ISSUES TO CONSIDER: SMALLPOX VACCINE DILUTION

Several U.S. studies\(^1\) have suggested that the U.S. vaccine can be safely diluted 5-to-1, and health officials have stated publicly that in the event of a crisis, the U.S. could dilute its vaccine supply. This type of dilution has never been used in an actual emergency.

- The European Commission\(^2\) has reviewed the two U.S. dilution studies and concluded that diluting vaccine would be inadvisable. The EC believes that dilution would increase the risk of ineffective inoculations.
- WHO has decided that there will be no diluted vaccine in the WHO stockpile because of the risks associated with dilution.

1. Studies and News Reports on Dilution of U.S. Smallpox Vaccine


2. European Commission Position on Smallpox Vaccine Dilution


Issues: Smallpox Vaccine Dilution, received 11:00 a.m.