

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Office of the Secretary

Assistant Secretary for Health
Office of Public Health and Science
Washington D.C. 20201

AUG 29 2006

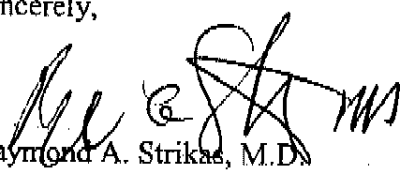
Robert D. McCracken, Ph.D.
Hygea Publishing
3930 So. Swenson Suite 810
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

Dear Dr. McCracken:

Thank you for your letters regarding the possible impact of large doses of injected vitamin C on pandemic influenza, which were referred by Secretary Leavitt to my office for reply. I noted in reviewing your website www.injectablevitaminC.com and the book you have edited that the supporting studies for the use of vitamin C in the conditions described, including influenza, were not controlled. These studies did not include subjects who received no vitamin C, but otherwise equivalent supportive treatment, and who were studied at the same time as those who received vitamin C. In addition, many of the subjects in the papers published by Dr. Klenner cited in your book did not have definitive diagnoses of influenza, poliomyelitis, or other specific infections, that is the diagnoses were made on clinical grounds, but not confirmed by laboratory testing. As a result, one cannot definitively conclude without substantial further study that vitamin C in these studies had benefit beyond that of the supportive therapy. In addition, a review of the current medical literature does not offer any conclusive evidence that vitamin C would have beneficial effects on influenza. Therefore, it would be difficult to encourage further research in this area.

I thank you for your interest and would like to direct you to www.pandemicflu.gov, where you can find both the *HHS Pandemic Influenza Plan* and the White House National Security Council's *National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza*, both released in November 2005, the *Implementation Plan for the National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza*, and other information regarding the many preparedness activities currently being undertaken by the Federal government.

Sincerely,



Raymond A. Strikas, M.D.
Medical Officer
National Vaccine Program Office
Department of Health and Human Services