

VACCINOLOGIST UPDATE



TSgt O. K Stoll, USAF Single Point Manager Immunizations
and 4N0X1A CFA DSN 240-1947 Fax (8916)

olaf.stoll@mirage.brooks.af.mil

Home page: <http://wwwsam.brooks.af.mil/web/eh/html/immune.htm>

Slow mode: USAFSAM/PH, 2602 West Gate Road,
Brooks AFB, TX 78235-5252

VOLUME 1 ISSUE

June 1999

1999 National Immunization Conference

The 1999 Conference was held in Dallas this year, and as always was chalked full of pertinent issues in the art of administering Vaccines. Topics form the New Pneumococcal vaccine coming in a year or so to risk communication. The most memorable statement that will impact all who vaccinate children: **Effective Jan 2000 the pediatric schedule will not contain OPV.** So folks, starting in Jan 2000 if you were giving or offering OPV it will no longer be an ACIP recommendation. The ACIP schedule is usually published NLT the second week of Jan, look for it! If you don't already subscribe to the MMWR, which this schedule is published in, you may do so by going to <http://www.cdc.gov/subscribe.html> and subscribing. It will be sent you automatically free of charge. The next Conference will be held in Washington DC from July 5th through the 9th. Plan early!

For those who got to go

As we discussed at the conference. I asked all of you to please provide a written out brief to me as soon as possible. Please include your reasons to why this was valuable to your job and worth the AF investing the money to send you. I hope to use this forum to secure more support in getting a larger number of Blue suits in the audience. The Commands represented (Forgive me if I leave any on out) AFMOA, PACAF, SPACOM, ACC, AMC, USAFA, AETC, and the Guard. I will post the compilation of this on the web when it's in final form.

Needle Lengths

Did you know that the length of needle effects the efficacy of the vaccine you are giving? Many times we use the convenience of the 5/8-inch length that comes standard on the 3cc syringe. This is an ideal length for subcutaneous injection but far short for IM in adults. Remember the size of the patient plays a critical role in needle selection as much as the route. You should always maintain a variety of needle lengths in you repertoire to ensure proper delivery of the vaccines you administer.

Everyone have a safe Holiday! Please feel free to comment, good or bad, on information presented or information that should be presented.



TSgt "Odie" Stoll

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