Update on Military Vaccination Programs: 
Providing a Continuum of Care in Immunizations

Presented to:

Defense Health Board
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24 April 2008

UNCLASSIFIED
PURPOSE: To provide information on the Military Vaccine Agency’s operations, current DoD policies and opportunities for training with Immunization University.

1. MILVAX Mission
2. Vaccine Healthcare Centers Network
3. Anthrax Vaccination Program
4. Smallpox Vaccination Program
5. Other Vaccines
6. Immunization University
7. Questions / Discussion
MILVAX MISSION

• Synchronize information, deliver education, and coordinate U.S. military immunization programs worldwide
• Assist senior leaders with policy development
• Promote quality in immunization delivery
• Enhance scientific understanding of vaccines
• Provide specialized clinical management of complex adverse events
A network of 17 military immunization-focused analysts “embedded” with Command & Control headquarters world-wide
• Vaccine Clinical Support & Consultation Services
  – Adverse events & efficacy case management, medical exemptions

• Vaccine Safety
  – Surveillance, reporting & adverse events registry, long term follow-up

• Immunization Education
  – For Health Care Workers & Service Members, Beneficiaries, DoD, etc.
  – Integrate with Immunization University

• Support for Research
  – Clinical focus, post-licensure, to “enhances vaccine safety, efficacy & acceptability”
  – Adult military vaccine related gaps

• Advocacy
  – For quality immunization healthcare delivery
  – For care, compassion & fairness

• Outreach & Support
  – 24/7 Clinical Call Center
  – Secure Consultative E-mail
• 24hr DoD Call Center support
• Immunization Tool Kit
• Project Immune Readiness
• Immunization University
• VHC Network Website (vhcinfo.org)
• Secure web-based Q&A for patients & providers
• Knowledge, Attitudes & Beliefs Surveys
VACCINE HEALTHCARE CENTERS NETWORK
Challenges: Current & Future

• Complex (mandatory and voluntary) vaccination programs
  – Service members AD/Reserve: 2,400,000
  – DoD employees > 2,000,000
  – Beneficiaries > 6,000,000
  – Homeland defense support Millions++

• Program Management and Policy Development
  – Increasing complexities
  – DOD global mission with evolving challenges
  – Competing resources to support missions

• Vaccine Safety, Efficacy and Acceptability
  – Increasing complexities: clinical, educational, science, etc
  – Changing perceptions towards diseases and vaccines
  – Surveillance: Life-Cycle, Ongoing
  – Expanding expectations with existing resources
Start Mar 98; resume Sep 02; expand Jun 04

Injunction Oct 04; Emergency Use Authorization

(EUA) Jan 05; FDA issued Final Order Dec 05

DoD Policy Review between Dec 05 – Oct 06

DEPSECDEF announced new policy on 12 Oct 06:

- **Mandatory** anthrax vaccinations for personnel deploying to higher risk areas (U.S. Central Command and Korea) and for other select units with unique missions. Includes some emergency-essential contractors and DoD civilians
- **Voluntary** anthrax vaccinations for family members; other U.S. civilians in higher risk areas; and anyone that received one or more doses since 1998

ASD(HA) approved Service plans on 8 Feb 07

The USD(P&R) approved a change in policy for the pre-deployment administration of anthrax and smallpox vaccinations from 60 to 120 days in Sep 07.
Over 7.4 million doses to over 1.9 million personnel since 1998

- FDA-approved vaccine production steady; Strategic Stockpile
- Safety: 26 published studies, on-going studies, plus concurrence of eight independent reviews
- Pending dose-reduction / Route change (FDA)
SMALLPOX VACCINATION PROGRAM

• Over 1.6 million personnel screened; 1.5 million vaccinated since 2002
• Policy: Those at highest risk – CENTCOM; Korea; Special Units/Teams
• Safety: 3 cases eczema vaccinatum; 61 cases contact transfer; 168 cases myo-pericarditis (suspect -26, probable - 137, confirmed – 5)

Cumulative Smallpox Vaccinations Since 2002

DEERS data as of 12 Apr 08
• Continue to protect the force – greater emphasis with pandemic concerns
• Status 2007-2008 season: over 90%
• Vaccine procurement and distribution - Defense Supply Center Philadelphia (DSCP); 3.5M doses for 2007-2008
• DoD sites used seasonal flu drive for “Mass Vaccination” training (pandemic preparedness – lessons learned)
• Change in intranasal vaccine (FluMist®) storage for 2007-2008 season
• New civilian health care personnel policy
PANDEMIC INFLUENZA VACCINE

- A/H5N1 vaccine: DoD owns 1.6M doses @ 90 mcg from Sanofi Pasteur, based on 2004 virus from Vietnam ("1203 vaccine") – clade 1
  - FDA licensed vaccine on 17 Apr 07
  - About 1.1M doses bottled

- Smaller clade-2 purchase and clade-3 vaccines under development & testing

- Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) approved the "DoD Pre-pandemic Influenza Vaccine Policy" on 10 Aug 07

- Concept: Lab Workers; Begin immunizing others at WHO Phase 4
U.S. MILITARY IMMUNIZATION – TODAY

Endemic Disease Threats
• (universal, occupational, +/- or geographic)
  • Hepatitis A
  • Hepatitis B
  • Influenza A&B
  • Japanese encephalitis (replacement)
  • Measles, mumps, rubella
  • Meningococcal A,C,Y,W-135

Papillomavirus (HPV)
• Poliomyelitis
• Rabies
• Rotavirus (infants)
• Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis
• Typhoid fever
• Varicella (chickenpox)
• Yellow fever

Bioweapon Threats
• Anthrax
• Smallpox (vaccinia)

Desirable:
• Adenovirus types 4, 7
• Botulism
• Meningococcal group B
• Plague
• Malaria
• …Et cetera
Collection of resources to enhance the skills of professionals and paraprofessionals. “Imz U” offers training through distance learning and on-site classes.

