

Vaccination as Negative and Suspicious Positive Risk of Subacute Sclerosing Panencephalitis (SSPE)

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Abstract

This review and meta-analysis ascertained the negative risk of SSPE by vaccination and confirmed the method to further clarify the risk of SSPE. Purpose of present review was to recognize what questions about vaccination been answered as risk of SSPE and what study needed for further clarification. Patients with histories of having had vaccination and not having had measles illness were collected from the literature. Such patient had existed in a total number of 94 in SSPE. Such histories provided by two principal reports were found un-distinguished by odds ratio. The negative risk of SSPE retained by such histories was ascertained with 2 x 2 contingency tables utilizing the reported figure. Phenomena such as the much less ratio of SSPE yearly occurrence per million distributed vaccines than per million estimated measles illnesses; the declined incidence of SSPE from earlier to later years; the increase in proportion of such SSPE patient from 1980 to 1989; the shorter latencies of SSPE from vaccination than from measles; and the increased latencies from earlier to later years; were found reported. Explanation of these phenomena of vaccination remained ambiguous by either subclinical measles or vaccination or both leaving room for suspect of positive risk by vaccination. Conclusion: Negative risk of SSPE was ascertained by the reported histories of having had vaccination and not having had measles illness in case-control studies. Suspicious positive risk of SSPE by such histories was found retained in cases. Case-control study by a multi-varietal analysis with specified variable e.g, by date or by age or else is needed for future clarifying the specified risk of SSPE.

Abbreviations

SSPE: Subacute Sclerosing Panencephalitis; M: Measles; V: Vaccination; NoM: No Measles; NoV: No Vaccination; PNG: Papua New Guinea; EHP: Eastern Highlands Province; GBH: Goroka Base Hospital

Terminology

Positive risk signifies risk with odds ratio values above one. Negative risk signifies risk with odds ratio values below one.

Prologue

SSPE is a progressive neurodegenerative disease caused by the persistence of measles infection which commonly seen in children and young adults [1]. The present reviewers had understood that the precise mechanism of its pathogenesis had not been established yet, but accumulated evidence had suggested that in SSPE measles virus particles had been incompletely eliminated

by the immune system and persisted in infected cells in the brain, spreading from cell to cell and eventually culminating in the development of the disease. Those SSPE viruses had been characterized by a defective expression of M protein arising from a highly mutated genome, resultantly interfering with the assembly of new viral particles and their budding. Children with, or exposed to human immunodeficiency virus infection, who contract measles, may be at increased risk of SSPE [2]. The pathogenesis for SSPE had remained poorly understood [3]. Many questions concerning the lack of efficient immune control in the CNS had been still open [4]. Increased capacity of Me V to enter cells [5] and spread [5–7] in the brain had been recently discussed by the mutations of wild-type measles virus proteins [5–7]. After reporting a high incidence and an elevated ratio of late measles in SSPE in Karachi, Pakistan [8,9], the present reviewer Takasu T faced the reported higher incidences and the elevated ratio of early measles of SSPE in PNG [10–12].

In PNG on the spot in 1997 and 1998 we Takasu T and collaborator Miki K procured the discharge diagnosis record between 1984 and 1998 of measles and SSPE at pediatric ward of GBH, EHP, PNG, and later the PNG governmental data of measles vaccination number and coverage from 1990 to 1998; these records and data were got together, readjusted and summarized in (Table 1). Helped with predecessors' writings [10–12] and other [13–21] as well as the relevant book chapter (See #in Table 3 Foot note) and also referring to the 3 PNG governmental records ([α], [β] and [γ] in Table 1 Head note) and the 4 WHO's referred documentations [22–25], we recognized the chronological arriving of measles [15] and SSPE [10–12,18,19,21] to GBH, the introduction of immunization to EHP in 1982 [10,13–16,21–25] and the modification of the policy in 1988 [13,22–24]. Briefly over viewing the table, a large measles epidemic in PNG in 1986 appeared in GBH pediatric ward, where repeated epidemics seen with short time lags. The year 1992 saw the largest admission of measles to the ward. In Goroka at least it was very clear that a predominant feature of the epidemic was the large proportion of measles cases and death occurring in less than 1 year of age [14,15]. Vaccination coverage to infants below 1 year of age showed a drastic decline from 1991 to 1994 in EHP, then recovered and fluctuated until 1998. The number of SSPE cases at GBH was observed had exhibited a remarkable increase in discharge record in 1989, even during the course of the year [11]. Aiming at investigation, a case-control study work was started with gathering control, its result going to be submitted for publication. A virological study was reported in 2002 [17]. Descriptive clinical and epidemiological data of SSPE patient were reported in 2003 [18,19]. In between, the "probable measles vaccine-associated SSPE" so termed by Okuno et al. [26] as well as the SSPE in which both measles and measles vaccination were positive as histories [27,28] attracted our attention and became targeted in the present review.

Purpose of Review

Ultimate purpose of the reviewer Takasu T's study is to understand why so high or low incidence of SSPE was observed in some areas or else and what difference in risk was between those areas. Risk encompasses virus, vaccine, host, and environment of host, society and evolution of these. In other words, the ultimate purpose of reviewer is to understand the entire picture of SSPE epidemiologically and in other ways. Purpose of present review was to recognize in what extent questions about vaccination as risk of SSPE had been answered and what study needed for their further clarification.

Material and Method

Reported figures on history of having had vaccination and not having had measles illness in case and control were collected from the literature and analyzed using 2 x 2 contingency table for obtaining Fisher's exact probability, relative risk and odds ratio. For statistical significance and odds ratio js-STAR_XR +2 x 2 KINSET was utilized.

