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.

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


2. **European Commission Position on Smallpox Vaccine Dilution**