

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL
Atlanta, Georgia

SUMMARY MINUTES OF MEETING

May 11-12, 1978

The Immunization Practices Advisory Committee met in Atlanta, Georgia, May 11-12, 1978. Those participating in the meeting are listed below:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. E. Russell Alexander
Dr. Suzanne E. Dandoy
Dr. William R. Elsea
Dr. Edwin D. Kilbourne
Dr. Reuel A. Stallones
Dr. Thomas M. Vernon, Acting Chairman

Ex-officio Members Present

Dr. William Jordan
Dr. Harry Meyer, Jr.

Liaison Members Present

Dr. J. M. S. Dixon
Dr. Edward A. Mortimer (May 12)

PROPOSED NEW MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Maxine Hayes
Dr. Kenneth R. Wilcox, Jr.
Dr. Catherine M. Wilfert

Proposed New Members Absent

Dr. William J. Curran
Dr. Jay P. Sanford

CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL

Bureau of Epidemiology

Dr. Claire Broome
Dr. J. Lyle Conrad
Dr. David Fraser
Dr. Michael Gregg

Bureau of Health Education

Dr. Walter Gunn
Ms. Juliann Scatko

Bureau of Laboratories

Dr. Walter Dowdle
Dr. Alan Kendal
Dr. Gary Noble

Bureau of State Services

Dr. David Brandling-Bennett
Dr. Robert Craven

Dr. Neal Halsey
Dr. Alan Hinman, Acting Executive Secretary

Dr. Stephen Preblud
Ms. Kathy Rufo
Mr. Warren Schubert

Information Office

Mr. Donald Berreth

VISITORS

Mr. Gene Barnes, GAO
Mr. Ron Smith, GAO
Dr. Ronald Saldarini, Lederle Lab

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. on May 11, 1978, by the Acting Executive Secretary, acting as Temporary Chairman for purposes of announcements; introduction of proposed new Committee members (Drs. Hayes, Wilcox, Wilfert); distribution of the new Charter; and introduction of Dr. Thomas Vernon, who had been asked to serve as Acting Chairman of the Committee pending designation of a permanent Chairman by Secretary Califano.

The revised agenda was followed by the Chairman. A series of materials was distributed to the members and referred to extensively in the presentations during the meeting. The majority of the time was spent in discussion of influenza and influenza vaccine with subcommittees being formed to work on separate portions of an Influenza Vaccine Preliminary Statement.

Influenza

Following a brief review of the basic epidemiologic and virologic characteristics of influenza, a detailed review of influenza surveillance during the 1977-78 season was presented and discussed. This included a summary of the experience in Russia (as ascertained by the PHS group which visited Russia in January 1978), laboratory characteristics of the prevalent H3N2 strains and considerable detail on the new H1N1 variant (A/USSR/90/77). The unique features of the 1977-78 season included the fact that three distinct strains of influenza A were in circulation at the same time and that it was possible to demonstrate excess mortality associated with the H3N2 strains but not with the H1N1 strain. Intensive investigations of H1N1 influenza outbreaks were carried out and demonstrated that swine influenza vaccine apparently conferred no protection against the new strain, that clinical attack rates as high as 80% occurred in some settings, and that disease occurred exclusively in younger individuals (none of the more than 400 isolates of H1N1 influenza was from an individual over 26 years of age).

Discussion then turned to the influenza vaccine for use in 1978-79 and the field trials of the vaccines. The primary vaccine will be trivalent and contain antigens characteristic of A/Texas/77, A/USSR/77, and B/Hong Kong/72. Additionally, it is contemplated that there will be a monovalent A/USSR vaccine for use in individuals who require more than one dose to achieve optimum protection, if a need for such is demonstrated in the field trials. As of the time of the meeting, a total of over 1,400 individuals had been enrolled in clinical trials of the vaccines. Relatively few children have been enrolled to date. By the first week in July, serological data will be available on several hundred adults (and 50-100 children), and reaction rates will be available on a much larger number (both children and adults).

Following initial review of the current influenza statement, it was decided that it might be useful to issue a Preliminary Statement in the near future and incorporate it into a Final Statement following review of the data from field trials. Preliminary work on the Introduction, General Recommendations, and Pregnancy sections was then undertaken by small groups during lunch; this continued in the evening.

