakers,

I am writing to you today in opposition to the proposal to remove the philosophical vaccine exemption. I know that you are being told by the AAP that you need to worry about the possibility of a measles outbreak that might harm an immune compromised child. What you are not being told is that vaccines carry very real risks to real people, and where there is a risk, there must be a choice.

My healthy, happy daughter Kaylynne (pictured above) was 7 years old when she got a dose of injected influenza vaccine at Newport Pediatrics during a “well check up” on Dec. 2, 2011. She was never the same. I was not told that vaccines can cause injuries or death, I was only told the shot would keep her healthy—but that was not the case.

Kaylynne got her shot on a Friday. On Saturday, she developed a headache and fever. By Sunday it spiked to 102.3 and she started vomiting and became disoriented. “She said, “Mommy, I don’t know where I am.” It broke my heart. I called the pediatrician but the doctor wasn’t overly concerned and told us to use Tylenol and Motrin. Tuesday morning she got up and her hands and legs were purple; so we called the doctor’s office and they said bring her right up. So we did, but on the 15-minute ride to the doctor’s office, Kaylynne stopped breathing in my arms.

Kaylynne’s death certificate says that her cause of death is “stated and described in other contributing conditions”. Other contributing conditions list that she died of, “Myocarditis of unknown etiology days following seasonal influenza vaccination with concurrent Parainfluenza Type I infection” (see attached). Myocarditis is a documented adverse reaction that can be caused by vaccines.

Even before the coroner was done with his report, the Health Commissioner said to the news media that Kaylynne’s death was not from the flu vaccine, since that kind of thing basically just doesn’t happen. Everyone denied any connection to the flu vaccine that killed my little girl - and then the AAP and the Health Department tried to revoke the philosophical vaccine exemption just a few weeks later (in 2012). I opposed it then, and oppose it now.

My daughter was not the only Vermonter who has died after vaccination. The Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System lists five other deaths since 2005 in addition to the death of my daughter.

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| ID# | Vaccine | Lot # | Age | Sex | Date of vaccine | Date of death |
|--------|------------|------------|-------|-----|-----------------|---------------|
| 246632 | Fluzone | U1823AA | 13 yr | F | 10/29/05 | 10/30/05 |
| 419564 | DTAP-IPV | AC20B172AA | 5 yr | M | 2/7/11 | 2/8/11 |
| 444950 | Fluzone | UH476AD* | 7 yr | F | 12/2/11 | 12/6/11 |
| 445440 | TwinRix | AHABB208AA | 52 yr | M | 11/17/11 | 12/16/11 |
| 550386 | Fluvirin | 1412201 | 73 yr | M | 9/22/14 | 9/26/14 |
| 557396 | Flucellvax | 014011A | 77 yr | F | 10/10/14 | 10/11/14 |

The AAP likes to say that VAERS is unreliable because anyone can file a report. But if the doctors deny the reactions are even happening, then who else will put the reports into the system?

According to the CDC, "...VAERS is a key component in ensuring the safety of vaccines. VAERS data are used by CDC, FDA, and other organizations to monitor and study vaccine safety. CDC and FDA use VAERS data to respond to public inquiries regarding vaccine safety, and both organizations have published and presented vaccine safety studies based on VAERS data. VAERS data are also used by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices and the Vaccine and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee to evaluate possible adverse events after vaccinations and to develop recommendations for precautions and contraindications to vaccinations..." <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss5201a1.htm>

*That lot of vaccine that Kaylynne got produced 17 other reports in the VAERS system from other people who got sick after their vaccines.
<http://www.medalerts.org/vaersdb/findfield.php?EVENTS=ON&PAGENO=2&VAXLOT=UH476AD>

To make things worse, my daughter was given her flu shot in a season that even the CDC says was, "*a new record for the lowest and shortest peak of influenza-like illness... patient visits for Influenza Like Illness was elevated for only one week of the season...*" it was the lowest 'peak' ever recorded." <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/pastseasons/1112season.htm>

Pediatricians are denying that these things happen and if you ask me, doctors need to be better educated on adverse reactions of vaccines. They should also have to accept liability if the shot they give causes harm like it did for Kaylynne. They would give better information if they had to be responsible for their recommendations.

I am not saying that people should not vaccinate. I am saying that parents need to be properly informed about all the risks. And, parents need to have choice. The vaccine program needs to stay voluntary, because where there is a risk there must be a choice.

Please, preserve the philosophical exemption. The flu vaccine is not currently on the Vermont required list but it has become required in other states and so could become required here. Any and all vaccines should be subject to informed consent and full disclosure and exemptions (the right to say no) should always be available, since there is a risk.

Thank you.

CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD

STATE OF VERMONT

VERMONT CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

Kaylynne Mae Patricia Matten

Aliases: None

Date of Death: December 06, 2011 Time of Death: 10:35 AM Age: 7 Years

1442011205000
State File Number

Date of Birth: September 09, 2004 Birthplace: Newport City, VT Sex: Female

Mother's/Parent's Birth Name: Nicole Craig

Father's/Parent's Birth Name: Justin Matten

Marital Status: Never married or in Civil Union Spouse/Civil Union Partner:

Residence: 31 Evergreen Lane, Barton, VT

Hispanic Origin: No

Race: White

Occupation: Student

Business/Industry: Graded School

Education: 8th grade or less

Ever in U.S. Armed Forces: No

Veteran of Any War: No

Hospice Care (in past 30 days): No

Place of Death: Hospital: Emergency room/Outpatient; North Country Hospital and Health Center, Newport City, VT

Informant: Justin and Nicole Matten; 31 Evergreen Lane, Barton, VT 05822

Relationship: Parent

Disposition Date: December 13, 2011

Place of Temporary Storage:

Method: Burial

Place of Final Disposition: Newport Center Cemetery, Newport Center, VT

Funeral Director/Authorized Person: Roland N. Britch, Jr.

Address: Curtis-Britch-Converse-Rushford Funeral Home, 37 Lake Road, Newport, VT 05855

Cause of Death and Interval (Onset to Death):

Manner of Death: Could not be determined

A. Cause of death is stated and described in Other Contributing Conditions (days)

Other Contributing Conditions: Myocarditis of unknown etiology days following seasonal influenza vaccination with concurrent Parainfluenza type I infection.

Did Tobacco Use Contribute to Death: No

Pregnant at Time of Death: Not applicable

Date Pronounced Dead: December 06, 2011

Time Pronounced Dead: 10:35 AM

Medical Examiner Contacted: Yes

Autopsy Performed: Yes

Injury Date/Time:

Injury at Work:

Transportation Injury:

Injury Place:

Injury Location:

How Injury Occurred:

Medical Certifier: Steven L. Shapiro, MD; Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, 111 Colchester Avenue, Baird 1, Burlington, VT 05401

Title of Certifier: Medical Examiner Date Certified: December 07, 2011 Other Attending Physician:

Registration *Dawn Anderson* Dawn Anderson, State Registrar

Date Registered: December 09, 2011

Correction and Amendment History The following item(s) corrected/amended pursuant to 18 VSA 5202a, Attest: *Dawn Anderson*

| Date | Item | From |
|------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 01/20/2012 | Cause of Death and Interval | A. pending (pending) |
| 01/20/2012 | Manner of Death | Pending Investigation |
| 01/20/2012 | Other Contributing Conditions | |

Upon Application By/Per Order Of
Steven L. Shapiro, MD
Steven L. Shapiro, MD
Steven L. Shapiro, MD

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PLACE ISSUED

Barton

ATTEST:

Grace Mason

DATE ISSUED:

January 25, 2012

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