

TREATMENT INFORMATION GROUP

thinking about AIDS drugs

www.tig.org.za · anthony.brink@dr-rath-foundation.org · tel +27(0)214412003/0 · fax +27(0)214412101

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The Chairperson: Medicines Control Council
Professor Peter Eagles
School of Pharmacy
University of the Western Cape
Private Bag X17
Bellville

Dear Professor Eagles

MCC Review of its Special Registration of Nevirapine for Perinatal Administration,
and its Recent Recommendation that Nevirapine be Administered Together with AZT
in Perinatal Applications

I write to draw Council's attention to the latest findings of brain damage among children exposed to AZT and 3TC in utero, reported by Poblano et al. at the end of last year. Enclosed are both the Pubmed abstract of their paper, and the full text, which the authors kindly sent me.

I also enclose Parts Nine and Ten of *The trouble with nevirapine*, which I wrote in December.

Part Nine details the fraudulent suppression by the US NIH of the independent audits that found HIVNET 012 to have been a complete shambles, and it gives the inside story that I got from the senior NIH staffer who blew the whistle on the scandal.

Part Ten lets the wind out of another recently reported mother to child AZT and nevirapine clinical trial, the bad news about which the deputy editor of the *South African Medical Journal* shamefully suppressed. Just so you know when Boehringer Ingelheim comes trying to rely on this junk study too.

Please pass the information on to the responsible sub-committee.

Yours sincerely

ADV ANTHONY BRINK
CONVENER AND NATIONAL CHAIRMAN
TREATMENT INFORMATION GROUP

The **Treatment Information Group** is a public interest initiative to promote *research-based* debate of antiretroviral drug policy, alternative non-toxic treatment approaches to AIDS, and HIV testing issues in South Africa. The TIG has entered into a strategic alliance with the **Dr. Rath Health Foundation Africa** to achieve this.

The Terraces, 34 Bree Street, Cape Town
www.dr-rath-foundation.org.za

Propaganda is to democracies what violence is to dictatorships.
Noam Chomsky