



DoD Smallpox Vaccination Program

**National Immunization Conference
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DoD Smallpox Vaccination Program

- Key Points:
 - The decision is about being prepared.
 - Smallpox is contagious, deadly, and would disrupt military missions.
 - Smallpox vaccine is effective, but requires careful use.
 - Our people are our most important asset.
 - This plan is part of our Global War on Terrorism.



DoD Smallpox Vaccination Policy

- Announced by President Bush, 13 Dec 02.
 - Vaccinating troops before an attack is best way to ensure they are protected and can continue their missions.
- Several Stages:
 - Stage 1a: Smallpox Epidemic Response Teams (SERTs).
 - 2,000 to 5,000 people, beginning mid-Dec 02.
 - Stage 1b: Medical Teams for Hospitals & Large Clinics.
 - 10,000 to 25,000 people, beginning early Jan 03.
 - Stage 2: Mission-Critical Forces: CENTCOM + Homeland.
 - About 500,000 troops, beginning early Jan 03.



Precautions in Vaccination

- Education up front and throughout process
- Screening for contraindications (same as FDA & ACIP)
- Periodic HIV screening
- Pregnancy screening and testing
- Healthcare workers: Bandages, sleeves, hand-washing, site-evaluation stations
- All other troops: Bandages, sleeves, hand-washing
- QA of Vaccinator: Evaluate take rates among first cohort of people (e.g., 50 to 100) vaccinated by each vaccinator
- Documentation: Screening, Vaccination, Take confirmation, Adverse events (if any)
- VIG and cidofovir prepositioned around globe, regionally

THE DANGER

THE VACCINE

THE PRIORITY

THE STRATEGY

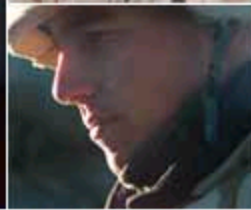
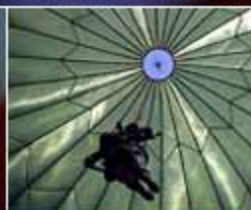
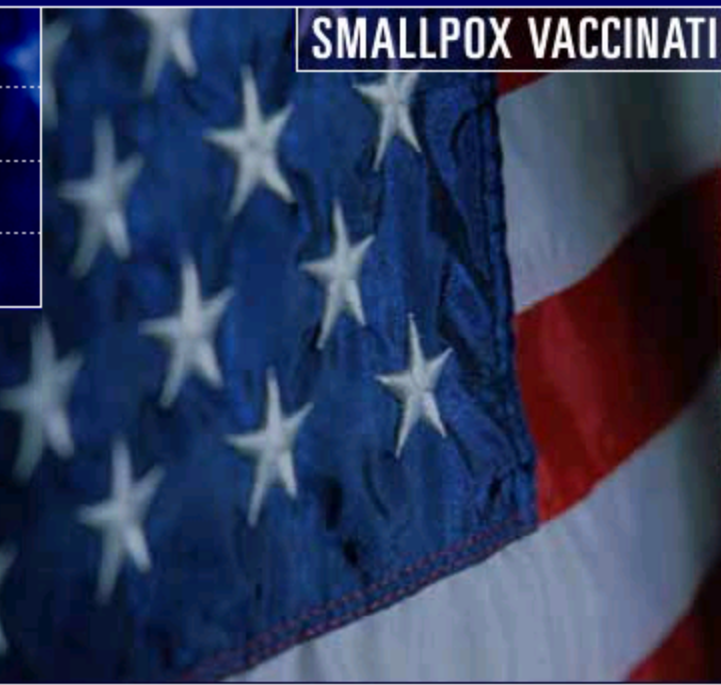
adverse event info

education toolkit

resource center

SMALLPOX VACCINATION PROGRAM

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- Smallpox is contagious, deadly, and would disrupt military missions.
- Smallpox vaccine prevents smallpox and we will use it carefully.
- Preserving the health and safety of our people is our top concern.
- The Defense Department's smallpox vaccination program is part of our national strategy to safeguard Americans against smallpox attack.

MIL VAX

[Program](#) [SVP Online Proficiency Training](#) [DoD's Smallpox Vaccination Lessons Learned](#) [MMWR-Vaccinia Adverse Reactions](#)

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Last Updated 01/27/2003

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RESOURCE CENTER

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RESOURCE CENTER

This section contains resources relating to smallpox, smallpox vaccine, and DoD's Smallpox Vaccination Program.

Please choose one of the following areas:

 Policies	 Images	 Smallpox Planning DOCS	
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 Related Links	 Library	 News	 Supply & Logistics