Background of Programmed Immunization In USA, In Japan and in PNG

In North America, measles infection has existed after Europeans introduced it [29]. The first reported outbreaks occurred in 1765 [29]. 1912: Routine reporting of measles cases begins [29]. Measles became a nationally notifiable disease in the US in 1912 [30]. In the 1950s, nearly all children got measles by the time they were fifteen years of age [30]. In 1963, live attenuated [30,31] and inactivated measles vaccines both were licensed [31]. However, the inactivated vaccine was withdrawn because of the atypical measles [31]. In 1968, further attenuated live vaccine (Moratan or Schwarz or Edmonston-Enders strain) began to be distributed [30]. In 1989, a two dose schedule of the MMR vaccine for all children was introduced to the US [32].

In Japan, measles infection had existed for more than one thousand years back for, since 892 AD, measles had been recorded [33]. At least 38 times of outbreaks with intervals between 10 years and 30 years had continued to occur by the end of the Edo Era [33]. Since 1966, both killed and live vaccines had been licensed and generally used [31]. However, the killed vaccine was withdrawn, then the live vaccine replaced by further attenuated live vaccine (Schwarz or Biken-CAM or AIK-C strain) [34]. Since 1978, compulsory regular vaccination had been carried out [31]. In 2006, a two doses schedule of measles vaccination at 1 year and 6 years of age was adopted [33].

The background of immunization against measles in PNG was viewed in (Table 1).

Table 1: Bird’s-Eye View of Measles, Immunization and SSPE in EHP, PNG, During the Last Century

Head note: Figures in this table basically came from the following documentations: the Goroka Base Hospital (GBH) discharge record and the 3 PNG governmental official documentations, namely [α] Promotive and Preventive Health Services: Routine immunization results 1990–1998, [β] Policy Planning and Evaluation Department: Handbook Health Statistics PNG 1990, and [γ] National Plan 1996–2000. Additional information was provided by the 5 study articles mentioned in the Footnote.

Year AD	Measles illness		Immunization policy	Vaccination results						SSPE		
	Admission number for the year	Death number		<8m [α]	<11m [α]	<1y [β]	>= 1y[α]	6m [α]	9m [α]		<1y [γ]	
Before 1984	/Measles, introduced in the 19 th Century to PNG from Europe [i]/Measles, not an important problem in PNG (1974) [i]/A gradual increase between 1974 and 1984 [i].		/Introduced into PNG’s immunization program in 1982 [i], at 9 months, at standard dose [i].					(National coverage for 1984, 26% [i].)				
	/GBH pediatric ward		/Policy in EHP	/Number in whole EHP				/Coverage rate (%) in whole EHP			/GBH pediatric ward	
	Admission number for the year	Death number		<8m [α]	<11m [α]	<1y [β]	>= 1y[α]	6m [α]	9m [α]	<1y [γ]	Diagnosed number	
1984	62										2 for-3-mths.	
1985	140 for-11-months		/“Every opportunity vaccination policy ⁵ ” from 6 months, in 1988[ii]. To at 6m routine in 1989[iii].								4 for-11-mths.	
1986	Nr. ¹ ; Big figure ³										Nr.	
1987	15 for-5-mths; Big fig. ³											0 for-5-mths.
1988	217											2 for-7-ms; 3 ⁷
1989	72 for-5-months ⁴ ;282 ⁴	48 ⁴										12; 19 ⁷
1990	35			0	Nf.. ²	5829 ⁶	2645	0	Nf.	57 [#]	8 for-7-ms;47 ⁷	
1991	42			0	Nf.	Nf.	1713	0	Nf.	55 [#]	27; 18 ⁸	
1992	546			0	Nf.	Nf.	5394	0	Nf.	Nf.	23	
1993	184			0	1607	Nf.	6470	0	16	19 [#]	21	
1994	72			0	711	Nf.	6354	0	7	g [#]	17	
1995	5 for-1-month		/Two doses of vaccine at 6 months and later, in 1996 [α]	0	3661	Nf.	11778	0	37		25	
1996	Nr.			7791	7460	Nf.	9265	74	71		19	
1997	19 for-2-months			4157	3113	Nf.	2741	39	29		24; 23 ⁸	
1998				5876	5904	Nf.	6317	53	54		4; 22 ⁸	
1999												29 from 1999 to 2000 ⁹

Footnote: ¹Nr. not recorded in discharge book. ²Nf. not filled in by government for unidentified reasons. ³Admission numbers were not recorded for 1986 and small number 15 for-5-months recorded for 1987. However, they must have been big figures since Coakley KJ et al. [ii] wrote that “a large epidemic in 1986 measles admissions and deaths on the ward had remained at a high level”. They also wrote that “Measles was underreported because it was frequently omitted from the discharge diagnosis, the emphasis being placed on the complications”; this description helps us understand the gap between the recorded figure in discharge record and the reported figure by investigator Coakley et al. [ii] ⁴The recorded figure at GBH for 1989 was 72 but the reported figure by Coakley KJ et al. [ii] was 282. They wrote that “From January 1, 1989 to December 31, 1989 inclusive, 282 admissions with a diagnosis of measles. Of these admissions 48 died in hospital”. ⁵Coakley et al. [ii] described about the introduction of immunization in 1982 and its modification in 1988 saying “During epidemics or when admitted to hospital all unvaccinated children between 6 months and 3 years should be vaccinated even if sick”. ⁶The number was not filled in [γ] but given in [β] as in 1990 the number for children below 1 year was 5829 and that for children at 1 year or over was 2937. ⁷The number was given by Lucas KM et al. [iii]. ⁸The number was given by Takasu T et al. [iv]. ⁹The number was given by Mgone CS et al. [v] and Takasu T et al. [vi].

The 5 medical articles that provided additional information to Table 1 were; [i] Sanders RC et al. in 1992 (PNG Med J 35:165), [ii] Coakley KJ et al. in 1991 (PNG Med J 34:6), [iii] Lucas KM et al. in 1992 (Epidemiol Infect 108:547), [iv] Mgone CS et al. in 2003 (Trop Med Intern Health 8:219), and [v] Takasu T et al. in 2003 (Epidemiol Infect 131:887).

