

# **Redistribution of the Anthrax Vaccine Adsorbed (AVA) Standing Operating Procedure (SOP)**

7 December 2010

## **1. General Information**

### **A. Purpose:**

This SOP is intended to establish detailed procedures and effective command and control for redistribution of AVA.

### **B. Objectives:**

- i. To minimize loss due to expiration by redistribution throughout military organizations.
- ii. To ensure proper handling techniques and transportation requirements are established for redistribution of the AVA.

### **C. Applicability:**

The procedures contained herein are applicable to all military activities receiving the anthrax vaccine.

## **2. Anthrax Vaccine Information:**

The vaccine must be refrigerated and maintained at temperatures between 2 and 8 degrees Celsius (36 to 46 degrees Fahrenheit). **DO NOT FREEZE**. AVA is a non-extendable Shelf Life Code Type 1 item.

## **3. Identify Vaccine:**

Failure to Identify vaccine that will not be administered prior to expiration cannot be permitted. Units must review forecasted immunizations to determine if they will be able to administer on-hand vaccine prior to its expiration date. Activities must notify the USAMMA Distribution Operations Center (DOC) at least thirty (30) days before the expiration date to permit the redistribution of the vaccine to a site that can use it before it expires. The DOC must be contacted to coordinate the redistribution of vaccine for any distance that requires greater than 45 minutes traveling time.

## **4. Vaccine Transportation Requirements:**

Routine shipments of the vaccine are accomplished via DOD approved packaging and shipping containers. In the event redistribution of the vaccine becomes necessary and is approved by the DOC and the respective service agency; the approved method of accomplishing redistribution is via the use of the VaxiCool® or VaxiPac®. The

VaxiCool® is a commercially procured vaccine refrigeration system the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Agency (USAMMA) purchased for transport and short term storage of the anthrax vaccine exclusively for all redistribution missions. The VaxiPac® is a commercially procured patented phase change material (PCM) container designed to maintain vaccine at the appropriate temperature (2 - 8 degrees Celsius). The Service Medical Logistic Field Operating Agencies (FOAs) should have several containers available to accommodate multiple deliveries. The DOC will provide all guidance and written instructions to the activities losing or gaining vaccine.

## **5. Redistribution Procedures:**

- A. Activities will report vaccine inventories on hand with a shelf life of 120 days or less based on the lot expiration dates. The report will include lot numbers, quantities and storage temperature history. If additional reporting is required, it will be so stipulated by the DOC, USAMMA.
- B. Reports can be phoned or faxed to: DOC, USAMMA, DSN 343-7235/4128/3017/9539/4318/4320; or (301) 619-7235/4128/3017/9539/4318/4320, FAX x4468.
- C. The DOC will provide the losing activity detailed packing instructions for the VaxiCool® or VaxiPac® container; gaining activities will be provided receiving and processing matrix for the transported vaccine.
- D. An empty VaxiCool® or VaxiPac® container with shipping labels and a serial numbered security seal will be sent to the losing activity. If the container is damaged, refuse receipt and notify DOC immediately with details of refusal.
- E. If container is in satisfactory condition, receive and process documents and pack vaccine in accordance with instructions provided.
- F. With the provided pre-addressed, overnight express-mail label, send the VaxiCool® or VaxiPac® to the gaining unit.
- G. Call DOC to confirm overnight express-mail air-bill tracking number, and security seal serial number for the shipment.
- H. Upon receipt of the vaccine the gaining activity will immediately inspect the VaxiCool® or VaxiPac®, security seal for serial number accuracy and contents for damage. If container contains a TempTale monitor please confirm with DOC for procedures.
- I. If container or contents are damaged, refuse shipment and notify the DOC immediately with details.
- J. If container is in satisfactory condition, receive and immediately secure vaccine in

the required refrigerated storage environment (2° to 8° Celsius or 36° to 46° Fahrenheit) **DO NOT FREEZE**. Call DOC to confirm receipt.

- K. Process documents and vaccine in accordance with the information provided.
- L. **Request commercial carrier to wait for the VaxiCool® or VaxiPac®**. Ship container back to DOC using the provided pre-addressed, overnight, express-mail label.
- M. Call DOC to confirm overnight express-mail label tracking number.
- N. Establish stock record accountability of vaccine IAW Service regulations.
- O. **DO NOT RELEASE THE VACCINE TO END-USER UNTIL AUTHORIZED BY THE DOC.**
- P. Only those vials maintained at the Medical Logistics Activity will be redistributed within the services.

Points of Contact:

**ARMY (Executive Agent)**

USAMMA Distribution Operations Center (DOC)

DSN 343-7235/4128/3017/9539/4318/4320 or (301) 619-7235/4128/3017/9539/4318/4320

FAX x4468

[USAMMADOC@amedd.army.mil](mailto:USAMMADOC@amedd.army.mil)

**AIR FORCE**

DSN 343-4170 or (301) 619-4170 or

PAGER (888) 587-9892, FAX x6844

**NAVY**

DSN 343-8054 or (301) 619-8054

Fax: 301-619-3087