

**Working Papers  
Project on the Public and Biological Security  
Harvard School of Public Health**

**5.**

**PUBLIC ATTITUDES, BELIEFS AND KNOWLEDGE ABOUT  
SMALLPOX**

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## **Public Willingness to Be Vaccinated Against Smallpox Depends on Whether Physicians Choose to Get Vaccinated and Whether Deaths Result from Early Waves of Vaccination**

*Many Americans Hold Beliefs About Smallpox and the Smallpox Vaccine that are Incorrect*

**For immediate release: Thursday, December 19, 2002**

BOSTON, MA – A new study by Harvard School of Public Health researchers suggests that if the threat of a bioterrorist attack using smallpox increases, Americans' individual decisions about whether they will choose to be vaccinated will be heavily influenced by what they see practicing physicians choosing to do. If physicians are reluctant to be vaccinated themselves, large numbers of Americans will be unwilling to do it voluntarily. Also, if there are deaths from side effects of the vaccine, the public will be less willing to be vaccinated.

"Depending on events, many Americans may be cautious when deciding whether or not to take the smallpox vaccine," said Robert J. Blendon, professor of Health Policy and Political Analysis at the Harvard School of Public Health.

The study also shows that the majority of Americans hold a number of beliefs about smallpox and the smallpox vaccine that are incorrect, based on information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). These misconceptions could lead some people to make inappropriate decisions about how they should respond to the threat of smallpox.

These findings, based on interviews with 1,006 Americans nationwide between October 8 and December 8, 2002, are published as part of an accelerated online release by the *New England Journal of Medicine* [www.nejm.org](http://www.nejm.org) making available a package of articles "to inform the current national debate about smallpox vaccination," according to the journal. The articles will appear in the Jan. 30, 2003 print edition of NEJM. The Harvard study was funded by [The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#).

### **The Vaccination Decision**

Nearly two-thirds (65%) of Americans supported a policy of making the smallpox vaccine available to the general public now on a voluntary basis. Three in five Americans (61%) said they would take the smallpox vaccine or be re-vaccinated as a precaution against a bioterrorist attack using smallpox, if the vaccine were made available to them.

However, the survey showed that the actions of physicians significantly influenced the decision to be vaccinated. If people were told that their own physician and most other physicians were getting the smallpox vaccine, the proportion of the public willing to be

vaccinated increased to 73 percent. However, if they heard that their own physician and many other physicians were refusing to take the vaccine, only 21 percent said they would be willing to get vaccinated.

Early cases of death resulting from smallpox vaccination are also likely to have a significant effect on Americans' decision. Hearing that "some people" died from the smallpox vaccine decreased the proportion willing to be vaccinated to one in three (33%).

### **Public Knowledge and Beliefs about Smallpox and the Smallpox Vaccine**

Many Americans hold a number of beliefs about smallpox and the smallpox vaccine that are incorrect, according to information provided by the CDC. (For more information about smallpox, go to the CDC website, [www.bt.cdc.gov/agent/smallpox](http://www.bt.cdc.gov/agent/smallpox)).

"It has been a long time since Americans have had experience with smallpox, and they do not know much about the disease," said Professor Blendon. "This suggests the need for public education."

The last case of smallpox was reported in the U.S. in 1949 and in the world in 1977. However, three in ten Americans (30%) believe there have been smallpox cases in the U.S. during the past five years, and 63% think there have been cases somewhere in the world during that time.

There is no known effective treatment for smallpox once someone contracts the disease. However, three-fourths of Americans (78%) believe that if someone came down with the disease, there is a medical treatment that would prevent them from dying or experiencing serious consequences.

A vaccine given within two or three days of exposure to smallpox will protect people against the virus. Only 42% of the public knows that this is the case.

Serious adverse reactions to the vaccine are expected to be relatively rare in patients without health conditions that contraindicate vaccination. But many Americans think it is likely that they would suffer serious side effects from the vaccine. One-fourth thinks they are very (6%) or somewhat likely (19%) to die and four in ten think they are very (11%) or somewhat likely (30%) to suffer serious illness from the smallpox vaccine.

In addition, government sources say that there are enough doses of the vaccine for everyone in the U.S. Only 16% of Americans believe that this is the case.

