

Open letter to medical professionals and the AMA: Start the conversation

Whereas, within the last 20 years there has been an alarming increase in serious illnesses in the US, along with a marked decrease in life expectancy ([Bezruchka, 2012](#)); and

Whereas, the onset of serious illness is appearing in increasingly younger populations: neurological disease ([Pritchard et al., 2013](#)); obesity, asthma, behavior & learning problems and chronic disease in children and young adults ([Van Cleave et al., 2010](#)); type II diabetes in youth ([Rosenbloom et al., 1999](#)); and

Whereas, the rate of chronic disease in the entire US population has been dramatically increasing with an estimated 25% of the US population suffering from multiple chronic diseases ([Autoimmunity Research Foundation, 2012](#)); and

Whereas, during this same time period, there has been an exponential increase in the adoption of Genetically Modified Food (GMO) crops with associated applications of glyphosate to food crops ([Benbrook, 2012](#)); and

Whereas, over 90% of corn, soy, sugar beets and canola are GMO, modified to withstand direct application of herbicides; and

Whereas, it has become routine for pre-harvest ripening to spray grain, legumes and sugar cane with glyphosate; and

Whereas, Glyphosate and its degradation product, aminomethylphosphonic acid (AMPA) have been detected in **air** ([Majewski et al., 2014](#), [Chang et al., 2011](#)), **rain** ([Scribner et al., 2007](#); [Majewski, 2014](#)), **groundwater** ([Scribner, 2007](#)), **surface water** ([Chang, 2011](#); [Scribner, 2007](#); [Coupe et al., 2012](#)), **soil** ([Scribner, 2007](#)) and **sea water** ([Mercurio et al., 2014](#)), showing that glyphosate and AMPA **persist in the soil and water** and the amounts detected are increasing over time with increasing agricultural use; and

Whereas, glyphosate & AMPA residues are high in our **food** (residues as high as 15 parts per million have been detected in GM soybeans with no residues detected in organic or conventionally grown soy [Bohn et al., 2014](#)); and

Whereas, glyphosate bioaccumulates in organs and tissue ([Kruger et al., 2014](#)); and

Whereas, the biological pathways between glyphosate and chronic disease have been outlined ([Samsel & Seneff, 2013a](#)); and

Whereas, time trends of the rise in chronic diseases along with the rise of glyphosate use and the adoption of GM crops show very high correlations with very strong statistical significance ([Swanson, 2013](#)); and

Whereas, glyphosate has been shown to be toxic to the liver and kidneys ([Cattani et al., 2014](#); [Jayasumana et al., 2014](#); [Lushchak et al., 2009](#); [El-Shenawy, 2009](#); [de Liz Oliveira Cavalli et al., 2013](#); [Séralini et al., 2011](#)); and

Whereas, glyphosate is a patented chelating agent (U.S. patent number [3160632 A](#)) causing

mineral deficiencies; and

Whereas, glyphosate is a patented anti-microbial & biocide (U.S. patent number [20040077608 A1](#) & U.S. patent number 7771736 B2) that preferentially kills beneficial bacteria in our intestines leading to nutrient deficiency, chronic intestinal diseases, inflammation, and autoimmune diseases ([Samsel & Seneff, 2013b](#); [Kruger, 2013](#); [Shehata et al., 2012](#); [Carman et al., 2013](#)); and

Whereas, it is illegal to administer a drug (antibiotic and biocide) in our food without a medical license to do so; and

Whereas, glyphosate leads to teratogenicity and reproductive toxicity in vertebrates ([Antoniou et al., 2012](#)); and

Whereas, glyphosate is an endocrine disruptor ([Gasnier et al., 2009](#); [Paganelli et al., 2010](#); [Antoniou et al., 2012](#); [Thongprakaisang et al., 2013](#)); and

Whereas, there are no “safe” levels of endocrine disruptors ([Vandenberg et al., 2012](#); [Bergman et al., 2013](#)); and

