



The **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** has quietly updated its website with new language acknowledging that the long-debated connection between childhood vaccines and autism hasn't been fully ruled out — a dramatic departure from years of ironclad government messaging.

The updated CDC wording now admits: **“The claim ‘vaccines do not cause autism’ is not an evidence-based claim because studies have**

not ruled out the possibility that infant vaccines cause autism.” It goes on to note that **“studies supporting a link have been ignored by health authorities.”**

For decades, federal agencies aggressively repeated the blanket statement that *vaccines do not cause autism* — a phrase the CDC now says was “historically disseminated” to prevent vaccine hesitancy. The old version of the page insisted, “Studies have shown that there is no link between receiving vaccines and developing autism spectrum disorder (ASD).”

Yet the CDC is keeping the original header — **“Vaccines do not cause autism”** — with an asterisk, saying the phrase remains due only to a *prior agreement*, not because new evidence supports it.

Conservative health-freedom advocates see the shift as a long-overdue correction. **Mary Holland**, president and CEO of Children's Health Defense in New Jersey, praised the update, telling Fox News Digital: **“Finally, the CDC is beginning to acknowledge the truth about this condition that affects millions, disavowing the bold, long-running lie that ‘vaccines do not cause autism.’ No studies have ever proved this irresponsible claim; on the contrary, many studies point to vaccines as the plausible primary cause of autism.”** She added that it is “thankfully” significant that HHS has opened new investigations into “plausible biological mechanisms.”

According to the CDC, the **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)** has launched a **“comprehensive assessment”** of potential autism causes, including “plausible biologic mechanisms and potential causal links.” For many parents who feel dismissed by the medical establishment, the review represents the first hint that federal agencies may finally be listening.

But the medical establishment isn't backing down. The **American Academy of Pediatrics** continues to insist that the vaccine-autism link has been thoroughly disproven, stating: **“Studies have repeatedly found no credible link between life-saving childhood vaccines and autism.”** The group doubled down, saying scientists know “with certainty” that vaccines are not among autism's causes.

Meanwhile, autism rates continue to climb. CDC data show that among 8-year-olds born in 2014, **1 in 31 children (3.2%)** have been identified with autism — a striking increase from **1 in 150 (0.67%) in 2000**. Parents, critics, and some lawmakers say the numbers alone justify deeper scrutiny, not more government assurances.