



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ARMED FORCES EPIDEMIOLOGICAL BOARD
5109 LEESBURG PIKE
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22041-3258



AFEB (15-1a) 98-10

28 April 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE(HEALTH AFFAIRS)
THE SURGEON GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
THE SURGEON GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
THE SURGEON GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

SUBJECT: Armed Forces Epidemiological Board Recommendation on Jet Injectors

1. At the Armed Forces Epidemiological Board (AFEB) meeting, 14 April 1998, the Infectious Disease Control Subcommittee re-viewed its December 1997 recommendation regarding the use of jet injectors to administer vaccines. Representatives of each of the services were present and reviewed the impact of this recommendation on their current recruit immunization programs. In addition, the Committee heard extensive presentations regarding the development of new prototype needleless injection technology.

2. In view of the obvious benefits, practicality, efficiency, and economy of using high workload needleless injectors in the military, the Committee recommends the following:

- a. **THAT DOD HEALTH AFFAIRS AND THE ARMY MEDICAL RESEARCH AND MATERIEL COMMAND DEFINE THE FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR, AND FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING OF NEW GENERATION NEEDLELESS INJECTION TECHNOLOGY.**
- b. **FURTHER, THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT NEWLY DEVELOPED PROTOTYPES UNDERGO APPROPRIATE SAFETY TESTING AND IMMUNOGENICITY TESTING TO ENSURE EQUIVALENCE WITH STANDARD NEEDLE INJECTION.**

3. The above recommendations were unanimously approved by the subcommittee.

FOR THE ARMED FORCES EPIDEMIOLOGICAL BOARD:

GREGORY A. POLAND
Chairman, Infectious
Disease Subcommittee

VICKY L. FOGELMAN
Colonel, BSC, USAF
AFEB Executive Secretary

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The Surgeon General, USN
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