Diphtheria anti-Toxin (DAT)

Supply Issues

Martin Friede (IVB/IVR)



Diphtheria anti-Toxin

- Developed in 1890s
- Obtained by injecting horses with diphtheria toxoid and collecting serum.
- Widely produced and used until vaccination reduced burden.
- Few manufacturers still active.







Current Supply

- No countries have large stockpiles
- A few countries have small (hundreds) of doses approaching or past expiry date / expiry date extension
- Most countries have no stockpiles
 - In event of outbreak rely on donation from existing small stockpiles.
 - Time to access donations / shipping etc too long for emergency use



Potential Needs: reported cases / yr by region

Region	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
AFR	13	27	128	1	1654
AMR	12	2	5	10	49
EMR	352	334	392	40	43
EUR	33	32	33	35	54
SEAR	5179	3953	4080	7666	2504
WPR	37	142	42	22	226

- 4000-8000 courses per year ?
 - 40-80,000 vials
 - @ 8-10 vials/ case?
- Do all cases have access to healthcare systems?
 - Supportive care



Options to DAT

Equine-DAT

- Technology over 100 years old
- Risks to administration (reaction to horse serum)
- Variability, price not a major barrier (\$5-\$50/vial)
- Human anti-toxin antibody
 - From immunized volunteers, exploratory (not currently produced)
- Monoclonal anti-toxin antibody
 - Under development by several biotech groups
 - Still at preclinical phase
 - Several years and significant investment before approval
 - Safer, no variability, possibly more expensive than equine



Availability of Equine Diphtheria Antitoxin

- 4 manufacturers with known production capacity
 - Horse flocks, infrastructure, process in place
 - 2 Indian, 1 Brazilian, 1 Russian
 - No stockpiles currently exist at manufacturers
- Other potential manufacturers being explored
 - Several thought to be producing but not yet confirmed
- 3-6 month lead time to produce a batch / stockpile
 - Size / price depends on order and number of horses used
- No prequalification of equine serums exists yet!
 - EUAL system being considered for anti-snake venom shortage



Proposal

- Community to confirm need for a stockpile and size
- Procurement mechanism who and how ?
- Need for prequalification or other quality validation
- Cold-chain requirements vs operational suitability
- Stockpile locations / management