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Supply

Present and Estimated Future Poliomyelitis Vaccine Supply

The present and estimated future poliomyelitis vaccine supply is summarized in Table I. The data were obtained from the 6 manufacturers and pooled by our Department.

Table I

Estimated Cumulative Production Through Date Specified

DATE	N.F.I.P. CONTRACT	CUMULATIVE COMMERCIAL SALE	TOTAL NO. OF IMMUNIZATIONS	Percent of U.S. Population	
				MOST SUSCEPTIBLE AGES 1-9	AGE GROUP 1-19
April 20	6.9	0.5	3,700,000	11.9	6.7
May 1	10.7	1.2	5,950,000	19.2	10.8
June 1	16.1	7.7	11,900,000	38.3	11.6
July 1	17.6	26.3	21,950,000	70.7	39.9
Aug. 1	18.0	43.9	30,950,000	99.7	56.3

The first priority for production is to fill the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis contracts. They will be completed by July 15, 1955 when nine million children in age groups 6 to 9 will have been vaccinated under the present projected program.

Beginning May 1 there will be increasing supplies of vaccine for commercial distribution.

By August 1 there should be enough vaccine to immunize all children between 1-9--the most susceptible age groups.

Allocation Problems

The problem of allocation of polio vaccine while it is in short supply centers on equitable distribution of available supplies so that each State receives its fair share of vaccine regardless of ability of the consumer to pay.

The following must be considered:

a) Allocations to States

- 1) For purchase by tax-supported agencies.
- 2) For private practitioners.

b) Allocations for export

c) Allocations for Armed Forces and Federal employees abroad

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