SSPE in USA, in Japan, and in PNG

In 1969, the US national SSPE registry began reporting to gather a total of 375 cases that occurred from 1960 to 1974 [27].

In 1976, the Japan national SSPE registry began reporting to collect a total of 275 cases that occurred from 1966 to 1991 [26] [2 or Y in Table 1 Head note].

SSPE diagnosed number at GBH saw a rise during the course of 1989 [11] which continued until at least 1999 [19]. Thus we saw an apparent increase of SSPE forerun by measles epidemics and immunization.

Manning et al. [21] reported in 2011, a series of 22 SSPE cases presenting between November 2007 and July 2009 in Madang Province, PNG, in which the distribution of year of birth of the 22 children with SSPE closely matched the reported annual measles incidence in PNG, including a peak in 2002; writing "Despite relatively stable vaccination coverage between 50% and 65% from 1997 to 2008, there was a substantial increase in the numbers of reported acute measles cases in 2002 with a smaller prior peak in 1999 and 2000".

Fact about Vaccine

Injection: Measles vaccines are usually injected subcutaneously, but are also effective when injected intramuscularly [25].

Chance of Vaccination: Vaccination had aimed at a time interval of host between after maternal antibody had vanished and before host was exposed to wild-type virus. Vaccination of infants before or at the age of 6 months often fails to induce sero-conversion due to immaturity of the immune system as well as the presence of neutralizing antibodies from mother [25]. Primary vaccination failure occurs in up to 10% to 15% of infants vaccinated at age 9 months [25].

Titer and Dose: Standard or medium or high titer vaccine had been so far attempted. In one study standard titre was defined as 3–4 log₁₀ PFU (Plaque-forming unit), medium titre as 4–5 log₁₀ PFU and high titre as ≥ 5 log₁₀ PFU [35]. High titre had been defined as > 5.0 log₁₀ PFU or higher in 1989, but changed in 1990 to > 4.7 log₁₀ or higher per human dose [24,35]. The standard volume of measles-containing vaccine first dose (MCV1) is 0.5 ml [25].

Measles immunization before the Age of 9 Months: A number of investigators are completing large studies comparing different strains and potencies of measles vaccines administered to infants prior to the age of 9 months [22]. Preliminary data from these studies were reviewed and discussed by the WHO Research and Development Group and by the WHO Global Advisory Group [22]. They suggest one or more vaccines will be identified which will be suitable of routine use before the age of 9 months in infants at high risk of exposure to measles [22].

Decreased Survival of Increased Titer Vaccine Recipient: In the 1980s, live attenuated measles vaccines of increased titer ($>$

10^5 TCID₅₀; namely higher than the virus titer required to infect 50% of host cells in culture) (Wikipedia telling that, as a working estimate, one can assume material with a TCID₅₀ of 1×10^5 TCID₅₀/ml will produce 0.7×10^5 PFUs/ml.) were tested as an approach to overcome the inhibitory effect of maternal antibodies on the infant's immune response, but it was discontinued after reports of excess mortality in girls who had received these high titer vaccines as compared with girls immunized with standard titer vaccines [25]. Its use was recommended by WHO in 1990 as sufficient data are now available to recommend that "High titre" Edmonston-Zagrev (EZ) measles vaccine be administered at 6 months of age or as soon as possible thereafter in countries where measles before the age of 9 months is a significant cause of death [23]. But it was discontinued after reports of excess mortality in girls who had received these high titre vaccines as compared with girls immunized with standard titer vaccines [25] as it was said that high titre (equal to or greater than $4.7 \log_{10}$ infectious units per human dose) measles vaccine derived from the original Edmonston measles vaccine isolate should no longer be recommended for use in immunization programmes [24].

Immune Response to Vaccine: Measles vaccine induces both humoral and cellular immune responses similar to those induced by wild type measles virus, although antibody concentrations are usually lower [25].

Host Cell Receptor for Vaccine: The vaccine-strain measles virus enters all nucleated cell via CD46 including neural [36]. Vaccine or laboratory strains have been adapted to grow in common cell lines such as Vero or Hela cells, and were found to use CD46 as a receptor [37]. CD46 was found on the surface of all human cells with the exception of erythrocytes [37]. CD46 protein expressed in, as tissue, cerebral cortex at low score but not in cerebellum or hippocampus or caudate [36]. Mutations in the H protein of measles virus, which occur during adaptation and allow the virus to use CD46 as a receptor, have been identified [37] in contrast to the wild-type virus isolates which cannot use the CD46 receptor [37]. CD46 expressed at relatively low levels by neurons and astrocytes in normal brains [38].

SSPE and CD46: Within brain lesions of SSPE cases, CD46 was either not detected or expressed to a lesser degree by neural cells in contrast, normal levels of CD46 found in SSPE brain tissue distant from the lesion [38]. Using in situ hybridization, mRNAs of both MV (measles virus) nucleocapsid and MV Hemagglutinin (MV-H) were detected in all SSPE lesions, while no or only small amounts of MV-H protein were detected [38]. These findings suggest that the CD46 expression is reduced by the MV infection in lesion of SSPE brain [38].

CD46 RNA: CD46 RNA expressed in, as tissue, cerebral cortex, cerebellum choroid plexus, basal ganglia, thalamus, hypothalamus, midbrain, pons, medulla oblongata, hippocampal formation, spinal cord, white matter, amygdale, and retina in the levels around 30 nTPM (normalized expression of transcripts per kilobase

million) [36]. CD46 RNA expressed in, as single cell, neuronal cells (excitatory neuron, inhibitory neuron, cone photoreceptor cells, rod photoreceptor cells, bipolar cells, horizontal cells) at around 50 nTPM levels and glial cells (astrocytes, oligodendrocyte precursor cells, oligodendrocytes, microglial cells, Mueller glial cells) at levels from 20 nTPM to 150 nTPM [36]. Wild-type isolates of measles virus cannot use the CD46 receptor [37].

