

## **Case 2**

Parents bring their 12-month-old in for a well-baby check. They have always been very concerned about vaccinations but have, reluctantly, followed the recommended schedule to date. The baby is due for MMRV at this time, but they are very concerned about this vaccine in particular because of the possibility of autism (from Dr. Wakefield's study) and are considering delaying that vaccine until baby is older. After discussion, they decline the MMRV (though they agree to the meningococcal vaccine) but say they'll consider it. They return to the clinic 1 month later for an unrelated concern (eczema) and the MMRV topic is broached again. They remain concerned about the link between MMR vaccine and autism.

\*Meningococcal Conjugate C (MenconC/Men-C-C) is part of the routine immunization schedule at 12 months in almost all provinces.

### **Questions:**

1. What is your initial response to the parents?
2. What about parents' concerns regarding "toxins" like mercury, aluminum, and formaldehyde in vaccines, and their safety?
3. How do you address these fears?

Mom and dad express some degree of relief and go home with the baby. They return for the 15-month well baby visit, and had a few more questions about the vaccine, you reassure them, and they agree to proceed with the MMRV and recommended schedule.