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The review of the Italian association of psycho-neuro-endocrine-immunology

Edited by Francesco Bottaccioli

PNEI NEWS

The new knowledge of science and health

BEYOND VACCINE POLICIES



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PNEI NEWS NR 4-5 – July- October 2017

EDITORIAL

Page 3. Beyond the vaccine policies

Francesco Bottaccioli

Vaccination: The Document.

Page 4. Vaccination: critical observations and proposals

The “ipse dixit” claim to an authority is not a good method to spread scientific culture. The best approach is rather showing the beauty of the scientific method, one of the best example of a critical, dialectic, democratic and open thinking.

INTERVIEW

Page 12. Microbiota and pregnancy.

Good bacteria since the very beginning of life

Dialogue with Flavia Indrio and Josef Neu, partners in a American-Italian research team, who are investigating the relationship between microbiota during pregnancy and the imprinting of the immune system and of the developing fetus’s brain.

Paola Emilia Cicerone

MEDICINE AND PSYCHOLOGY

Page 15. Heartbreaking emotions: the Takotsubo cardiomyopathy seen from a Pnei standpoint.

This article is an excerpt of the much wider work discussed by the author during her dissertation for the Master in Pnei and Science of Integrative Care.

Roberta dell’Acqua

SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS – 1

Page 18. Microbiome and epigenetic

New keys for a better understanding of medicine

A national Sipnei congress will be held in Florence. During the session significant topics will be debated. We will inquire about the current scientific revolution based on epigenetic and the role of microbiota which integrates and enriches the paradigm of Psychoneuroendocrineimmunology

Lorenzo Emmi, Franco Cracolici

SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS – 2

Page 20. Proprioception. Perceiving oneself from the inside as the foundation of the perception of the self.

The SIPNEI Congress on “Proprioception and health. Interoception, body awareness and consciousness. Theory and practice.” will be held in Milan on 25th November 2017.

Nicola Barsotti, Marco Chiera, Diego Lanaro

BOOKS

Page 23. The life and revolutionary ideas of A.T. Still, the founder of osteopathy.

Nicola Barsotti, Francesco Bottaccioli

SPECIAL ISSUE: IN MEMORY OF A GREAT INTELLECTUAL

Page 25. Anthropology between individual and contest: a systemic interpretation of human condition

We publish the contribution of the late Prof. Tullio Seppilli. This excerpt is part of a collective volume "Mutamenti nelle basi delle scienze", Tecniche Nuove, edited by Francesco Bottaccioli. In his work Seppilli proposes a very innovative vision of anthropology, where this discipline finally merges with biomedicine and psychology without any reductionist subjugation. On the contrary, this joint is framed in a systemic approach and restores its authentic meaning namely: science of the human being.

BEYOND THE VACCINE POLICIES

Francesco Bottaccioli

Master Director of Pnei and Science of Integrative Care, University of Aquila, Pnei Master Coordinator at the University of Turin

Thanks to an initiative of SIPNEI, a public discussion on the government vaccine policies based on evidence and scientific method will be held in Rome on the 18th November.

The importance of this congress lies obviously on the significance represented by this theme. This is a topic that can not be reduced only to the evaluation of the risk-benefits balance or the analysis of conflict between the individual's rights and the protection of society. These are undoubtedly very important aspects and yet if left alone they do not develop thoroughly all the relevant matters tied to this controversy that is still stirring the society.

There are at least other two aspects that need to be considered.

The first aspect is the child immune system which is still semi-unknown.

We see the paradox of a debate and a peremptory act from the government that affects a physiological system of which we know still very little. This act rose naturally several doubts. What could be the effects of a multiple and simultaneous stimulation on the immune system of newborn babies and what are the risks related to the use of adjuvants on such an unbalanced physiological status which is typical of the neonatal immunity?

The answers provided (when provided) by the healthcare and scientific authorities have not been satisfactory and, to be frank, they resulted as not believable and an insult to the scientific intelligence and culture.

The second aspect concerns the use of science and scientific authority done by the media. It is mortifying to assist to the *performance* given by some University Professors who missed a precious opportunity to communicate the beauty of the evidence-based scientific method and the critical debate about the evidence itself since they preferred a Marquis del Grillo attitude (*"Io sono io e voi siete un cazzo!" - "I am who I am and you are fuck all!"*). This stance has a long and not so honorable history in the scientific field. The medieval Scholastic was all based on the authority of the professorship, of the "ipse dixit". This authority allowed professors who had never seen a corpse to decree on human anatomy just by reading a text from Galen. Other professors instead were decreeing upon the order of the Universe without ever having observed the sky with a telescope.

Vesalius, Galileo and Descartes initiated the scientific and philosophical revolution which lead to the concept that a truth is never incontrovertible but it is the result of evidences followed by a critical debate on the same evidences. Science is not dogmatic by definition, as it destroys the dogmas that were created by it.

Proposing a dogmatic science is not only an oxymoron, but an act of domineering culture that eliminates the few doctors that still dare to express critical opinions. It also does not allow scientific culture to grow among the common citizens who are seen as passive recipients of health policies treating them as a herd of sheep. By doing that, science contributes in turning the citizens into passive subjects and to

the arousal of repressed rage toward the institutions. These ones are disquieting signs of a democracy that has come to a crisis.

This is why the Congress of the 18th November concerns all of us, not only who has children in vaccine age or the medical doctors professionally involved. At stake there is much more than vaccine policies.