

Executive Summary: “Immunotherapy and Beyond”

Immunotherapy and Beyond is a review of scientific literature compiled by Dr. Victoria Wulsin at the request of the Heimlich Institute between August and December 2004.

Dr. Hank Heimlich, inventor of the Heimlich Maneuver, contended that AIDS, which attacks white blood cells in the human immune system, might be countered when white blood cell production was intensely stimulated in response to malaria. He found precedent for this hypothesis in vaccination—the long-established medical practice of exposing patients to disease in a controlled environment in order to enhance their bodies’ immune responses.

However, Dr. Wulsin concluded in her review that “The preponderance of evidence indicates that neither malaria nor Immunotherapy will cure HIV/AIDS.”

As Thomas Francis reported in Radar Online in November 2005, “the day after issuing a draft of her report...Wulsin was fired” by the Heimlich Institute.

In her review, Dr. Wulsin raised the following objections:

- A review of the related scientific literature showed a “trend over time of decreasing support for Immunotherapy.”
- There was “complexity and inconsistency of data apropos of the effect of malaria” on AIDS.
- “Patients must be informed of – and understand - the relative costs and benefits to Immunotherapy and its alternatives. ...Research protocols must be approved by local (operating) and donor (managing) institutional review boards. These authorizations should be readily available for examination by any critics, patients, potential collaborators, or others.”

In summary, Dr. Wulsin informed the Heimlich Institute that their research on Immunotherapy should not go forward unless they:

- Clarified the ethical and scientific details of past studies.
- Ensured that future studies conformed to strict ethical standards.
- Acknowledged the ever-growing scientific consensus that Immunotherapy was ineffective for fighting AIDS, and were willing to engage in “transparent discussion [of their research] with scientists, physicians, and other stakeholders.”

She also warned that the Heimlich Institute would face a credibility and sustainability crisis if it continued to pursue its current path. She suggested that it consider more promising avenues of AIDS research, such as highly active antiretroviral therapy, while insisting that it could not do effective research until it overhauled its research and operating methods.

Dr. Wulsin’s involvement with the Heimlich Institute and Immunotherapy was strictly limited to this literature review. At no point was she involved in the Institute’s clinical research. Dr. Wulsin discussed her interactions with—and ultimate dismissal by—the Institute in a November 11, 2005 Radar Online article, “Outmaneuvered” (www.radaronline.com/web-only/radar-investigates/2005/11/outmaneuvered-part-ii.php).



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EVENTS

11/4/2006 - General Wesley Clark rallies for Vic!

11/7/2006 - Election Night Party!

11/7/2006 - Vote for Vic Wulsin on election day!!!!

Newsroom Details

WULSIN ON MEDICAL RESEARCH - 9/16/2006

WULSIN ON THE IMPORTANCE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH

Cincinnati, OH – “Every day I thank God for modern medicine and I thank God for the ability to keep our loved ones healthy so that they may live long, full lives,” said Dr. Victoria Wulsin today, after having participated in the 5 K Race for the Cure in Mason, OH on Sunday with her supporters.

Dr. Wulsin, the Democratic nominee for Congress in Ohio’s 2nd Congressional District, has dedicated her career to public health. She was Cincinnati’s chief epidemiologist between 1989 and 1995, responsible for the prevention and treatment of disease throughout the city. In 1994 she led the team of doctors, nurses, parents and teachers that successfully minimized and controlled the spread of Whooping Cough.

Dr. Wulsin received her AB from Harvard University after earning a merit scholarship. She received her MD from Case Western Reserve University in 1980, and then went back to Harvard to earn her Doctorate in Public Health with a specialization in disease prevention in 1985.

“Medical research holds the wondrous potential to cure disease and improve the lives of billions of Americans and people around the world,” said Wulsin. Last month, Rep. Jean Schmidt voted against public funding for stem cell research, which many scientists believe will help us uncover cures for Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s and other diseases that afflict millions of Americans.

“As researchers, there are times when we conclude that potential medical techniques are unworthy of further pursuit. Immunotherapy for AIDS is one such example.” In a 2004 paper entitled “Immunotherapy and Beyond” that she wrote for the Heimlich Institute, Dr. Wulsin reviewed the relevant literature on a proposed medical technique and concluded that “The preponderance of evidence indicates that neither

malaria nor Immunotherapy will cure HIV/AIDS." That paper is available on the Wulsin for Congress campaign website at

www.wulsinforcongress.com/downloads/heim_inst_report.pdf

Victoria's mother is a breast cancer survivor. "We can prevent cancer and if we catch it early, we can beat it," Wulsin said. "I enjoyed the run on Sunday and applaud the Komen Foundation for its work on breast cancer prevention, treatment, and awareness."

Dr. Wulsin has been an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), where she was assigned to the National Institute for Occupation Safety and Health (NIOSH); she has been a primary care physician at the Health Resource Center, the free clinic in Cincinnati; and she was the regional advisor for HIV/AIDS for the United States Agency for International Aid (USAID) for East Africa, stationed in Nairobi.

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