Whereas, imbalances and malfunctions of the endocrine system can lead to diabetes, hypertension, obesity, kidney disease, cancers of the breast, prostate, liver, brain, thyroid, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma ([Marc et al., 2004](#); [Thongprakaisang et al., 2013](#)), osteoporosis, Cushing's syndrome, hypo- and hyperthyroidism, infertility, birth defects, erectile dysfunction, ([Soto & Sonnenschein, 2010](#)), sexual development problems and neurological disorders such as: learning disabilities, attention deficit disorder ([de Cock et al., 2012](#)), autism ([Schulkin, 2007](#)), dementia ([Ghosh, 2010](#)), Alzheimer's ([Merlo et al., 2010](#)), Parkinson's and schizophrenia ([MacSweeney et al., 1978](#)); and

Whereas, endocrine disruptors are especially damaging to organisms undergoing hormonal changes: fetuses, babies, children, adolescents and the elderly ([Bergman et al., 2013](#));

Whereas, the use of glyphosate as an herbicide for numerous decades in the USA and now as a component compound in GMO foods has adversely impacted its human exposure factor to implode within the standard of medical surveillance and care; and

Whereas, a chronically ill patient suffering from long-term, systemic poisoning will not respond to traditional treatment; and

Whereas, most medical personnel are trained only in acute poisoning and not in systemic poisoning; and

Whereas, you have sworn an oath “to apply, for the benefit of the sick, all measures which are required,” and to “prevent disease whenever I can, for prevention is preferable to cure”; and

Whereas, the liability will be on the professional who did not recognize glyphosate poisoning in his/her patients;

We, the undersigned, implore you to take the following actions:

Order toxicology tests for your chronically ill patients, in particular screening for glyphosate and its degradation product AMPA.

Educate yourselves on how to deal with systemic poisoning and detoxification.

Open the conversation with your patients, family and colleagues.

Establish a procedure for surveillance and tracking.

The medical surveillance programs for any hazardous material, such as glyphosate, are designed to systematically collect and analyze health information on exposed individuals to toxic substances. The components involved in a comprehensive medical surveillance program and how these components interrelate should include the following:

1. Biological Monitoring;
2. Protocols for testing and treating;
3. Determination of health hazards, exposures, and job-related risks;
4. Tracking systems;
5. Specific history of what the patient was exposed to or doing prior to their symptoms;
6. Exposure Monitoring System for environment, food, humans and domestic/food animals.

The biological monitoring component for glyphosate and its degradation and metabolic metabolites is a key component which is designed to anticipate disease by sampling and analyzing solid tissues, secretions or excretions. The end results of this monitoring are used to take both preventive and ongoing action for individuals exposed to environmental, workplace and food exposures.

Due to its interference with detoxifying enzymes in the liver, glyphosate enhances toxicity of other chemical exposures. Once a human exposure standard is supported that establishes a baseline of zero tolerance, one will have to address the effect of setting general examination requirements for the chemical glyphosate as well as the requirements for all other chemical exposures.

The proposed generic requirements would have a broader scope and may consist of the following:

1. Require initial exposure monitoring for individuals.
2. Specify the frequency of follow-up monitoring and increase the frequency, dependent upon the determination of systemic toxicological symptoms.
3. Implement specific air sampling techniques in terms of personal and/or environmental monitoring.
4. Develop procedures for individuals' observance of ambient sampling.
5. Require medical surveillance for all individuals pre and post exposure to one half the exposure limits (to be established as a true "zero" level).
6. Assess pre- and post environmental health and toxicology of route of exposure and its origins for glyphosate.

7. Establish a standard of result of the medical exam and tests conducted, as well as any conditions that require follow-up.
8. Adopt biologic exposure indices for glyphosate, its metabolites and degradation.

Collection of signatures is ongoing.

Update 6/19/2014 One week total: 32 medical professionals, 17 scientists and 102 concerned citizens. An e-mail account was set up to collect signatures and was instantly hacked. Signatures sent in the first 24 hours were lost.

Original letter published at the [Seattle Examiner](#).

