
SITUATION UPDATE, 9:15 A.M. EST

1. Actions Needed to Stop Spread: Persons already infected by these attacks will now get smallpox no matter what we do. The focus should be on stopping the spread of smallpox, which will be a race against time. Actions that should be taken immediately include:

- a. Finding cases and isolating them. This will be a difficult task, because there is no precise information on the place and time of exposure.
- b. Finding and vaccinating close contacts of smallpox victims. If these contacts develop fever, they will be suspected of having smallpox and should be isolated immediately. Vaccination within 3-4 days of exposure can prevent smallpox. Vaccination will not prevent the disease once a patient has developed symptoms.
- c. Vaccinating healthcare workers. This should be a top priority.

2. National Smallpox Vaccination Strategies: All of the countries participating in this summit have national smallpox vaccination plans. Most plans begin with targeted (ring) vaccination of close contacts, healthcare workers, and other high risk personnel. Some plans call for a switch to mass vaccination, generally when the outbreak is too large for ring vaccination. Triggers for vaccination of national command structures and military personnel are not identified in these plans.

3. International Actions Underway: The World Health Organization (WHO) has notified members of its Global Outbreak and Alert Network (GOARN). The WHO Emergency Operations Center is activated, but because of the tsunami, the WHO faces competing demands on its finite resources.

- a. The EU has activated its rapid alert system, and response teams are being assembled.
- b. Interpol and Europol are working with national governments.
- c. U.S., UK, French ambassadors are preparing a draft UN Security Council Resolution condemning attacks
- d. NATO permanent representatives are now meeting in Brussels.

4. International Strategic Issues

The Summit staff recommends that leaders focus on the following strategic issues:

- Apprehending perpetrators and protecting against further attacks
- Using limited vaccine supplies strategically
- Stopping the spread of smallpox
- Communicating with the public