

Simpson, Diane M

From: Simpson, Diane M.
Sent: Monday, June 11, 2001 1:15 PM
To: 'marta.granstrom@labmed.ki.se'
Subject: vaccine preservatives

Roger Bernier gave me your name and email address and said that you would be a good person to contact with the following questions:

Has Sweden used thimerosal (or other mercury containing compounds) as a preservative in their vaccines? If Sweden no longer uses thimerosal (or a similar compound) do you know when the practice was discontinued?

If you have similar data regarding vaccines used in Denmark, that would also be very helpful.

As an introduction: I am the acting Deputy Director for the National Immunization Program (Dr. Jose Cordero, the previous deputy director has taken a temporary assignment as head of the CDC's new center on birth defects and developmental disabilities). As you may be aware the use of thimerosal as a preservative in vaccines has been a source of recent concern. U.S. manufacturers have discontinued its use as a preservative in vaccine products given to young children. I appreciate any information you can provide.