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01/27/2003

MIL VAX

smallpox

Medical Logistics: Smallpox Vaccine Distribution



Paused

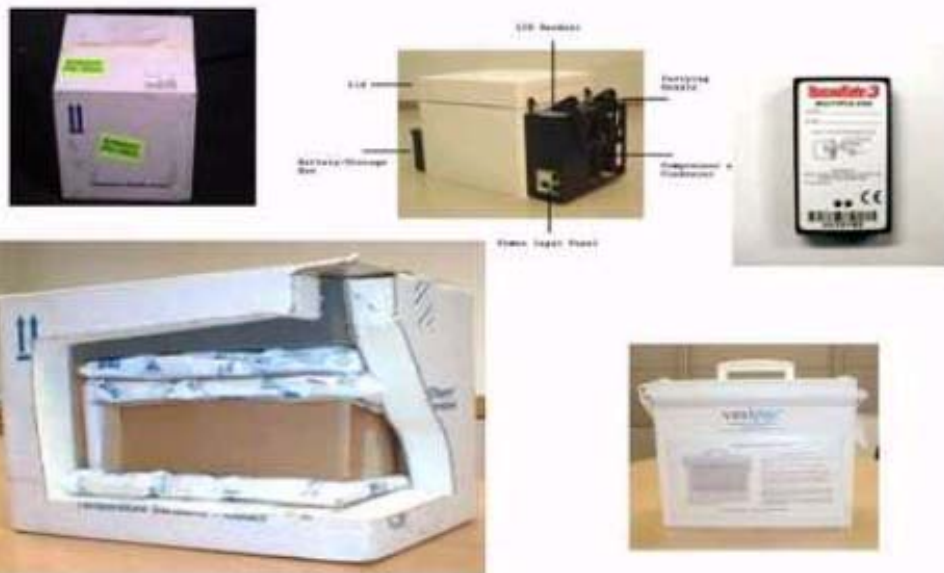
20:30 / 28:15



There's different dead-air space in a smallpox kit as there is in an anthrax vial. All that is taken into account when we do these packing protocols. Like I said before, we have these packing protocols on Power-Point presentations that we can email out so you can put nice color pictures up and say how to pack this stuff.

Print / View Transcripts

Equipment Used to Support Cold Chain Distribution



Print / View Slides



- [16:55]: [Key Aspects of Cold Chain Distribution](#)
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- [21:57]: [Rapid Movement of Products](#)
- [22:25]: [USAMMA/DOC POCs](#)

Outline | Bookmark | Search



Smallpox Vaccination Program – Lessons

- SVP medical training essential: www.smallpox.army.mil
- Screening forms, handouts: www.smallpox.army.mil
 - Take due care in conducting screening
 - Have MD, PA, NP on site
- Accept verbal history of prior vaccination
 - Supplement with scar, birth date, military entry
- Team of 2: The vaccinator and the bandager/documenter
- Confirm “trace of blood” at vaccination site
- Place open vial at back of vaccination station, use cool tray
- Collaborate with local health departments



DoD Smallpox Vaccination Program

as of 12 Mar 03 :

- Response teams, hospital workers vaccinated:
10,415
- Operational forces vaccinated:
over 300,000
 - Primary: two-thirds. Revaccinations: one-third.
- Exemption rates vary by location:
 - Personal: 5% to 10%.
 - Personal + household: 20% to 30%
- Take (3 sites):
 - Primary, 3 jabs: 95%.
 - Revaccination, 15 jabs: 98%



DoD Smallpox Vaccination Program

as of 12 Mar 03 :

- Adverse Events: Expected temporary symptoms.
 - Sick leave: Hospital staff: 3%. Average: 1.5 d
 - Deployed troops: 0.5%.
 - Vaccinia, staff to patient—0 in 15,000 worker-months
- Noteworthy Events:
 - Encephalitis— 2—recovered
 - Myocarditis— > 5 —recovered
 - Generalized vaccinia— 17, outpatients, all mild
 - Inadvertent infection—Skin: 25
 - Inadvertent infection—Eye: 7
 - VIG treatments: Burn-1, eye-1
 - EV: zero. PV: zero. Death: zero.



Symptoms Since Vaccination

Day 6-8, "Take Check," symptoms since vaccination,
n = 401, Jan-Feb 2003

• Local itching	58%	Muscle ache	23%
• Feeling lousy	21%	Lymph nodes swell	17%
• Headache	17%	Bandage reaction	8.2%
• Itchy all over	6.2%	Fever (subjective)	5.0%
• Local rash	5.0%	Body rash	1.2%
• Eye infection	0.0%		
• Restricted activity	1.7%	Took Medication	20%
• Outpatient Visit	0.5%	Limited duty	0.0%
• Missed work	0.0%	Hospitalized	0.0%



- **Yipes, it's a rash... It must be generalized vaccinia !**
- **What's the definition of generalized vaccinia ?**
- **Oh, it's not generalized vaccinia ?**
- **And it's not contagious ?**
- **And he's ambulatory and feeling reasonably well ?**
- **Oh, must be erythema multiforme, "drug rash," etc.**
- ***Eventually:* Okay, another rash. Pustules? No. Good.**

- *Meanwhile, at another hospital:*
- **Yipes, it's a rash... It must be generalized vaccinia !**
- *... and the cycle repeats ...*

- **Moral: The first time it happens locally, it's news.**



- **Chain of Command**
- **Website: www.smallpox.army.mil, www.anthrax.mil**
- **E-Mail: vaccines@amedd.army.mil**
- **Toll-Free: [877.GET.VACC](tel:877.GET.VACC)**
- **DoD Vaccine Clinical Call Center: [866.210.6469](tel:866.210.6469) (24/7)**
- **Vaccine Healthcare Center Network: help with complicated case management: [202.782.0411](tel:202.782.0411) (Walter Reed Army Med Ctr)**
 - **Askvhc@amedd.army.mil www.vhcinfo.org**

For payment info on civilian health-care services for members not enrolled to a Military Treatment Facility:

- **Call: [888.MHS.MMSO](tel:888.MHS.MMSO) (888.647.6676)**