

The Current Measles Vaccine

The issue of vaccination is one of much controversy. There are medical practitioners who are either staunchly in favour of vaccination or staunchly against it.

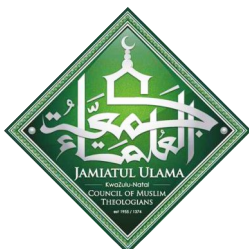
Those in favour cite the diseases that vaccinations have eradicated whilst those in opposition cite the cases of children who have had adverse reactions to vaccines to the point of complete retardation of the brain.

While we often hear that vaccines are safe, almost every medication has side-effects which includes even regular pain killers like paracetamol. A vaccine is the introduction of a virus into the body or such substances and agents that mimic a virus. Like other medication, the possibility of side-effects and adverse reactions exist. Ultimately, it is the choice of each parent to make an educated and responsible decision on whether or not to vaccinate their children.

The Department of Health is currently in the process of administering the measles vaccine in KZN schools. **This vaccination contains porcine (pork) gelatine.** Parents who wish to vaccinate their children must ensure that the vaccines given do not contain impermissible ingredients.

The Jamiatul Ulama KZN would like to unequivocally state that the current measles vaccine that has porcine gelatine is not permissible for Muslims to take.

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