

# VACCINOLOGIST UPDATE

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## Policy Letters Recently Published

00 has been a busy month for the folks in the policy/guidance business. The following were issued and should be a part of your files: Health Affairs Policy for the use of Varicella Vaccine, USAF/SG Guidance on Varicella Vaccine, Air Force Policy for the use of Lyme vaccine, Air Force Policy for the use of Inactivated Polio Vaccine, and Reserve Component Access to DoD's MTF's for treatment and Evaluation of Adverse Events to DoD directed Immunizations. They are all located at <http://wwwsam.brooks.af.mil/eh/immdoc/shotops.htm> for convenience. It is strongly encouraged that you print a hard copy and have it on file. The time you need to reference it will be the time the web acts up.

## Anthrax News

You may have heard that a House Sub-Committee recommended the suspension of the DoD Anthrax program. DoD rebutted the recommendation and will continue the program. Additionally in the news, a story was printed concerning new guidelines for exemptions. The new exemptions fall into two categories, administrative and medical. To date **nothing official has been published**. Each service is coordinating it's own policy considerations.

## Pevnar(TM)

The first vaccine to help prevent invasive pneumococcal disease in infants and toddlers has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Policy recommended that the vaccine Pevnar be administered to all children under 2, and given to those who are now age 2 to 5 only if they are at high risk of contracting illnesses such as meningitis. High-risk children. (Children ages 2-5 who have sickle cell anemia, HIV or other immunodeficient diseases) The cost of this vaccine is considered high. Local coordination with Pediatrics is a must.

## Acrobat Reader Version 4

Due to software upgrades, the PDF files on the AF Immunization Page must be viewed with the Adobe Acrobat Reader 4.0. You may download a copy of the Adobe Acrobat Reader (free and authorized) from Adobe's web site at <http://www.adobe.com>. This should alleviate any printing difficulties.



TSgt "Odie" Stoll

"Attention to detail is a key to success, is it on your key chain?"