Training Resources
- Project Immune Readiness (50 hours)
- Immunization-Allergy Technician Course
- Immunization Toolkit
- Immunization Tracking System Training
- Instructional Video Presentations
- et cetera
- Clinic Quality Improvement Program (CQIP)
- “Six-Sided” Training & Competency Files
- Policies & Procedures (prototype SOPs)
- Communication Tools
- Clinical Guidelines for Managing Adverse Events
- Directory of Immunization Clinics
Over 1200 Unique Visitors per Day

DoD Smallpox Briefings are now available in a streaming multimedia format wherever you see the Red, White & Blue MULTIMEDIA button. Healthcare providers are encouraged to register for a MyImmunU account to receive credit.

DoD Transitioning to New Smallpox Vaccine

In early 2008, DoD is transitioning from Wyeth’s Dryvax brand of smallpox vaccine to Acambis’ ACAM2000 brand of smallpox vaccine. ACAM2000 is a vaccine licensed and approved by the FDA for protection against smallpox.

Maintaining optimum health and well-being of Service members is our top priority. Smallpox disease is contagious, deadly, and would disrupt military readiness. Smallpox vaccination is the best protection against the threat of smallpox. The DoD’s smallpox vaccination program is part of our national defense strategy to safeguard Americans against a biological attack.

The current DoD policy remains unchanged, smallpox vaccinations are still mandatory for those in higher risk areas.

DoD Resumes Mandatory Anthrax Vaccinations for Select Groups

MILVAX Website

www.vaccines.mil -or- www.vaccines.army.mil

Thursday, April 17, 2008 4:24:19 PM ET

Streaming Smallpox Briefings Now Available

FDA Approves New Vaccine to Prevent Gastroenteritis Caused by Rotavirus

On 3 Feb 08, the FDA announced the approval of Rotarix, the second oral U.S. licensed vaccine for the prevention of rotavirus, an infection that causes gastroenteritis (vomiting and diarrhea) in infants and children. Rotarix is a liquid and given in a two-dose series to infants from 6 to 24 weeks of age.

Vaccine-Only MMQC Listserv Now Available

You can now register to receive only vaccine-related MMQC messages. USAMMA has just modified their Listserv rules to allow you to sign up for specific message threads, including Vaccines.

Log on & register, or change your subscription preferences now.

2008 Recommended Immunization Schedule for Persons Age 0-18 Years Released

The childhood and adolescent immunization schedule and the catch-up immunization schedule for 2008 have been approved by Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), and the American Academy of Pediatrics

National Infant Immunization Week

April 24-30, 2008

National Infant Immunization Week is an annual observance to highlight the importance of protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases and celebrate the achievements of immunization programs in promoting healthy communities. Since 1994, NIIN has served as a call to action for parents, caregivers, and healthcare providers to ensure that infants are fully immunized against 14 vaccine-preventable diseases.

Vaccine Healthcare Centers Network

Are you a Vaccinee with a medical problem caused by a vaccine? Do you have questions about medical exemptions? Are you a Health Care

*WWW.VACCINES.MIL* *WWW.ANTHRAX.MIL* *WWW.SMALLPOX.MIL*
MILVAX Website Cont’d.

31 DISEASES

Diseases

- Anthrax
- Bacillus anthracis
- Rabies
- Shigellosis
- Smallpox
- Tetanus
- Tuberculosis (TB)
- Typhoid
- Yellow Fever

News

- Western Canada anthrax outbreak worst in decades
- Anthrax Victim Says He’s Ready to Perform

Politics

- Continuation of the Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program (AVIP) - AF 22 Dec 05
- Exception to Policies for Anthrax Vaccination - 16 Aug 05

Screening

- Use of Anthrax Vaccine in the United States - 16 Dec 05
- Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)
- All potential vaccines must be screened

Carefully read & complete screening form, medical professionals available to explain in layman’s terms
- Ask for clarification if unsure how to answer screening questions
- Contact family members who may know about childhood history of recurrent rashes like eczema
- Talk to close contacts and family members about the vaccination program and safety precautions
- Ask for assistance at any point, if you or your family members have safety concerns
TOP FIVE INITIATIVES

• Transition to ACAM 2000 Smallpox Vaccine
• Anthrax Vaccine (New Distribution/Dose Reduction/Route Change)
• Immunization Tracking Systems (AHLTA Module)
• Outreach to 100% Personnel Providing DoD Immunizations
• DoD Basic Standards for Immunization Training
QUESTIONS?
The Secretary of the Army shall serve as Executive Agent for the military immunization program, funded through the centralized Defense Health Program. The Executive Agent shall:

- Establish a **MILVAX Office** to synchronize, integrate, and coordinate efforts in immunization services for all DoD Components. The purpose of these efforts is to facilitate and promote the quality of immunization policy, implementation, education, distribution, risk communication, administration, clinical services, safety surveillance, and program evaluation.

- Provide a comprehensive access point for information, education resources, and coordination of immunization-related activities for the Military Services.

- Monitor resources used in performing assigned responsibilities and functions.

- Develop uniform procedures to identify, report, and evaluate vaccine-associated adverse events.