

Letter to the editor re: Elliott and Morrison article on terbutaline and other beta-agonist drugs and autism spectrum disorder

J Reichmann^{1*}

Letter to Editor

Regrettably the evidence is not near as definitive as the title of this article. The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently performed an unbiased examination of the evidence of the topic in response to a citizen petition filed by this author¹. The FDA determined “it is not possible to draw conclusions regarding an association between terbutaline exposure in utero and autism” given the limitations of the evidence. The evidence neither proves nor disproves the relationship.

The assertion that the maker of terbutaline has voluntarily stopped production of the drug is factually inaccurate.

References

1. Letter from Dr. Janet Woodcock, Director, Center for drug Evaluation and Research, FDA, to James P Reichmann re: Docket No. FDA-2008-P-0358.

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