

THE VACCINE: THE INNOCENT VICTIMS

January, 22, 2021

As the two COVID-19 vaccines, produced by Moderna and Pfizer, continue to be rolled out for the general population, for a virus that has a roughly a 99% recovery rate, more data is coming out that raises additional questions regarding the vaccines' efficacy and safety.

As the *Veritas Report* noted in our edition [The Vaccine: Counter-Productive?](#), several instances of serious allergic reactions occurred among vaccine recipients. The reactions were severe enough to force the [California Department of Public Health to temporarily pause](#) the Moderna vaccination program state-wide for 3 days.

Yet allergic reactions were not the worst side effect, as we sadly reported on the death of Florida Doctor Gregory Michael [who died 16 days after receiving the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine](#). Dr. Michael's case was not an isolated case as of January 22nd there are over [50 people who have died](#) after receiving the COVID-19 vaccine, even though no formal link has been established.

Most concerning, however, are the deaths of elderly vaccine recipients. In our in the edition, [The Vaccine: Safety First?](#), we shared the chilling quote by Dr. Kelly Moore, associate director of the Immunization Action Coalition, about the elderly in long term care facilities after receiving the COVID-19 vaccine:

"We would not at all be surprised to see, coincidentally, vaccination happening and then having someone pass away a short time after they receive a vaccine... that's the place where people at the end of their lives reside, Moore said."

Sadly, her prediction may be coming true as the Norwegian Medicines Agency recently advised elderly patients in that country about the risks of the COVID-19 vaccine when [33 elderly recipients died](#) after receiving the vaccine. [\[link\]](#)

While this tragic loss of life is enough to raise questions, there is another more concerning issue about the two leading COVID-19 vaccines that is being overlooked: how aborted fetal tissue played a key role in the vaccines' development. [The two leading and only authorized U.S. COVID-19 vaccines, Moderna and Pfizer are](#) both linked to abortion.

Abortion-Linked Vaccines

The use of aborted fetal tissue actually dates back to the 1930s, when [Dr. Foster Kennedy](#), a [eugenics advocate](#) who served as the director of Neurology at Bellevue Hospital in New York, began harvesting organs from aborted fetal remains. According to this instructive article by [Children of God for Life](#), the research was done in conjunction with eugenics experiments to prevent the feeble-minded from reproducing. [\[link\]](#)

Around the same, in 1936, Drs. Albert Sabin and Peter Olitsky of the Rockefeller Institute were using fetal brain tissue from a human embryo in [polio vaccine research](#). (Ed. note: Please see our edition, [The Population Control Advocates](#))

Vaccine research using aborted fetal tissue continued into the 1960s, when Dr. Leonard Hayflick, a researcher at the University of Pennsylvania's Wistar Institute, was conducting research using fetal tissue to develop an oral polio vaccine and needed additional fetal specimens, which were eventually obtained from abortions performed in Sweden. These new aborted fetal tissue cell lines were later used in the production of the rubella vaccine according to the *History of Vaccines* published by the College of Physicians of Philadelphia:

"...Leonard Hayflick (also working at the Wistar Institute at that time) developed a cell strain called WI-38 using lung cells from an aborted fetus. Hayflick found that many viruses, including rubella, grew well in the WI-38...and safe to use for human vaccines." [\[link\]](#)

After this discovery, other cell lines were later developed from other aborted fetuses, including the HEK-293 (Human Embryo Kidney - 293), which is used on development and testing for the COVID-19 vaccines.

Veritas Report asks: *If aborted fetal tissue was in high demand in the 1960s, is it any less today? Is there a connection between today's medical research using aborted fetal tissue and the 2015 scandal involving [Planned Parenthood's sale of embryonic fetal body parts?](#)*

Abortion-Derived Vaccines

Pamela Acker, a biologist who previously worked on vaccines at The Catholic University of America, and author of a new book [Vaccination: A Catholic Perspective](#), recently provided additional insight into the development of the abortion derived COVID-19 vaccines. Acker, in a recent interview, explained how aborted fetal tissue helped develop these new mRNA vaccines:

"So, they took that genetic information [of the aborted fetal cells], and they transformed cells to produce the spike protein...And that original [mRNA] experiment was done in HEK-293 cells. So, the spike protein that the vaccines code for, was originally developed, effectively, in aborted fetal cells." [\[link\]](#)

Veritas Report asks: *Catholic leaders and experts have often said that the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines are "[morally acceptable](#)", yet if these new vaccines were developed using aborted cells, are they still ethical?*

How many aborted fetal cells were and are used during the rushed testing for the competing COVID-19 vaccines?

Acker also made an interesting comment about the HEK-293 cell line:

"[T]he HEK stands for Human Embryonic Kidney, but 293 stands for this is the 293rd experiment that this particular researcher did to develop a cell line...And we're talking probably 100's of abortions."

