



SEMINAR ON SMALLPOX ERADICATION

Dacca, 29 October - 5 November 1969

ENGLISH ONLY

ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION FOR MAINTENANCE SMALLPOX VACCINATION

IN ETHIOPIA

by

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In Ethiopia, for the entire population still vaccination is not carried out as it should be. Because of lack of dependable organization and supervision and shortage of personnel, finance and equipment. However, one of the major difficulties in achieving the vaccination of the population in the remoted pockets of the country is lack of modern means of communication and coverage in census of the population. Whatever difficulties we face, the Ministry of Public Health is trying its best by expanding the coverage and maintenance.

However, the routine smallpox vaccination procedure is carried out at present with the production mostly of local freeze-dried which is standardized in potency according to WHO's recommendation. This vaccine is supplied to the net work of health services in the country depending on the flow-in of requisitions from different angles. These static health services are of different categories like hospitals, health centres, specialized clinics, health stations, municipal clinics, missions (clinics and hospitals) and private enterprises. They are responsible to give health education and influence vaccination within their jurisdiction, expanding the radius as the potential resources permit and attack rate of the disease. Especially when the disease appears in epidemic style or in a special mass campaign. In all extra activities, collaboration among various categories of health services is advised, and the performance of all these activities are supervised indirectly from headquarters (M.P.H.) through the provincial medical officer of health (P.M.O.H.). In addition there is an institute named Anti-Epidemic Service (A.E.S.) where the author actually plays a role in giving public health services and this institute plays a major part theoretically in the operation of smallpox vaccination, dispatch of vaccines to all those requesting and collecting data, how far the vaccines were utilized properly for the aims desired.

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Besides AES operates as fire-brigade in cooling down outbreaks of all kinds with a mobile team, when the out-break is beyond the control of local health authorities, i.e. including smallpox vaccination, though the organization of the institute still suffers from innumerable lacunae,

Hence, the administrative organization involved with routine maintenance vaccination in the country and the exact method adopted to ensure all newborns, migrants, vaccinated people, will be vaccinated routinely, is beyond our ability at this stage, unless there will be radical changes in the near future.