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Altri autori (Persone)	StrattonKathleen R AlmarioDonna A McCormickMarie C
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Nota di contenuto	IMMUNIZATION SAFETY REVIEW -- Copyright -- Acknowledgments -- Contents -- Executive Summary -- ABSTRACT -- DEMYELINATING NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS -- HEPATITIS B VIRAL INFECTION -- HEPATITIS B VACCINE -- EVIDENCE REVIEWED BY THE COMMITTEE --

CAUSALITY ASSESSMENT -- BIOLOGICAL MECHANISMS ASSESSMENT -- SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT -- RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE -- Policy Review -- Research -- Surveillance -- Basic and Clinical Science -- Communication -- REFERENCES -- Immunization Safety Review: Hepatitis B Vaccine and Demyelinating Neurological Disorders -- THE CHARGE TO THE COMMITTEE -- THE STUDY PROCESS -- THE FRAMEWORK FOR SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENT -- Causality -- Biological Mechanisms -- Terminology -- Categories of Evidence -- Published and Unpublished Data -- UNDER REVIEW: HEPATITIS B VACCINE AND DEMYELINATING NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS -- Adverse Neurological Events -- Multiple Sclerosis -- Acute Disseminated Encephalomyelitis -- Optic Neuritis -- Transverse Myelitis -- Guillain-Barré Syndrome -- Peripheral Neuritis -- Hepatitis B Virus Infection and Hepatitis B Vaccines -- SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENT -- Causality -- Case Reports -- Multiple Sclerosis -- Causality Argument -- First Episode of a Central Nervous System Demyelinating Disorder -- Acute Disseminated Encephalomyelitis -- Optic Neuritis -- Transverse Myelitis -- Brachial Neuritis -- Biological Mechanisms -- Immune-Mediated Processes in MS and Other Demyelinating White-Matter Diseases -- Theoretical Mechanisms for Infection-Induced Immune-Mediated Injury -- Theoretical Mechanisms for Vaccine-Induced Demyelinating Diseases -- Evidence from Animal Models for a Possible Role for Hepatitis B Vaccine in Demyelination -- Evidence from Humans -- Known Effects of Other Vaccines -- Conclusions Regarding Biological Mechanisms -- SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT. Disease Burden Associated with Multiple Sclerosis -- Hepatitis B Vaccine Safety Concerns in France -- Hepatitis B Virus Infection -- Prevention Strategies -- Acceptance of the Hepatitis B Vaccine in the United States -- Information on the Safety of the Hepatitis B Vaccine -- Conclusions -- RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE -- Policy Review -- Research -- Surveillance -- Basic and Clinical Science -- Communication -- SUMMARY -- REFERENCES -- Appendix A Committee Conclusions and Recommendations from Previous Reports -- MEASLES-MUMPS-RUBELLA VACCINE AND AUTISM -- Conclusions -- Recommendations -- Public Health Response -- Policy Review -- Research Regarding MMR and ASD -- Communications -- THIMEROSAL-CONTAINING VACCINES AND NEURODEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS -- Conclusions -- Public Health Response Recommendations -- Policy Review and Analysis -- Public Health and Biomedical Research -- Epidemiological Research -- Clinical Research -- Basic Science Research -- MULTIPLE IMMUNIZATIONS AND IMMUNE DYSFUNCTION -- Conclusions -- Scientific Assessment -- Causality Conclusions -- Biological Mechanisms Conclusions -- Significance Assessment -- Public Health Response Recommendations -- Policy Review -- Research -- Epidemiological Research -- Basic Science and Clinical Research -- Communication -- Appendix B Public Meeting Agenda March 11, 2002 -- Appendix C Chronology of Important Events Regarding Vaccine Safety.

Sommario/riassunto

Immunization to protect infants and children from vaccine-preventable diseases is one of the greatest achievements of public health. Immunization is not without risks, however. It is well established, for example, that the oral polio vaccine can on rare occasion cause paralytic polio. The Immunization Safety Review Committee was established by the Institute of Medicine (IOM) to evaluate the available evidence on a series of immunization safety concerns. The committee is charged with examining three immunization safety hypotheses each year during the three-year study period (2001- 2003). While all of the committee members share the view that immunization is generally

beneficial, none of them has a vested interest in the specific immunization safety issues that come before the group. In this report, which is the fourth in the series, the committee examines the hypothesis that the hepatitis B vaccine increases the risk for demyelinating disorders of the central or peripheral nervous systems, including multiple sclerosis (MS) and Guillain-Barre syndrome (GBS).
