

Illinois Votes "NO" on Mandatory Vaccine Issue

The Illinois State Board of Health voted to defeat the chickenpox vaccine mandate. However the board plans to reconsider the 4-3 vote at its March meeting.

If forced-shot opposition holds, Dr. John Lumpkin, director of the Illinois Department of Public Health, could override his advisory board.

There have been 9,000 reports of adverse reactions to chickenpox vaccine filed with the federal government since 1995. The Food and Drug Administration includes them in its latest data of 112,699 total vaccine adverse reaction reports, 15 percent including permanent disability and death. The vaccine manufacturer has yet to produce long-term safety studies on the vaccine or its ingredients: aborted fetal tissue cells, fetal bovine serum and monosodium glutamate.

For vaccine-associated injuries and deaths, the federal government paid out more than \$1 billion, which is financed by taxes on each vaccine dose. As of August 2000, Illinois had 231 compensation claims including 45 deaths and 186 injuries. Vaccine manufacturers, doctors, nurses and pharmacists remain exempt from liability for injuries and deaths that follow vaccinations.