



Peter Hotez

National School of Tropical Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine
Monday, October 24, 2022; 12:00 PM

Peter Hotez MD PhD is Professor of Pediatrics and Molecular Virology & Microbiology at Baylor College of Medicine where he is also the Dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine and Texas Children's Hospital Chair in Tropical Pediatrics and Co-Director of the Texas Children's Hospital Center for Vaccine Development (CVD). Prof. Hotez has a lifelong interest in developing vaccines for neglected tropical diseases such as hookworm infection, schistosomiasis, and Chagas disease, as well as coronavirus infections, including COVID-19. The Texas Children's Hospital CVD

COVID-19 vaccine technology in India was used to produce CORBEVAX now administered to 30 million 12-14 year old adolescent children in India where it was also approved for 5-11 year olds. CORBEVAX has also been approved in Botswana, with approvals pending in other low- and middle-income countries. Prof. Hotez obtained his MD PhD from the Rockefeller University and Weill Cornell Medical College, after residency training at the Massachusetts General Hospital he was on the faculty at Yale University School of Medicine before becoming the Chair of Microbiology at George Washington University, prior to his current position. He is the author of more than 600 scientific paper and 4 single author books, most recently, Preventing the Next Pandemic: Vaccine Diplomacy in a Time of Anti-Science (Johns Hopkins University Press). Prof. Hotez is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine and American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and was recently awarded the Scientific Achievement Award from the AMA (American Medical Association) and the RWJF David E. Rogers award from the AAMC (Association of American Medical College), in addition to the Popkin Award from the Anti-Defamation League, and the McGovern Award from the American Medical Writers Association.

Abstract: COVID-19 Vaccines: Science vs Antiscience

The Texas Children's Hospital Center for Vaccine Development is leading the development of new vaccines for poverty-related neglected diseases and COVID-19. In India, where the Texas Children's Hospital CVD vaccine technology is known as CORBEVAX produced by Biological E has been administered to at least 30 million adolescent children. It is produced by microbial fermentation in yeast, a safe and vegan technology that is also used to produce recombinant protein hepatitis B vaccine globally. While accelerating the development of new vaccines, as the father of four adult children, including Rachel with autism and intellectual disabilities, I have been helping to lead efforts to combat an accelerating antivaccine movement. Since May 1, 2021, an estimated 200,000 unvaccinated Americans have died because they refused COVID-19 vaccines. They were victims of growing antiscience aggression, which has now become a dominant and lethal social force and disease determinant in the US.