During the morning of the second day, discussions of the draft sections of the Preliminary Statement continued with many modifications being suggested. At the conclusion of the discussion the revised segments

were left with the Acting Executive Secretary for editing and assembly, for final review by correspondence. It was felt it would definitely be useful to issue a Preliminary Statement.

Attitudes Toward Immunization

Dr. Walter Gunn presented results from surveys carried out by the Opinion Research Corporation under contract with the Bureau of Health Education, CDC. Although there is some difficulty in extrapolating results of the surveys to absolute values, they do present a reflection of trends that is felt to be accurate. In summary, the results indicate that Americans continue to view immunization as a desirable means of preventing illness. There is apparently a compartmentalized skepticism with regard to swine influenza vaccine.

Measles

Data were presented about the present status of measles in the United States along with a summary of data regarding effectiveness of vaccination at 12 months of age compared to 15 months. The data are conflicting, both with regard to seroconversion and with regard to clinical protection. It was felt that there was no need to modify current recommendations regarding age at vaccination. A proposed update of the Measles Vaccine recommendation which would incorporate the Outbreak Control statement was then presented and discussed. Given that there was no substantive change proposed in the recommendations, the Committee felt it might be confusing to issue a new, combined statement at present.

There was some discussion as to the data reflecting efficacy (or lack of same) of simultaneous administration of measles vaccine with DTP vaccine. A table summarizing existing studies indicated that 4 showed satisfactory serologic response to measles vaccine when given with DTP, and 1 showed a diminished response. The feeling of the Committee was that the body of data supported the view that the two could be administered simultaneously; however, it was felt that one more, relatively small, study should be conducted to be certain. Given that a number of physicians (and clinics) are presently administering these vaccines simultaneously, it was felt that this should not be a difficult task.

Pertussis

A summary was presented on the current status of pertussis, pertussis vaccine, and strategies for the prevention and control of pertussis. A particular problem in diagnosis of pertussis exists in that many cases reported as pertussis have no laboratory confirmation and there have been "outbreaks" of false-positive fluorescent antibody tests. The Committee was apprised of the fact that there would be an international pertussis symposium in Bethesda November 1-3, 1978.

Other Business

A meeting was scheduled for July 6-7, 1978, to discuss results of data from influenza vaccine field trials. This meeting will be held in conjunction with members of the Viral and Rickettsial Vaccine Review Panel of the Bureau of Biologics and others, possibly including the Committee on Infectious Diseases of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Armed Forces Epidemiological Board. A final statement on influenza vaccine will be issued following this meeting.

The regular fall meeting of the ACIP was scheduled for October 3-4, 1978. Agenda items will include the discussion of poliomyelitis deferred from the present meeting and an update on BCG vaccine use and effectiveness (presuming newer data are available). Also to be discussed will be an update on experience with the pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine. Dr. Dandoy requested that materials be sent to the Committee well in advance of the meeting to allow for complete study and consideration.

There was some discussion of the new charter of the ACIP. Dr. Elsea made the case that the Committee should have a local health officer on it, both to add the perspective of those "in the trenches" and also to increase support for Committee recommendations on the part of local health officers. There was also some question as to whether the statement in the charter that "the Committee shall review and report regularly on immunization practices and recommend improvements in the national immunization efforts" meant that the ACIP was viewed as carrying out the functions outlined by the 1977 Immunization Conference for a proposed National Immunization Policy Council. It was decided that further discussion of these matters would most appropriately await the return of the permanent Executive Secretary.

The Committee members requested specifically that information be gathered in two areas for its review:

1. Further data on reactions and seroconversion with simultaneous administration of measles vaccine and DTP compared with non-simultaneous administration.
2. Further data on current inactivated polio vaccines including the adequacy of a single dose in conferring protection.

Three items are to be distributed to Committee members as they become available:

1. Copies of Dr. Gunn's handout on the attitude survey.
2. Copies of the recent British review of pertussis and pertussis vaccine.
3. Summaries of a recent NIAID workshop on pertussis.

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m., Friday, May 12, 1978.

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing summary of minutes is accurate and complete.

Alan R. Hinman, MD 23 May 1978
Acting Executive Secretary Date