

v. IMPROVE VACCINES AND VACCINATION SCHEDULES

Tools for controlling vaccine preventable diseases are available now, but can be improved. The National Institutes of Health and the Food and Drug Administration have lead responsibilities to develop and license new, safer, and more effective vaccines. In addition to assisting in developing new and improved vaccines, CDC will implement the CII and focus on improving the use of existing vaccines, including monitoring their safety and optimizing vaccination schedules. For fiscal year 1994, new CII activities will amount to a total of about \$12 million.

Objective 1: Optimize the existing childhood immunization schedule

Action Step:

- a. Simplify the current vaccine schedule and develop a single preferred schedule endorsed by both Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American Academy of Family Physicians.

Objective 2: Improve the safety of existing vaccines

Action Steps:

- a. Evaluate the safety of currently licensed vaccines through the CDC-FDA Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS)
- b. Evaluate hypotheses about the causes of adverse events
- c. Evaluate efficacy of currently used vaccines
- d. Determine the safety of currently licensed vaccines

Objective 3: Promote development of vaccines

Action Steps:

- a. Work with the NVP to provide guidance to vaccine manufacturers (NVP Lead)
- b. Conduct post-licensure studies of vaccines
- c. Promote operational research to simplify the immunization schedule by improved use of simultaneous or combined administration of antigens.