Signed,

Medical Professionals

1. Dr. Hildegard Staninger, Industrial Toxicologist/IH & Doctor of Integrative Medicine; Chairperson, NREP SCADA Special Task Force Committee
2. Dr. Janet Starr Hull, Ph.D., CN (environmental toxicologist, author), Director of The Hullistic Network
3. Dr. Shiv Chopra, DVM, Ph.D. (microbiology), Fellow, World Health Organization, President, Canadian Council on Food Sovereignty & Health
4. Dr. Ben Colodzin, Ph.D., Psychology
5. Dr. Acacia Alcivar-Warren, DVM., Ph.D., Director, IMSEGI [International Marine Shrimp Environmental Genomics Initiative]
6. Kiki Corbin, CTN, ACSGC, Certified Traditional Naturopath
7. Dr. Rosemary Mason, MB ChB, FRCA. Physician/Anaesthetist, South Wales UK
8. Dr. Judy A. Mikovits, Ph.D., (Biochemistry and Molecular Biology), MAR Consulting
9. Tom A Malterre, MS, CN, President of Whole Life Nutrition
10. Dr. Dan Purser, MD
11. Dr. Tom Tang, MD, CTO of Guangxi Bestway Pharmaceutical Company, China
12. Sally Fallon Morell, President, The Weston A. Price Foundation
13. Dr. Terry Wahls, MD, Author, The Wahls Protocol
14. Dr. Kelly Brogan, MD, Board Certified Psychiatrist, NYU/Bellevue Medical Center
15. Dr. Ruth Dankanich Daumer
16. Dr. Michelle Perro, MD, Pediatrics, Integrative Medicine, Institute for Health and Healing
17. Dr. Christopher S. Rubel, MD, retired
18. Dr. Arpita M. Guha, D.O.
19. Dr. Karl Robinson, M.D.
20. Dr. George Guess, MD
21. Dr. Irene Sebastian, MD, PhD, Dht, Family Medicine
22. Dr. Richard Hiltner, MD, member, Board of Directors, California Homeopathic Medical Society
23. Lori B. Taylor, MA/MS, RD, CD, CNSC, Clinical Dietitian
24. Arden Andersen, D.O., M.S.P.H., Ph.D., Physician, author and agricultural scientist
25. Dr. Monika Kruger, University of Leipzig, Faculty of veterinary medicine
26. Dr. Michelle Blake, M.D.
27. Sonia Fullenwilder
28. Elizabeth Cox CMA, AAMA (American Association of Medical Assistants)
29. Philip Incao, MD
30. Dr. Lorrin Pang, MD, MPH, as private citizen, Consultant to World Health Organization 1985-

2005, Current Adviser to US Congress Medical Research Program

31. Dr. Les Berenson MD, FACP
32. M. Kelly Sutton, MD, Primary care physician

Scientists

33. Dr. Nancy L. Swanson, Ph.D. (physics), President, Abacus Enterprises
34. Dr. John Balatinecz, Ph.D., Emeritus Professor, University of Toronto
35. Dr. Evaggelos Vallianatos, Ph.D., former EPA analyst
36. Dr. Stephanie Seneff, Ph.D., Senior Research Scientist, MIT
37. Dr. Mae Wan Ho, Ph.D., Biochemistry, Prigogine Medalist, Director, Institute of Science in Society
38. Dr. Peter T. Saunders, Ph.D., Theoretical Astrophysics, Emeritus Professor, King's College, London
39. Dr. Don M. Huber, Plant Pathology, Professor Emeritus, Purdue University
40. Judy A. Hoy, Administrator of the Bitterroot Wildlife Rehabilitation Center and Independent Wildlife Researcher
41. Chen I-wan, adviser, Committee of Disaster Study to China Disaster Prevention Association
42. William Sanjour, (physics), Former EPA branch chief and policy analyst
43. Anthony Samsel, Consultant
44. Pamela Hallock Muller, Ph.D., Professor of Marine Science
45. Prof. Dr. Tony Pereira, UCLA ME Ph.D., Fulbright Scholar
46. Dr. Thierry Vrain, former Head of Biotechnology at Agriculture Canada
47. Dr. David Schubert, Ph.D. Professor, Salk Institute for Biological Studies
48. Dr. Warren Porter, Prof. of Zoology, Prof. of Env. Toxicology, U. of Wisconsin, Madison
49. Dr. Kent Blackledge, Ph.D. (genetics), MS (aquatic toxicology), former newspaper publisher

