Anthrax Vaccine

AVA

Description

The Anthrax Vaccine Program provides Department of Defense (DoD) with the Anthrax Vaccine Adsorbed (AVA) that is used to vaccinate and protect the warfighter from potential exposure to Bacillus anthracis, the causative agent of anthrax. AVA is produced by Emergent BioSolutions and is Food and Drug Administration approved. AVA is administered in a five dose regimen over an 18-month period with an annual booster dose. The DoD's AVA requirement is being met through an Interagency Agreement with the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS), a component of the Department of Health and Human Services. The DoD transfers funds on a quarterly basis to the SNS to pay for the replenishment of the stockpile from which anthrax vaccine doses are drawn.

Mission

AVA provides protection against cutaneous, gastrointestinal and aerosol infection by battlefield exposure to Bacillus anthracis.

Capabilities

- AVA is the only FDA-licensed anthrax vaccine in the United States.
- AVA provides immunity against cutaneous, gastrointestinal, and aerosol infection of Bacillus anthracis spores.
- Existing Treatments: The antibiotics ciprofloxacin, doxycycline, and levofloxacin are FDA-approved for post-exposure prophylaxis in adults, while ciprofloxacin, doxycycline, and penicillin are FDA-approved for treatment of anthrax disease. AVA is not FDA-approved for post-exposure use. CDC guidelines should be consulted for the most up to date antibiotic treatment.

Users

US Navy, US Marine Corps, US Coast Guard, US Army, US Air Force

Status

Sustainment

This Fact Sheet was cleared for public release on 1/4/2010.
Point of Contact: Chemical, Biological, Radiological, & Nuclear Information Resource Center (CBRN IRC), cbrn@conus.army.mil,
Toll Free: 1-800-831-4408, Commercial: (309) 782-7349, DSN: 793-7349, Fax: (309) 782-1919