In Vivo Replication of Vaccine: (The in vivo target cells for vaccine-strain measles virus are not well characterized, but) replication is restricted compared with wild-type virus despite enhanced ability to use widely distributed CD46, as well as SLAM (i.e., CD150), as a receptor [39]. Limited in vivo studies suggest that vaccine-strain and wild-type viruses replicate equally well in the respiratory tract, but that vaccine virus replicates less well in lymphoid tissue resulting in lower levels of virus in circulating PBMCs (viremia), potentially accounting both for less serious disease and less vigorous immune response to infection and in lymphatic cell less vigorously than wild-type virus [39].

Genotype of measles vaccine: Genetic studies had supported that SSPE not to be caused by the vaccine strain [1,17,31,40,41]. All 9 cases of SSPE with history of vaccination gave Genotype D3 in 7 and Genotype D6 in 1 and Genotype E in 1 [40]. Eight clades (A–H) and 23 Genotypes are recognized, based on the sequences of the carboxyl region of the N gene, or the full sequence of the H gene [41]. All measles vaccine strains are Genotype A [41]. There have been no cases of SSPE in whom measles vaccine virus has been isolated [41].

Absence of the tri-residue motif in vaccine: The capacity of wild-type measles virus strain to cause SSPE results from their increased capacity to spread and this is partially due to a tri-residue motif, P64, E84 and A209 (PEA) in their M proteins [6] or P63, E84 and T209 (PET) [6], which is absent in vaccine and laboratory-adapted strains [1,6]. The equivalent residues for vaccine strains are either S64, K89 and T209 (SKT) as in Moratan or PKT [1,6].

Existence of Patient with History of Vaccination

Clinico-epidemiological [19,26–28,42,43] or clinico-epidemiopathological [40] studies revealed the existence of SSPE patient with histories of vaccination with or without histories of measles illness (Table 2 and Table 3).

Comprehensibly being viewed, combination of the reported histories of measles illness and measles vaccination gave four categories, i (NoM&NoV), ii (M&NoV), iii (NoM&V) and iv (M&V) in both US [27] and Japan [26] studies (Table 2). Specifically viewing, the proportions of first 3 categories in the US and the Japan studies (actually 4.3% vs. 4.4%; 68.1% vs. 90.2%; and 13.2% vs. 5.4%, respectively) were much similar to each other while those of Category-iv (14.5% vs. 0%) having been decisively different between the two. The sole feasible interpretation of it must be, as the Japanese authors in 1989 mentioned in discussion [26], that all Japanese mothers had been expected to keep a maternity

record of health conditions and immunizations for their children and mothers themselves [26], so that all children having history of measles illness must not had received measles vaccine any more, thereby any history having fallen not to Category-iv but to Category-ii. The maternity record system had existed since 1947 [44,45] in Japan and since 1966 the record has been named Maternal and Child Health Handbook [44,45]. In other view, those patients who had been vaccinated could be grouped to two namely Category-iii and Category-iv in the US study subjects while those patients grouped to only one namely Category-iii in Japan study. The separate US study [40] during 1996–2002 gave a pattern of proportion which differed much from that during 1960–1974 by the US registry [27] reflecting the elevated vaccination coverage in later years.

If we focus on the SSPE patients in these studies, as it appeared in (Table 3), the existence of patient of SSPE who had history of vaccination not having history of measles, namely Category-iii history (NoM&V), was evident amounting to 94 in number avoiding overlapping, that was recorded in four reports (Table 3) [28] (#in Table 3 Footnote) [19,40]. These 94 patients had the history of vaccination un-associated with history of measles illness (NoM&V) must have retained potentially positive risk of SSPE. As well, existence of patient of SSPE with history of vaccination having history of measles, namely having Category-iv history (M&V), 121 in number avoiding overlapping, was recorded in three reports (Table 3) [19,28,42]. The 121 patients had vaccination associated with measles illness (M&V) must have retained potentially positive risk of SSPE. In either iii or iv history, so far as potentially risk remains, suspicion remains. Why these patients existed? If the risk be zero, these patients do not exist. Halsey et al. [43], had left a remark that their study could not confirm or rule out the possibility that live measles vaccine might lead to SSPE on rare occasions.

Negative Odds Ratio by History of Vaccination Un-associated with History of Measles Illness

The two reported case-control studies from US [43] and from Japan [26] examined by McNemar (matched pair) test or by χ^2 test, respectively, had given a proven evidence for more frequent occurrence of 'naïve' namely un-specified measles vaccination (Table 4) that in the 17 out of the 52 cases than from the 63 out of the 96 hospital or playmate controls ($p < 0.05$ from hospital control and 0.01 from playmate control) or in the 11 out of the 204 cases than from the 44 out of the 150 controls ($p < 0.01$ from healthy controls), respectively; whereby, however, no odds ratio was given in either study.

The present reviewer Takasu T won success in giving 'naïve' vaccination (V) as well as un-associated vaccination with measles illness (NoM&V) a proven risk of SSPE together with the values of odds ratio which was obtained by 2 x 2 contingency tables, utilizing the figures given in the two previous reports (Table 4).

Table 2: Reported Combined Histories of Measles Illness and Measles Vaccination in SSPE and in Non-SSPE.