Concerned Citizens

50. Don Waldon
51. Carol Waldon
52. Shoshanna Allison, Media & Networker
53. Cynthia Follrich
54. Jack Olmsted, WWGF News
55. Doolie Brown
56. David Lawrence Dewey, Author/Columnist
57. Alan Hetterly
58. Heather Arvensis
59. Howard Vlieger, crop and livestock nutrition advisor since 1992
60. Claire Dvoskin, President, Children's Medical Safety Research Institute
61. Laurie A. Olson, Moms Across America Western Regional Organizer
62. Rhonda Watts-Hettinger
63. Ronnie Cummins, Director, Organic Consumers Association
64. F. William Engdahl, journalist & economist
65. Dr. Toni Clark, Ph.D., retired professor and concerned citizen
66. Dr. Beverly Goldie, Ed.D.

67. T. Matthew Phillips, Attorney-at-Law
68. Andre Leu B.A. Com., Grad Dip Ed., President, International Federation of Organic Agricultural Movements
69. Cynthia Zoltek
70. Ken Lewis
71. Karen Malecki
72. Thomas M. Morris
73. Allan Rydberg
74. Nathan Morgan
75. Kapil Agrawal
76. Jennifer Christi
77. Kristine Heffner
78. Linda Heffner
79. Gloria Heffner
80. Barbara Horn
81. Don Horn
82. Jody Heffner
83. Danielle Heffner
84. Keith Hittle
85. Tasha Hittle
86. Tara Hittle
87. Ave Maria Romine
88. Jenna Hendricks
89. Cheslea Lucas
90. Tristan Heffner
91. Tony Mitra
92. Dr. Philip H. King, Ph.D. (social scientist)
93. Donna Y. Adams RPT
94. Fred C. Adams
95. Mary Stanton
96. Paddy McAlister, Energy Medicine Association
97. Christine Robitaille, Leader of the International Coalition for Food Safety (ICFS)
98. Sheryl McCumsey
99. Isabel Rawlings Cohen, Artist/Environmental Activist, Member of International Coalition for Food Safety
100. Dr. Adrienne Samuels, Ph.D., psychology
101. Helen Driscoll, Wellness Coach
102. Eileen Dannemann, Director, National Coalition of Organized Women
103. Mark von Wodtke, FASLA, Professor Emeritus of Landscape Architecture
104. Patrice Anita
105. Jayme Domejka
106. David Starr
107. Suzanne Montalalou
108. M. Letourneau, New York
109. Mrs. Betty Kegley
110. Vicky Carlson
111. Zen Honeycutt, Founder and Director, Moms Across America
112. Jon Abrahamson
113. Rebecca D. Muzychka

114. Diane Lalomia, President and co-leader, NoGMO4Michigan.org
115. Velma Manulani Wagatsuma
116. Shonda Adams
117. Tracei Cagle
118. Daniel Heasley
119. Amina yasmine eid
120. Tosha Knight
121. Petra Simone
122. Nick Simone
123. Catherine Simone
124. Laura McCollum
125. Tracy L. Breeden
126. Lisa Robertson
127. Sandy Kinter
128. Virginia McBride, teacher, mother of DNP, daughter of physician
129. Pamm Larry, Initial Instigator Prop 37, Northern California Director, LabelGMOs.org
130. Deb Millikan
131. Kalpana Mehta
132. Margaret Elaine McCoy
133. Sarah Baird, an informed mother
134. Laura Lee Mistycah, Author
135. Leslie A. Lash White, fervent environmental/health/social activist
136. Carla M. Saldana
137. Sikhumbuzo Rondo Mzobe
138. Henry Rowlands, Coordinator, Global GMO Free Coailtion
139. Jerry Carlson, Editor Emeritus, Professional Farmers of America
140. Cindy Black
141. Randolph Smith
142. Dr. Kun Chen, Ph.D.
143. Tanya Quarterman
144. Charles Mish
145. Goldie Caughlan
146. Winifred Adams
147. Robert Gamble
148. Rosemary Bonda- mother of 5
149. Robert Shrewsbury, Manti, Utah
150. H. Scott Allison, MS CAC
151. Niki Thane

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