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November 1, 1969

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Geneticist
Stanford University
Palo Alto, California

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

Today's Los Angeles Times printed quotations from your discussion of the newly released German Measles vaccine.

This morning our 16-year old daughter received an injection of the vaccine. Now we are wondering if it could possibly cause chromosome breaks which could affect her children born, for example, five years from now.

Could you please explain something which is not clear from reading the newspaper article?

Are the possible mutagenic effects of the vaccine a danger only if the vaccine is given during the first 3 months of pregnancy?

Or does the vaccine, given at any time, possibly cause mutations in egg cells which will affect her future children?

We would very much appreciate a reply.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Barbara MacArthur
1012 Hillcroft Road
Glendale, California 91207

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