Taken history			The referred US study [27]		The referred Japanese study [26]		The referred separate US study [40]		The referred Japanese study [26]	
History of measles illness	History of measles vaccination	Category of history	SSPE patient 1960–1974		SSPE patient 1966–1985		SSPE patient around 1996~2002 ¹		Non-SSPE healthy sibling	
				-100%	(N = 204)	(100%)	(N = 12)	-100%	(N = 150)	-100%
-	-	i. NoM&NoV	13	-4.30%	9	-4.40%	0	0%	0	0%
+	-	ii. M&NoV	207	-68.10%	184	-90.20%	2	-6.70%	106	-70.70%
-	+	iii. NoM&V	40	-13.20%	11	-5.40%	4	-3.30%	44	-29.30%
+	+	iv. M&V	44	-14.50%	0	0%	6	-0.00%	0	0%
+	+	M→V ²	38	-12.50%	0	0%	4	-3.30%	0	0%
+	+	V→M ³	0	0%	0	0%	1	-8.30%	0	0%

Footnote: ¹Part of patient developed SSPE during 1996–2002 and the rest presumably around 1996–2002. ²Measles vaccination after measles illness. ³Measles vaccination before measles illness. (This table was compiled by the reviewer Takasu T for the sake of the present article by assembling data from the three reports. In more detail, the tabled figures in the US study and the Japan study were given in their reports.)

Table 3: Existence of Patient with SSPE Who Had History of Vaccination.

Author, Year of Reporting	Having History of Vaccination & Not Having History of Measles (NoM&V)		Having History of Vaccination & Having History of Measles (M&V)		Country at SSPE Onset
	Number of Patient	Year of SSPE Onset	Number of Patient	Year of SSPE onset	
Referred Detels et al. 1973 [42]	5	1966-	0		US
Referred Modlin et al. 1977 [27]	40	1960–1974	44	1966–1974	US
Referred Halsey et al. 1980 [43]	6	1972-	11	1972-	US
Referred Okuno et al. 1989 [26]	11	1966–1985	0		Japan
Referred Dyken et al. 1989 [28]	68	1956~66–1980~99	103	1956~66-1980~86	US
Ueda1995 [#]	13	1966–1991	0		Japan
Referred Takasu et al. 2003 [19]	7	1997–1999	10	1997–1998	PNG
Referred Bellini et al. 2005 [40]	6	1,99,61,99,81,99,82,00,00,00,00,000	8	1993, 1995, 2002, Unknown year	US
Total ¹⁾	94 ¹		121 ¹		

Footnote: ¹Total of the recent four reports' figures, for the purpose of avoiding overlapping. [#]Ueda S. Occurrence of SSPE patients in Japan and measles vaccine. In Yamauchi K, Tateishi J, eds. Slow Virus Infection and Prion, 1st ed. 1995; Tokyo, Kindai Publishing Co., p.32 Table 5 provided as followed-up result of the Japan National SSPE registry.

Table 4: Negative Risk of SSPE by History of Vaccination Un-associated with History of Measles Illness.

Author, Year of Reporting	Risk (Upper column; naïve Lower column; specified)	Number of "Yes"		Fisher Exact Probability ¹	Odds Ratio ¹	95% Confidence Interval ¹	Year of Onset of SSPE	Country
		Among Cases	Among Controls					
Referred Halsey et al. 1980 [47]	History of vaccination ³ (V)	17/52	63/96	0.0001	0.25	0.12–0.52	1974–1977	US
	History of vaccination & no history of measles illness (NoM&V)	6/52	43/96	0	0.16	0.06–0.41		
Referred Okuno et al. 1989 [26]	History of vaccination ³ (V)	11/204	44/150	0	0.14	0.07–0.28	1966–1985	Japan
	History of vaccination & no history of measles illness (NoM&V)	11/204	44/150	0	0.14	0.07–0.28		

Footnote: The figures given in the above two reports by Halsey et al. and Okuno et al. were utilized to calculate statistics. ¹Given by 2 x 2 contingency table examined by Takasu T present reviewer. ²By two-tailed test. ³Conceptually, naïve (or un-specified) histories of vaccination comprised histories of vaccination with and without history of having had measles illness; but, actually, no history of vaccination associated with history of measles illness (M&V) must have been taken in Japan for the reason as explained in the text as existence of patient with history of vaccination.

The 'naïve' vaccination was endowed with the odds ratio of 0.25 or 0.14 in the US and the Japanese studies with Fisher's exact probability of 0.0001 or 0.0000, respectively (Table 4). This result ascertained the negative risk of SSPE by naïve vaccination. The Category-iii history (NoM&V) in the US study was endowed with Fisher's exact probability of 0.0000 or 0.0000, and odds ratio of 0.16 or 0.14 in the US and the Japanese studies, respectively (Table 4). This result revealed the negative risk of SSPE by vaccination un-associated with history of measles illness, by which the negative risk was lower than that by 'naïve' vaccination.

Comments on these achievements: (1) Capability of case-controlling was distinguished: The two studies both had been case-controlled. (2) The odds ratio as almost perfect approximation to relative risk was obtained: In general, relative risk is a best index of causal effect. In rare disease, odds ratio values were good approximates to the risk, the degree of approximation depending on the grade of risk in control (p_0). In SSPE, the value of risk among unexposed (i.e., p_0) had been as small as $< 10^{-6}$ since that value among exposed (namely p_1) having been 10^{-6} , the highest ever reported [19], so that odds ratio value is nearly equal to relative risk in population. (3) Lower negative risk obtained by specified than by naïve variable: Specified vaccination provided definitely lower negative risk than naïve (i.e., un-specified). (4) Retained risk of SSPE in vaccination: The odds ratio values were actually 0.25 for naïve and 0.16 for specified history of vaccination in the US study, meaning the risk of SSPE both in naïve or specified history of vaccination having not been nil though less than in unvaccinated by 75% or 84%; in other words, 25% or 16% of risk retained. (5) Obscure independency of other risk (s): Both analyses for the US and for the Japanese studies were mono-varietal leaving its independency of other risk(s) obscure.

Phenomena of Vaccination in SSPE

Ecological studies focused on Category-iii history (NoM&V) [19,26–28] revealed several phenomena of vaccination in SSPE.