Additionally, according to Acker, the HEK-293 line would need to have been taken **from a live baby** in a most cruel and barbaric manner:

*“[T]hey will actually deliver these babies via cesarean section, the babies are in some cases still alive when the researchers start extracting the tissue. **To the point where their heart is still beating, and they're generally not given any anesthetic because that would disrupt the cells that the researchers are trying to extract. So, they're removing this tissue while the baby's alive, and in extreme amounts of pain, and so this makes it even more sadistic.**”*

Veritas Report asks: If indeed Acker is correct and that hundreds of abortions were needed to develop the HEK-293 line – does this not make the COVID-19 vaccines even more connected to abortion than first thought?

How many abortions on innocent human life were performed over the decades to bring cell lines like HEK-293 to fruition?

If Acker's claim is accurate, did Catholic leaders thoroughly examine the science and practices involved in the COVID-19 vaccines' development and testing before declaring it morally permissable? Were they too hasty, in reviewing or even too trusting of the scientific statements by the vaccine manufacturers and others, before reaching that conclusion?

Abortion-Tested Vaccines

Another aspect of COVID-19 vaccines is not only whether aborted fetal tissue was used in the *development* of it, but whether the vaccines were *tested* on aborted fetal tissue in the latter stages to confirm its efficacy. While initially presumed that testing occurred only once in the laboratory, Pamela Acker notes:

*“[B]efore they were going to inject this mRNA into **a human being to see if you could get human cells to make Coronavirus spike protein**, you would want to test that in cell culture...this was also [tested in] HEK-293 [aborted fetal] cells. And this has all been published in the literature...”*

This was also confirmed by Dr. Stacy Trasancos, a former chemist, who now serves as the director of the St. Philip Institute for Evangelization for the Diocese of Tyler, Texas, and the new president of Children of God for Life, who recently examined the issue of “confirmatory testing” on the two U.S. approved COVID-19 vaccines. In a December article in the *National Catholic Register* on COVID-19 vaccines, Trasancos notes this presumption of a one-time “confirmatory test” may be incorrect:

*“The Charlotte Lozier Institute then coined the phrase “confirmatory testing,” which was interpreted to indicate that the HEK293 cells were only used in a one-time test, making the vaccine seem more ethical than vaccines grown in fetal cell lines continuously. However, this is only speculation...the details of quality-control testing are not yet known. **To emphasize: We do not yet know.**” [\[link\]](#)*

Additionally, Trasancos reviews statements from both Moderna and Pfizer that indicates these vaccines were tested on aborted fetal tissue to confirm the vaccine's efficacy:

“On August 5, 2020, the pre-clinical trials for the Moderna vaccine were published in the journal Nature, “SARS-CoV-2 mRNA vaccine design enabled by prototype pathogen preparedness.” The team of researchers described testing protocols. According to the methods section, the in vitro mRNA expression lab tests were done by transiently transfecting (introducing) HEK293 [aborted fetal] cells with mRNA that encodes for the spike protein ...

*Likewise, on September 8, 2020, Pfizer's team published their pre-clinical trials, “A prefusion SARS-CoV-2 spike RNA vaccine is highly immunogenic and prevents lung infection in non-human primates.” They also reported results from in vitro mRNA expression lab tests. **The mRNA molecule was incubated in HEK293 [aborted fetal] cells followed** by structural characterization of the expressed protein...*

Both Moderna and Pfizer, then, claim to use HEK293 [aborted fetal cells] in in-vitro lab testing for their vaccines.”

Yet in further explaining the abortion-linked testing process, Trasancos raises a critical point **that Moderna and Pfizer never stated that any confirmatory test occurred only once:**

*“**The in-vitro lab tests described in both Moderna's and Pfizer's pre-clinical trial reports were not ever claimed to be a one-time confirmatory test, not even by the companies themselves.**”*

Yet the most disturbing aspect of Trasancos' article is that the testing process in a scientific laboratory **may need to be ongoing to ensure the quality of each production batch:**

*“For the mRNA vaccines, **it only makes sense that the in-vitro lab test (described above) would also become an essential part of the production process** for ensuring the vaccine is produced as it was designed in the laboratory...**In manufacturing, this production testing is commonly known as quality control (QC) testing.**”*

*...**Quality control testing is not separate from, or ancillary to, production; to repeat, it is essential to production, a mature applied science unto itself, existential to manufacturing.**”*

Trasancos concludes that testing on aborted fetal tissue is likely an ongoing quality control process to ensure vaccine efficacy.

Veritas Report asks: What do we truly know about these vaccines and their development and testing process? What do we not know? In light of this, are we to naively presume to think the COVID-19 vaccine is not tainted with abortion?

In conclusion, Veritas Report asks: *The Catholic Church appears to have based its moral guidance on, certain scientific facts or assumptions that may not be complete or transparent. If those original assumptions are no longer valid or have changed significantly, isn't the Church obliged to correct them and speaking the truth clearly? Do supposedly good ends justify evil means?*