

DATE

Ken Frazier, CEO  
One Merck Drive  
P.O. Box 100  
Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889-0100

Dear Mr. Frazier,

I write to urge you and your colleagues at Merck to discontinue using cell lines derived from elective abortions in the manufacture of your MMR, Chickenpox, and Hepatitis-A vaccines.

Please understand that as one of your potential customers, I believe it is immoral to use abortion-derived tissues and/or cell lines in the production, testing or manufacture of vaccines and other pharmaceutical products. If I have the opportunity to receive an alternative vaccine that has no connection to abortion, I will choose that vaccine instead of Merck's vaccines that use abortion-derived cell lines.

It is my understanding that alternative, non-abortion-derived cell sources are available or could be made available. Had Merck instead chosen to use a cell line with no connection to abortion for some of its vaccines, it would have eliminated a significant moral dilemma now faced by substantial numbers of people.

As research and testing continue at Merck, I respectfully but strongly urge you to take note of my objections and discontinue the use of abortion-derived cell lines in the development and testing of your products. This is an issue of emerging importance and one about which persons of faith are becoming increasingly knowledgeable. Now and in the future, I will continue to seek out and support those pharmaceutical companies that avoid the use of abortion-derived cell lines.

Sincerely,