Much less Ratio of SSPE Phenomenon per Vaccine than per Measles Illness: The two reports from the national SSPE registry, the US [26] and the Japan [26], provided with the number of SSPE together with the number of distributed vaccine as representing the best available approximation of the number of vaccine recipients [27]. For the purpose of comparison to this number, the number of SSPE together with the estimated number of measles illness had been provided by both reports.

Ratio of SSPE per Vaccine: The US national SSPE registry gave data enough for us to conceive that, between 1963 and 1974, a total of 36 patients with SSPE with such a history received vaccine and a total of 74 million doses of vaccine were distributed [27]. A ratio of SSPE per vaccine was 0.49 SSPE per million doses [27]. The Japan national SSPE registry gave data enough for us to conceive that, between 1971 and 1983, a total of 8 patients with SSPE with such a history received vaccine and a total of 12.84

million dose of vaccine were distributed [26]. The ratio of SSPE per vaccine was 0.62 SSPE per million doses [26].

Ratio of SSPE per Measles Illness: A total of 182 US patients with SSPE with "no history of vaccination (presumed from the original text by the present reviewer) but with a history of measles" were reported between 1960 and 1972 and a total of 29.16 million estimated measles between the same times were reported [27]. The ratio of SSPE per measles was 6.24 SSPE per million measles [27]. A total of 159 Japanese patients with SSPE with no history of vaccination but with a history of measles (M&NoV) and a total of 20.87 million estimated measles cases were reported between 1960 and 1981 [26]. The ratio of SSPE per measles was 7.62 SSPE per million measles [26].

Declined Incidence of SSPE Phenomenon After Use of Further Attenuated Live Vaccine Spread: By the US registry followed-up study report [28], "since the early 1970s" the annual incidence (defined as the number of SSPE that occurred in the year and registered later) "declined rapidly" [28]. Namely, "the incidence from 1976–1986 (10.3 patients per year) was much reduced in comparison to the number from 1967–1975 (41.3 patients per year)" [28]. "The number of yearly cases following vaccination has been stable since 1974, whereas the incidence of patient with a measles history has declined steadily". The decline in the US registry began in 1973–1975; 5 years to 7 years after further attenuated live vaccine began to be distributed in 1968. The Japan registry followed-up study on the registered cases for the 26 years 1966–1991 gave a total of 189 SSPE cases from 1976 to 1985, ranging 13–27 cases/year (mean 18.6, SD5.2) and another total of 33 SSPE from 1986 to 1991, ranging 3–8 cases/year (mean 5.5 cases/year) (#Table 3 Footnote). The definite decline of SSPE in the Japan registry appeared began abruptly in 1986"; 8 years after compulsory regular immunization with FAL vaccine began in 1978. (#Table 3 Footnote)

Increased Proportion From 1980 to 1989 Phenomenon of SSPE Patient with History of Vaccination: In the followed-up US series emphasized was an increase in the proportion of cases following measles vaccination [28]. The number of yearly cases following vaccination has been stable since 1974, whereas the incidence of patients with a measles history has declined steadily [28]. The relatively larger decrease in the 2 measles groups has led to an increases proportion of patients with SSPE following vaccination. Of the 347 patients with known measles and/or vaccine histories who contracted SSPE prior to 1976, only 46 (13.3% = $46/347 \times 100$) had received the measles vaccine and had no history of measles. The percentage of such patients after 1975 (24.5% = $22/89 \times 100$) was significantly higher, ($p < 0.01$) [28] corresponding to the rapid decline in SSPE incidence from 1967–1975 (41.3 patients per year) to 1976–1986 (10.3 patients per year), and to 1982–1986 (4.2 patients per year) [28]. In the followed-up Japan study no increasing proportion of patient with history of measles was recognized between 1966–1985 and 1966–1991. In the

Japanese series the Category-iv history namely the histories of vaccination and measles was nil because vaccination to the host with history of measles had been avoided. The maternal and child health handbook utilized by all mothers and child since 1947 [44,45] enabled the avoidance.

Shorter Latency of SSPE Phenomenon from Vaccination than from Measles Illness: The interval from vaccination or from measles illness to SSPE onset meant the latency of SSPE from vaccination or from measles illness.

The US national registry forerunning had given [27] the mean value (3.3 years) of the latency from vaccination which was lower than the mean value (7.1 years) of the latency from measles (Table 5). The followed-up US national SSPE registry gave data [28] enough for us to be convinced of the latency from vaccination with a history of vaccination but no history of measles (i.e., Vaccine Only) was shorter ($p < 0.05$) than the latency from measles in the two measles groups Measles Only (Table 5) or Measles and Vaccine.

The Japan national SSPE registry had given data [26] enough for us to nearly be convinced the same as above, namely the latency of SSPE from vaccination was shorter than the latency from measles only (Table 5). The followed-up Japan national SSPE registry gave more precise data (Shown in #of Table 3 Foot note) whereby the conclusion remain dun changed (Table 5). The above situation could have been realized only when measles illness occurred in earlier age and measles vaccination received in later years.

By the way, in the SSPE registered at GBH, EHP, PNG, the latency of SSPE from vaccination among 20 patients ranging between 2.7 years and 14.3 years was 7.0 ± 2.9 as mean \pm SD (median 6.0), while the latency of SSPE from measles only among 18 patients ranging between 2.5 years and 11.1 years was 5.9 ± 2.1 as mean \pm SD (median 5.6) [19]. This result in GBH was different

from those in the US or in Japan. External situations surrounding host at GBH or USA or Japan and/or internal situations of neural cell occupied by persisting mutated measles virus must had made themselves different. In general, latency of SSPE depends on the ages at measles, vaccination and/or SSPE onset, wherein the age at measles had been influenced possibly by natural or social environmental circumstances of host whereas the age at vaccination been determined by artificial choosing or political decision.