# What Would Affect Americans' Desire to Get a Smallpox Vaccination? (1)

Would get vaccinated if it were available



*Would get vaccinated if...*

Your doctor and most other doctors were getting vaccinated



President Bush and his family were getting vaccinated



*Cases were reported.....*



*Source: Harvard School of Public Health survey, as published online in New England Journal of Medicine, December 19, 2002.*

## What Would Affect Americans' Desire to Get a Smallpox Vaccination? (2)

Would get vaccinated if it were available



*Would still get vaccinated even if...*

Your doctor and many other doctors refuse to get vaccinated



You heard that some people died from the vaccine



Source: Harvard School of Public Health survey, as published online in New England Journal of Medicine, December 19, 2002.

## Facts from CDC vs. Beliefs of the General Public (1)

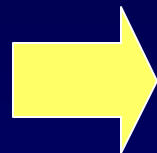
### *Facts*

### *Public's Beliefs*

Last case of smallpox reported...

In U.S. in 1949

In world in 1977



Cases of smallpox during past 5 years

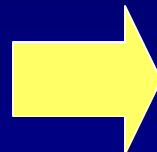
In U.S.

30%

In world

63%

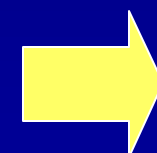
No known effective treatment for smallpox once contracted



Once someone contracts smallpox, there is a medical treatment to prevent death/serious consequences

78%

Vaccine within 2-3 days of exposure to smallpox protects people



Vaccine within a few days of smallpox exposure protects people

42%

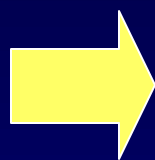
Source -Facts: CDC; Public's Beliefs: Harvard School of Public Health survey, as published online in New England Journal of Medicine, December 19, 2002.

## Facts from CDC vs. Beliefs of the General Public (2)

### *Facts*

### *Public's Beliefs*

Serious adverse reactions to smallpox vaccination relatively rare, except for those with health conditions that contraindicate vaccination



As result of smallpox vaccination

Death

Very likely 6%

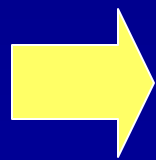
Somewhat likely 19%

Serious illness

Very likely 11%

Somewhat likely 30%

Government sources say enough doses of smallpox vaccine for everyone in U.S.



Enough doses of vaccine for everyone in U.S.

16%

Source -Reactions: CDC; Doses: New York Times, October 12, 2002; Public's Beliefs: Harvard School of Public Health survey, as published online in New England Journal of Medicine, December 19, 2002.

***The Public and the Smallpox Threat***  
***Harvard School of Public Health***

**Survey Results**

**October 8-December 8, 2002**

**1006 adults nationwide**

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I N T E R N A T I O N A L C O M M U N I C A T I O N S R E S E A R C H

**Harvard School of Public Health  
The Public and the Smallpox Threat  
Survey Results**

**This study was conducted by telephone from October 8 - December 8, 2002 among a nationally representative sample of 1,006 respondents 18 years of age and older. Field work by ICR/International Communications Research of Media, PA.**

**A. LEVEL OF CONCERN**

1. I'm going to read you a list of things and ask you how likely it is that each of them will happen to you or someone in your immediate family during the next 12 months. First, (INSERT ITEM)? Do you think that it is very likely to happen to you or someone in your immediate family, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not at all likely? How about (INSERT NEXT ITEM)? How likely is it do you think this will happen to you or someone in your immediate family during the next 12 months?

	LIKELY		NOT LIKELY		Don't know/ Refused
	Very	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	
a. Getting the flu	41	40	12	7	*
b. Contracting anthrax	4	9	33	53	1
c. Contracting smallpox	3	9	33	54	1
d. Being injured in an automobile accident	11	40	34	14	2
e. Getting cancer	14	33	31	20	2
f. Getting West Nile Fever	5	20	38	35	2

3. If you came down with any of the following diseases, which ONE of them do you think would be the WORST to come down with?

Anthrax	Smallpox	West Nile Fever	The flu	Don't know/Refused
45	33	14	5	2

4. Are you concerned that there will be a terrorist attack using smallpox in the U.S. during the next 12 months, or aren't you concerned about that?

Yes, concerned	No, not concerned	Don't know/Refused
51	49	1

(Asked of respondents who are concerned that there will be a terrorist attack using smallpox in the US; n = 502)

- 4a. How concerned are you about such an attack: very concerned, somewhat concerned, or not very concerned?

4/4a. Combo Table

Concerned that there will be a terrorist attack using smallpox in the US				Not concerned that there will be a terrorist attack using smallpox in the US	Don't know/Refused
NET	Very	Somewhat	Not very		
51	22	26	3	49	1

5. If the United States takes military action against Iraq, how likely do you think it is that there will be a terrorist attack using smallpox in the U.S.? Do you think it would be very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not at all likely?

