

DTG: 10/28/2004 3:22:00 PM

From: DOD, ARMY, ORGANIZATIONS, ARMY OPERATIONS CENTER, AOC CAT
OPSWATCH
G3 DAMO AOC(MC)
Subject: TEMPORARILY STOP GIVING ANTHRAX IMMUNIZATIONS

UNCLASSIFIED

FM DA WASHINGTON DC//DACS-ZD//

BT

REF /A/DOC/USD)/6 AUG 02/APMN/USD) MEMO, SUBJ: POLICY ON
ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES RELATED TO ANTHRAX VACCINE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM
(AVIP)//

REF /B/DOC/VCSA/24 SEP 02/APMN/VCSA MEMO, SUBJ: ARMY ANTHRAX VACCINE
IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM RESUMPTION EXECUTION PLAN//

REF/C/DOC/DEPSECDEF/28 JUN 04/APMN/DEPSECDEF MEMO, SUBJ: EXPANSION OF
FORCE HEALTH PROTECTION ANTHRAX AND SMALLPOX IMMUNIZATION PROGRAMS FOR
DOD PERSONNEL//

REF/D/DOC/ASD(HA)/28 JUL 04/APMN/ASD/(HA) MEMO, SUBJ: RESUMPTION OF
ANTHRAX FOR PERSONNEL PREVIOUSLY DEFERRED//

REF/E/DOC/USD)/23 DEC 02/APMN/USD) MEMO, SUBJ: ANTHRAX
VACCINE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM//

REF/F/DOC/USD)/7 JAN 04/APMN/USD) MEMO, SUBJ: ANTHRAX
VACCINE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM RESUMPTION//

REF/G/DOC/SECDEF/27 OCT 04/APMN/SECDEF MEMO, SUBJ: ANTHRAX VACCINE
IMMUNIZATION PAUSE//

NARRATIVE: REFS A-D DIRECTED ANTHRAX VACCINE IMMUNIZATIONS BASED ON
THREAT ANALYSIS AND AVAILABILITY OF A SAFE, FDA-APPROVED ANTHRAX
VACCINE. SINCE 1998, DOD HAS SAFELY VACCINATED OVER ONE MILLION
MILITARY, EMERGENCY-ESSENTIAL CIVILIANS, AND MISSION-ESSENTIAL
CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL TO PROVIDE VITAL PROTECTION AGAINST ALL FORMS OF
ANTHRAX DISEASE.

1. (U) ON 27 OCT 04, THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ISSUED A NEW INJUNCTION AGAINST THE DOD ANTHRAX
VACCINE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM (AVIP). THUS, PER REF G, DOD WILL,
EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, STOP GIVING ANTHRAX VACCINATIONS TO ALL
PERSONNEL UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.
2. (U) THE NEW INJUNCTION IS SIMILAR TO THE ONE ISSUED LAST DECEMBER,
AT WHICH TIME DOD PAUSED THE VACCINATION PROGRAM PENDING CLARIFICATION
OF THE LEGAL ISSUES (REF E). THE DECEMBER INJUNCTION WAS LIFTED ABOUT
TWO WEEKS LATER (REF F). THE NEW INJUNCTION AGAIN REQUIRES THE FOOD
AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA) TO COMPLETE APPROPRIATE PROCEDURES (SUCH
AS SOLICITING ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENTS) BEFORE CONCLUDING THAT THE
ANTHRAX VACCINE IS SAFE AND EFFECTIVE FOR PROTECTION AGAINST INHALATION
ANTHRAX.
3. (U) ADDITIONAL ACTIONS:
 - 3.A. IMPLEMENT PUBLIC AFFAIRS GUIDANCE AND INFORM ALL PERSONNEL OF THE
NECESSITY FOR THIS TEMPORARY SUSPENSION. INFORM ALL PERSONNEL THAT
WHILE THE INJUNCTION ISSUES ARE RESOLVED, DOD REMAINS CONVINCED THAT
THE AVIP COMPLIES WITH ALL LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AND THAT THE VACCINE IS
SAFE AND EFFECTIVE.
 - 3.B. ENSURE ALL VACCINATIONS PREVIOUSLY ADMINISTERED ARE ACCURATELY
RECORDED IN THE MEDICAL PROTECTION SYSTEM (MEDPROS) AND IN PAPER
MEDICAL RECORDS.

3.C. FOR ANY PENDING MILITARY JUSTICE ISSUES, CONSULT WITH HIGHER LEGAL HEADQUARTERS.

3.D. MEDICAL TREATMENT FACILITIES WILL CONSOLIDATE AND REPORT THE INVENTORY OF ALL UNOPENED VIALS BY LOT NUMBER OF ANTHRAX VACCINE TO THE U.S. ARMY MEDICAL MATERIEL AGENCY (301-619-4318). UNOPENED VIALS WILL BE STORED IN PLACE UNTIL FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS ARE ISSUED.

4. (U) POCS:

4.A. OTSG POC FOR THIS MESSAGE IS COL JONES, 703-681-5101, OR UNCLASSIFIED EMAIL: VACCINES@OTSG.AMEDD.ARMY.MIL.

4.B. HQDA ACTION OFFICER, MAJ HARRISON, COMMERCIAL PHONE 703-693-4821, DSN 223-4821, UNCLASSIFIED EMAIL: AADASG@HQDA.ARMY.SMIL.MIL OR CLASSIFIED EMAIL: UAADASG@HQDA-AOC.ARMY.PENTAGON.MIL.

5. (U) EXPIRATION DATE CANNOT BE DETERMINED.

BT