Increased Latency of SSPE Phenomenon from Earlier to Later Years: The follow-up data of the US national registry showed that SSPE latencies had increased (Table 6) from the earlier to later years in all three categories of history of vaccination and/or measles and the increases were statistically significant [28]. This appeared meaning that the processes toward SSPE from vaccination or from measles illness were both controlled by common environmental conditions that can influence upon host, rather than by self-limiting intracellular viral replication alone.

Hypothetical Pathogenesis of SSPE

To have SSPE established, mutated measles virus must have entered the brain cell via CD46 or any other unknown receptor or receiving mechanism. SSPE patients have born any one of the four categories of clinical history: where NoM signifying no discerned clinical measles; more directly no discernible measles rash in history. Subclinical measles falls to NoMan divided to Category-I or Category-iii history. Past subclinical infection of host with measles virus could be disclosed by temporally increased anti-measles antibodies [46] or later development of SSPE [47] or theoretically of MIBE (measles inclusion body encephalitis). By the way, a report indicated that asymptomatic measles infection is common but would rarely become a source of transmission because of negative PCR in NPS (nasopharyngeal swab) [48].

Table 5: Shorter Latency of SSPE Phenomenon from Vaccination than from Measles Illness.

Study	Latency of SSPE						Statistical difference
	From Vaccination Only			From Measles Only			
	Number	Range (years)	Mean \pm SD (years)	Number	Range (years)	Mean \pm SD (years)	
The referred US study [27] (1960–1974)	35	< 1- 9	3.3	207	< 1– 27	7.1	Not given
The referred US followed-up ¹⁾²⁾ [28] (1956–1986)	50 ³⁾	Not given	4.27 \pm 2.97	211 ³⁾	Not given	8.23 \pm 3.98	$p < 0.05$
The referred Japan study [26] (1966–1986)	8 ⁴⁾	2–11	4.6	171	1–16	7	Not given ⁵⁾
The Japan followed-up [#] (1966–1991)	13	2–11	5.3 \pm 3.0	229	0.5-18	7.1 \pm 2.9	Not given

Footnote: ¹⁾The paper's authors wrote "For measles patients (with or without vaccine), the measles-to-SSPE interval was measured; if the vaccine had been given, the time from vaccination to SSPE onset was calculated" as written by the author of the study in page 340. Therefore, the interval from the earlier event, measles illness or vaccination, to SSPE was understood adopted as latency of SSPE. ²⁾Latency of SSPE from Measles only was shown in this table. Latency of SSPE from 'Measles and Vaccination' was given but not shown in this table being 6.9 years as mean in 91 patients. ³⁾The number of patients with known date of measles infection or vaccination only. ⁴⁾Further attenuated live vaccine was given. ⁵⁾Raw data were unavailable as written by the author of the study, therefore statistical examination by reviewer also not feasible. [#]The same as in Table 3 Footnote.

Table 6: Increased Latency of SSPE Phenomenon from Earlier to Later Years.

Earlier to later Year A. D.	Latency from Measles Only			Latency from Measles and Vaccine			Latency from Vaccine Only		
	No. of patients	Mean (years)	SD (years)	No. of patients	Mean (years)	SD (years)	No. of patients	Mean (years)	SD (years)
1956–1966	34	4.79	±2.61	4	5.81	±2.97	1	3	0
1967–1969	65	6.36	±2.63	25	6.2	±2.34	13	1.81	±1.29
1970–1972	67	8.22	±3.93	23	7.33	±2.50	15	3.64	±2.04
1973–1975	38	11.06	±2.70	26	8.19	±3.06	13	4.32	±3.02
1976–1979	26	12.13	±3.22	27	9.06	3.02	6	4.97	±1.93
1980–1986	8	12.09	±3.92	11	11.67	±5.85	11	7.73	±2.74
(Total)	-238	-8.23	(±3.98)	-96	-7.92	(±3.56)	-59	-4.27	(±2.97)

Footnote: This table was formed by present reviewer by citing all figures and construction given in the referred paper by Dyken et al. in 1989 in *Pediatric Neurol.* 5:339-341. The paper's authors wrote in page 320 "For measles patients (with or without vaccine), the measles-to-SSPE interval was measured; if the vaccine had been given, the time from vaccination to SSPE onset was calculated". In other words, the interval from the earlier event, measles illness or vaccination, to SSPE was understood adopted as latency of SSPE.

Situation behind SSPE was divided by having had measles illness or not having had measles illness (Table 7A). The latter was divided by nine circumstances of "NoM" and further by having received vaccination or not having received vaccination (Table 7B). To each circumstance, positive risk of SSPE was tried evaluated. Circumstances 4, 5, 6 and 7 could be called subclinical measles type 1, type 2, type 3 and type 4. The reviewer's study of participation by each circumstance in the phenomena of vaccination had not been accomplished yet. Epidemiology of subclinical measles is a difficult task since its content being heterogeneous. Epidemiological evidence by subclinical measles stays within the limit of possibility. More specification of vaccination, for example by date or by age or else, seems necessary for ascertaining hidden positive risk of SSPE by vaccine.

Future Analysis

Future analysis should be case-controlled, be with specified variables, and be multi-varietal.

1. It should be case-controlled. The three such studies [26,42,43] alone were capable of giving statistically significant risk. In general the royal road next to intervention is cohort study or case-control study (Nakamura Y. *A Text book of Epidemiology without Tears*. 4th edn. Tokyo: Igaku-Shoin Ltd. 2020.).
2. It should be done with specified variables. The 'naive' measles illness was specified by age in the first case-control study on the risk of SSPE [42], namely as the measles 1 year or under, that led success in proving its significance: the 'naive' (i.e., unspecified) positive history of measles was not significant but the history of measles at 1 year or under was significant, i.e., $p < 0.01$ with χ^2 test [42].
3. It should be multi-varietal since incidence of SSPE differed so widely in different regions that region-dependent multiple factors expected confounding. To detect independent risks of each other, multi-varietal analysis is needed. For example, Kondo K reported in *J Clin Exp Med.* 1988;146:799 from relevance to SSPE, that the patient with histories of the four

risks (i.e., measles under 1 year with OR of 7.31, repeated infection with OR of 4.00, head injury with OR of 2.79, and convulsion with OR of 2.90) was revealed exposed to a huge risk with OR of 273.6 when all four thrown into an equation.

