

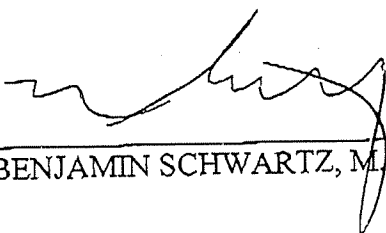
reviewed official journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

4. In our analysis of one of Dr. Geier publications, we questioned his analysis of manufacturer-specific adverse event reporting rates because the policy of CDC is to not provide those confidential data outside the agency. We had been told by supervisors in the Branch and the Division where those data are maintained that they would not have been given out. Unknown to us, these data had been provided to the Geiers.

5. When Dr. Geier informed us that he had in fact obtained the manufacturer-specific adverse event reporting rates from CDC, we published a letter in *Pediatrics* acknowledging and regretting the error, consistent with standard practice.

6. Similar findings of no association between thimerosal and vaccines and discussion of methodological flaws were published by the Institute of Medicine following a review conducted to evaluate thimerosal and vaccines.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. 28 U.S.C. § 1746.
Dated at Atlanta, Georgia, this 14 day of November, 2005.



BENJAMIN SCHWARTZ, M.D.