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Children vaccination: Personal choice or civic obligation?

Vasile Valeriu Lupu, Marin Burlea, Gabriela Paduraru and Ancuta Ignat
Grigore T. Popa University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Romania

One of the greatest achievements of medicine was the discovery and introduction of vaccination for all major contagious diseases. Romania was one of the countries that have contributed to the development of vaccinology. Currently, one of the most intensely debated issues is related to a person's right to accept or not vaccination. The patient can be put in different situations, which is why the authors discuss these issues. Given that it is easier and cheaper to prevent than to cure, through vaccination this goal can be achieved. The compulsory vaccines should meet the necessary criteria of mandatory and optional ones remain at the discretion of the patient or legal caregivers. The current actualities of vaccinology are analyzed as regards to the progress and drawbacks generated by the disappearance of the autochthonous production of vaccines, as well as the increase in the population's distrust regarding the value of vaccination, from the perspective of civic and professional ethics and from the perspective of the involvement of the medical system. Facing the major risks that an epidemic outbreak represents, general interest prevails, because ultimately, the freedom and security of any person ceases where it affects another person's freedom and security.

Biography

Vasile Valeriu Lupu is a Lecturer of Pediatric, Faculty of Medicine, Grigore T. Popa University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Romania. He has obtained his PhD in 2011. He is a Member of the Romanian Society of Medical Genetics, Romanian Society of Gastroenterology and Pediatric Hepatology, European Pediatrics Association (since 2011), being also the General Secretary of the Romanian Society of Pediatrics (2009-2017). He is author of 168 scientific papers communicated at scientific congresses and conferences and 116 articles published (22 in ISI journals).

valeriolupu@yahoo.com

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