

**Autism NI (PAPA)**  
**POSITION STATEMENT**

**MEASLES, MUMPS & RUBELLA**

**THE MMR VACCINE**

The Autism Society of Northern Ireland, Autism NI (PAPA), believes that the Government must, as a matter of great urgency set up an independent research programme into the safety of the MMR vaccine. In the interim, an alternative to the triple vaccine must be provided to reintroduce the right of parental choice at this anxious time.

Growing research and concern highlight the need for further research into the efficiency and safety of single vaccines and the dosage and timing of their administration.

Autism NI (PAPA) is supportive of the immunisation programme and is concerned that this may be jeopardised if parents are given no alternative to the MMR vaccine and vaccination levels continue to fall. With proper Government intervention now this can be avoided and public trust restored.

It is clear that the Government funding of advertising to support the status quo is viewed generally by our members as an insult, given the genuine concerns they have and the inadequate levels of support and provision at a time when the incidence of Autistic Spectrum Disorders is rapidly increasing. Advertising does not provide answers, proper independent research does.

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