Conclusion of Meta-Analytic Review

The negative relative risk and odds ratios demonstrated by the history of vaccination without history of having had measles illness proved vaccination as negative risk of SSPE. In addition,

1. Existence of the patients with SSPE with history of vaccination without history of measles retains vaccination as a suspicious positive risk of SSPE. Likewise, the much less ratio of SSPE patients from vaccine than from measles, the declined incidence of SSPE after further attenuated live vaccines spread, the increase in proportion from 1980 to 1989 of patients with SSPE with history of vaccination, and the shorter latency of SSPE from vaccination than from measles retains vaccination; retain vaccination as another suspicious positive risk of SSPE.
2. Studies in future should be case-controlled, be performed with specified variable by date or by age or by combination or by sequence, and be conducted by multi-varietal analysis in order to identify specified variable as risk of SSPE.

Conflict of Interest

The present reviewer proclaims that what was written in the article is in no conflict of interest against the cited author or against the collaborator.

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Table 7A: Hypothetical pathogenesis of SSPE Unrelated to Vaccination.

Combined history of M-and/or-V Mark	Content (Circumstances of NoM) ((Subclinical measles))	Category ¹⁾	Exposure	Infection	Rash	Involved infecting virus	Immune cell receptor for infecting virus		Involved virus in SSPE	Neural cell receptor	Existence of SSPE patient	Participation in phenomena of vaccination	Positive risk of SSPE
							Dendritic cell receptor	Activated lymphocyte receptor					
NoM&NoV	s Truly NoM by luck (Circumstances 1)	i	-	-	-	None	SLAM1*	None	None	CD46	No	No	No
	s Truly NoM by maternal antibody (Circumstances 2)		+	-	-								
	s No rash by prematurity (Circumstances 4)((Subclinical measles	i	+	+	-	WT	SLAM1	SLAM1	mWT	CD46 and/or UIR	Yes	Yes	Yes
	s No rash suppressed by infecting WT (Circumstances 5) ((Subclinical measles type 2))												
	s No rash suppressed by other infecting pathogen (Circumstances 7)(Subclinical measles type 4))												
M&NoV	s Clinical M mis-diagnosed (Circumstances 8)	i	+	+	+	WT	SLAM1	SLAM1	mWT	CD46 and/or UIR	Yes	Yes	Yes
	s Clinical M mis-recorded (Circumstances 9)												
	Clinical M properly diagnosed	ii	+	+	+	WT	SLAM1	SLAM1	mWT	CD46 and/or UIR	Yes	Yes	Yes

Footnote: V: Vaccination; M: Measles; WT: Wild-Type measles virus; mWT: Mutated Wild-Type measles virus; VS: Vaccine Strain measles virus; UIR: Un-Identified Receptor or receiving mechanism. ¹ Categorized histories of measles illness and vaccination. *SLAM1 (Signaling Lymphocytic Activation Molecule 1) is another name of CD150 (Cluster of Differentiation 150).

Table 7B: Hypothetical pathogenesis of SSPE related to vaccination.

Combined history of M-and/or-V Mark	Content (Circumstances of NoM) ((Subclinical measles))	Category ¹	Exposure	Infection	Rash	Involved infecting virus	Immune cell receptor for infecting virus		Involved virus in SSPE	Neural cell receptor	Existence of SSPE patient	Participation in phenomena of vaccination	Positive risk of SSPE
							Dendritic cell receptor	Activated lymphocyte receptor					
NoM&NoV	s Truly NoM by luck (Circumstances 1) Plus V	iii	+	+	-	VS	CD46 plus SLAMF1	CD46 plus SLAMF1	VS	CD46	Yes	Yes	Suspicious
	s Truly NoM by maternal antibody (Circumstances 2) Plus V												
	s Truly NoM neutralized by previous vaccination-derived antibodies (Circumstances 3) Plus V												
	s No rash suppressed by prematurity (Circumstances 4) subclinical measles type 1)) Plus V	iii	+	+	-	WT plus VS	CD46 plus SLAMF1	CD46 plus SLAMF1	mWT plus VS	CD46 and/or UJR	Yes	Yes	Yes
	s No rash suppressed by infecting WT itself (Circumstances 5) ((Subclinical measles type 2)) Plus V												
	s No rash suppressed by previous vaccination (Circumstances 6) ((Subclinical measles type 3)) Plus V												
M&V	s No rash suppressed by other infecting pathogen (Circumstances 7) ((Subclinical measles type 4) Plus V	iii	+	+	+	WT plus VS	CD46 plus SLAMF1	CD46 plus SLAMF1	mWT plus VS	CD46 and/or UJR	Yes	Yes	Yes
	s Clinical M mis-diagnosed (Circumstances 8) Plus V												
	s Clinical M mis-recorded (Circumstances) Plus V												
	Clinical M properly diagnosed Plus V	iv	+	+	+	WT plus VS	CD46 plus SLAMF1	CD46 plus SLAMF1	mWT plus VS	CD46 and/or UJR	Yes	Yes	Yes

Footnote: V: Vaccination; M: Measles; WT: Wild-Type measles virus; mWT: Mutated Wild-Type measles virus; VS: Vaccine Strain measles virus; UJR: Un-Identified Receptor or receiving mechanism. ¹Categorized histories of measles illness and vaccination. *SLAMF1 (Signaling Lymphocytic Activation Molecule 1) is another name of CD150 (Cluster of Differentiation 150).

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