Abstract (summary)

Dr. G. Pran Talwar, director of India's National Institute of Immunology in New Delhi, described his vaccine here May 27 to the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Normally, as soon as a woman's egg is fertilized, it releases a hormone called human chorionic gonadotropin, or more simply HCG, which activates another hormone called progesterone. That hormone acts as a chemical signal to the uterus to prepare to receive and nourish the fertilized egg.

Talwar's vaccine introduces genetically cloned HCG antibodies that destroy the HCG, preventing the fertilized egg from sending out its essential hormonal signal.