

COLORADO

CAFÉ SCIENTIFIQUE

TUESDAY 17 JUNE 2008

at the Wynkoop Brewing Company

<http://www.wynkoop.com/>

Corner of 18th and Wynkoop in LoDo, Denver
About a block from Light Rail. Thirteen minutes by foot from Auraria.

Prevention of Infectious Diseases: Vaccines and Immunity

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"Immunity" means "exemption," protection against the destructive effects of infections. In the last 100 years, our lifespan in the U.S. had doubled due in large part to improved sanitation and control of infectious diseases, particularly with vaccines. Deaths that were once common from polio, diphtheria, measles, smallpox have now largely disappeared, prevented by immunization. The memory of the danger and death from these diseases has largely faded.

Now immunization is routine for most children and many adults, but questions arise in our healthy communities about vaccine safety and efficacy. Do we get immunized to protect ourselves or to protect the community, or both? Are the risks from vaccines worse than the risks of the diseases they prevent? Since many of these diseases are so uncommon now, do we still need vaccines?

What new vaccines are available (such as to prevent shingles and cervical cancer) and what vaccine would we like to see soon (such as to prevent HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria or West Nile Virus)? Bring your perspective from the past and about the future and we'll talk.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME. The discussion starts at 6:30 in the Mercantile Room (no food service there). Come before 6 PM to leave yourself time to get something to eat in the restaurant area, or stay and eat afterwards. We end around 8 PM.

There's no charge. The Wynkoop is generously providing the facility; we buy our own drinks. It is first come, first seated, and **seating is limited** so that everyone can take part in the discussion.

The Colorado Café Scientifique in Denver is organized by an informal committee of faculty from CU and institutions up and down the Front Range, as well as writers, students, and science fans from industry, government and all over. We welcome your input, including ideas for speakers and topics. Bring them with you to the next Café, or e-mail them and any questions to John.Cohen@UCHSC.edu

Essential information on our Web site at <http://CafeSciColorado.org>