

Study Says Aspirin Linked To Reye Syndrome

In the midst of the flu season, important new information has become available about the development -- in teens and children with flu -- of Reye syndrome, a rare but serious condition that kills 20 to 30 percent of its young victims and leaves many survivors brain-damaged.

The new information comes from a U.S. Public

Health Service pilot study of a possible link seen in four earlier state studies between the use of aspirin in treating flu or chicken pox and an increased risk of Reye syndrome.

The Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences has reviewed the pilot study and found "strong support" for the link.

Although personnel from

the Food and Drug Administration, the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control will continue the study through next winter, the Institute of Medicine advised that the federal government not wait to inform and protect the public.

As a result, Health and Human Services Secretary Margaret M. Heckler has asked manufacturers to remove any recommended use in flu and chicken pox from aspirin-containing products aimed at children--and to add a warning to all aspirin-containing products against use for flu and chicken pox in children and teens.

The pilot study looked at the histories of drug treatments and other factors of 29 young people who got Reye syndrome last year. Use of aspirin for flu or chicken pox symptoms was the common thread shown in 28 of the 29 (whereas ordinarily less than half the young people with flu or chicken pox would be expected to take aspirin.)

U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, M.D., has said that most childhood illnesses are self-limiting and usually don't require any medication at all. Doctors often suggest that a child with fever simply be made comfortable with cool compresses.

Of course, physicians continue to find aspirin useful and safe for adult, teen and childhood arthritis and other conditions.

Reye syndrome is a rare condition--a few hundred cases a year. It was named in 1963 for an Australian pathologist who described it as a swelling of the brain, combined with liver malfunction and blood chemistry disorders leading in most cases to death.

Improved recognition and early treatment of the disease has helped reduce the death rate, but still about one out of four reported cases are fatal.

It is crucial to take action quickly if Reye's symptoms occur--whether or not aspirin or an aspirin-containing product has been used. The first sign is generally persistent vomiting. The young person may be sleepy and lethargic, but still responsive. Within half a day, he or she can become disoriented, combative and delirious.

Untreated, the teenager or child can go into a coma and die.

Thus, Reye is a medical emergency. A child with Reye syndrome symptoms must be taken immediately to a hospital, where blood and body fluids can be monitored and a respirator used if breathing fails. Surgery may be needed, in some cases, to relieve pressure on the swollen brain. Therefore, act promptly if you suspect Reye syndrome.

Board Passes Resolution For KM Realtors Board

A resolution of commendation on the chartering of the Kings Mountain Board of Realtors was passed unanimously by the Board of City Commissioners Monday night as the first official business of the regular meeting.

The resolution was signed by Mayor John Henry Moss and attested by City Clerk Joe McDaniel and was presented to Ruby M. Alexander, first president of the KM Board of Realtors during the Charter Night Meeting of the group Monday evening at Holiday Inn.

It reads:

"WHEREAS, the North Carolina Association of realtors was founded in 1921 and incorporated in 1935; and

WHEREAS, local realtors have put forth tremendous time and effort to qualify for a charter under jurisdiction of the North Carolina Association and National Association of Realtors; and

WHEREAS, local realtors have been issued a charter as

the Kings Mountain Board of Realtors, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the Kings Mountain Board of Realtors have pledged themselves to uphold the ideals of the National Board of Realtors and the North Carolina Board of Realtors by promoting competence in real estate dealing through education, civic and professional activities and by practicing pride and respect for the property of the community; and the protection of citizens through local programs of information and education;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Commissioners on this, the 11th day of February, 1985, that we do hereby adopt this Resolution of congratulations and commendation to the Kings Mountain Board of Realtors and pledge our cooperation in community projects to enhance the quality of living for the citizens of Kings Mountain."

Beth Parsons To Give Recital At Gardner-Webb

Beth Parsons, flutist and junior music major at Gardner-Webb College, will give a junior recital Thursday, Feb. 14, at 8 p.m.

Steven McDonald, bass-baritone, will also perform.

The recital, open to the public free of charge, will be held in Dover chapel at the G-W campus.

Daughter of Russell and Billie Parsons of Ruby, S.C., Miss Parsons will perform selections by Nicholson, Woodall and Young.

She will be accompanied on the piano by Mark Anderson. Miss Parsons is a student

from the studio of Irene Maddox, adjunct professor of music at G-W.

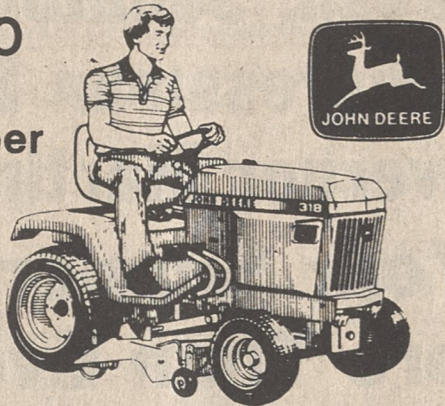
Miss Parsons is a member of the Charlotte Flute Association, the Charlotte flute choir, the G-W Music Educators National Conference, and is vice president of the G-W Baptist Student Union.

Gardner-Webb is a liberal arts college affiliated with the Baptist State Convention of N.C., offering associate, bachelor and master's degrees. The college is noted for its independence of federal funding.

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HOT DOG SALE
Chestnut Ridge Volunteer Fire Department will hold a hot dog sale Sat., Feb. 23 from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the fire department off Highway 161 and 216 in Kings Mountain. Call 739-5927 or 739-5853 for information.

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♥
♥ **To Denise:** ♥
♥ *Happy* ♥
♥ *Valentines* ♥
♥ *Day Darling* ♥
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