

# VACCINOLOGIST UPDATE

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## AFMS Immunization Update

I am pleased to announce a funded TDY for one "A" from each MTF to USAFSAM, Brooks AFB. A limited number of Public Health slots will also be offered for those Public Health Offices owning the Immunization process in their MTF. This course will include 2 days of CITA (CHCS II Immunization Tracking Application) training [MITS replacement], 2 days of CDC updates, in the form of, Epidemiology of Vaccine Preventable Disease, and on the final day discuss issues among ourselves, Col Freeman as well as Chief Miraglia. The course dates are 21-25 Aug 00. It is acknowledged that not all MTF's will be able to support the loss of their A for a week. I am announcing this early to ensure maximum opportunity for coordination of support to allow attendance. Application process and course number will be made available in May. All applications will need to be forwarded through MAJCOM prior to being sent to me. This is a unique opportunity to spin up on the most current information available and network. I hope all will make every effort to attend.

## Off Label Use of Vaccine

Are you using your vaccines IAW manufacturer package insert? In the effort to conserve funds it can be tempting to use vaccine in a way not specifically licensed. It may make apparent sense that reducing an adult dose or doubling a pediatric dose for an adult is acceptable. **If it is not specifically stated in the package insert or you have written guidance from SG level it is not authorized.** Doing so is a matter of breaking the law and putting yourself at risk, as well as sub optimal patient care. Please take a moment to review your practices and package inserts.

## TY21a (Oral Typhoid)

The ban on importation of Ty21a will continue indefinitely. Speaking to the FDA last month Swiss Serum has again failed an inspection. There is one final subsequent inspection scheduled. Should Swiss Serum fail this inspection their license for sale of the vaccine in the US will be revoked. Remember, if you have the vaccine it is safe to administer. However, it is no longer imported.

## Anthrax

The HSI will be including your Anthrax program via an SEI. Final details are being worked out. It will be posted @ <http://wwwsam.brooks.af.mil/eh/immdoc/HSI.htm>, once it is available. Items of interest: medical record documentation, schedule adherence, patient education, MITS, and use of external resources. Now may be a good time to review the AF Anthrax Vaccine Implementation Plan to ensure compliance with your program.

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

