

## INFORMATION PAPER

Military Vaccine Agency  
23 January 2011

SUBJECT: Accidentally Chewed Adenovirus Type 4 and Type 7 Vaccine, Live, Oral Tablets

1. Purpose: To present instructions for addressing chewed Adenovirus Type 4 and Type 7 Vaccine, Live, Oral tablets.
2. Facts. The Adenovirus vaccine contains live virus inside of an enteric-coated tablet. The tablets are intended to be swallowed whole so they can pass through the stomach intact and then release the virus in the intestines. If the tablets are chewed, the virus will be released too soon and possibly expose the upper respiratory tract to live adenovirus leading to disease clinical infection.
  - a. Risk reduction methods. The following steps should be implemented to help reduce the risk of chewing vaccine tablets:
    1. Ensure recruits have a small amount of water to assist swallowing vaccine tablets.
    2. Ensure recruits understand that they should swallow the tablets without chewing.
    3. Instruct recruits that they may swallow each tablet separately, one after the other, or they may swallow both tablets together, whichever is easier to accomplish without chewing.
  - b. Implementation instructions for chewed tablets. If an individual chews a vaccine tablet, carry out the following steps:
    1. Swish and swallow several sips of water to help clear the vaccine from the mouth.
    2. Swish antiseptic mouthwash for 30 seconds and "spit". The used mouthwash should be considered biohazardous material and handled and disposed of per local guidelines/policies.
    3. Instruct the recruit to seek medical care if he/she develops symptoms of fever or respiratory infection and to inform the health care provider of the chewed vaccine tablet.
    4. A VAERS should be filed by the health care provider if a recruit develops symptoms of fever or respiratory infection.
3. References.

- a. Multiple resources assembled by the Military Vaccine Agency:  
<http://www.vaccines.mil/adenovirus>)

Traci Vactor/(703) 325-6538

Approved by LTC(P) Garman