LIKELY		NOT LIKELY		Don't know/Refused
Very	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	
20	44	27	8	1

## B. KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEFS ABOUT SMALLPOX

6. During the past month, have you or has someone in your household actively looked for information about smallpox?

Yes	No	Don't know/Refused
8	92	*

7. To the best of your knowledge, have there been any cases of smallpox in the United States in the last five years or haven't there been any cases?

Yes, there have been cases	No, there haven't been any cases	Don't know/Refused
30	62	8

8. To the best of your knowledge, have there been any cases of smallpox anywhere else in the world in the last five years or haven't there been any cases?

Yes, there have been cases	No, there haven't been any cases	Don't know/Refused
63	30	7

9. If you contracted smallpox, how likely do you think it is that you would survive if you got immediate medical care? Do you think it's very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not at all likely that you would survive?

LIKELY		NOT LIKELY		Don't know/Refused
Very	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	
50	37	7	4	1

10. To the best of your knowledge, is smallpox a disease that is contagious, meaning that it can be passed from one person to another, or is it not contagious?

Yes, it's contagious	No, it's not contagious	Don't know/Refused
89	8	3

(Asked of respondents who think smallpox is contagious; n = 926)

11. If you were not vaccinated against smallpox and you came within a few feet of someone who had the disease, how likely do you think it is that you would come down with smallpox yourself? Would you say...?

10/11. Combo Table

Very likely	26
Somewhat likely	41
Not very likely	18
Not at all likely	5
Smallpox is not contagious	8
Don't know/refused	2

13. To the best of your knowledge, if someone comes down with smallpox, is there a medical treatment that would prevent them from dying or having other serious consequences, or isn't there such a treatment?

Yes, there is a medical treatment	No, there isn't such a treatment	Don't know/Refused
78	16	6

14. Do you think most people who contract smallpox and survive would return to normal, or do you think most of them would suffer serious permanent aftereffects, such as disfigurement or blindness?

Most would return to normal	Most would suffer serious permanent side effects	Don't know/Refused
48	46	5

### C. VACCINATION

15. During the past month, how closely have you been following news stories about smallpox vaccination? Would you say...?

CLOSELY		NOT CLOSELY		Don't know/Refused
Very	Fairly	Not too	Not at all	
9	25	40	26	--

16. Do you think the news media are exaggerating the dangers of smallpox vaccination, not taking the dangers seriously enough, or are the news reports about right?

Exaggerating the dangers	Not taking the dangers seriously enough	News reports are about right	Don't know/Refused
25	15	55	4

17. If a person has never been exposed to smallpox, how effective do you think the smallpox vaccine is in preventing people from coming down with the disease? Do you think it is very effective, somewhat effective, not very effective, or not at all effective?

EFFECTIVE		NOT EFFECTIVE		Don't know/Refused
Very	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	
54	39	3	2	2

12. To the best of your knowledge, if a person has been exposed to smallpox but doesn't have symptoms, would getting a vaccination within a few days prevent the person from coming down with the disease, or wouldn't a vaccination prevent it?

Would prevent it	Would not prevent it	Don't know/Refused
42	50	8

18. To the best of your knowledge, have you ever been vaccinated for smallpox, or not?

Yes	No	Don't know/Refused
66	29	5

(Asked of respondents who have ever been vaccinated for smallpox; n = 677)

19. Do you believe that the smallpox vaccination you once had would protect you from getting seriously ill from smallpox if there were an outbreak today, or don't you think it would protect you?

Yes, would protect	No, would not protect	Don't know/Refused
46	48	6

18/19. Combo Table

Ever been vaccinated for smallpox			Never been vaccinated for smallpox	Don't know/Refused
NET	Previous vaccination will protect from smallpox outbreak today	Previous vaccination will not protect from smallpox outbreak today		
66	30	32	29	5

20. If you were to be (vaccinated/re-vaccinated) for smallpox, how likely do think it is that you would experience the following sorts of side effects from the vaccination? How about (INSERT ITEM)? Do you think that it is very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not at all likely?

d. Death

LIKELY		NOT LIKELY		Don't know/Refused
Very	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	
6	19	41	32	2

c. Serious illness

LIKELY		NOT LIKELY		Don't know/Refused
Very	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	
11	30	40	18	1

b. A fever or extreme tiredness

LIKELY		NOT LIKELY		Don't know/Refused
Very	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	
33	47	12	5	2

a. A sore arm

LIKELY		NOT LIKELY		Don't know/ Refused
Very	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	
57	34	4	4	1

20c-d. Side Effects Death/Serious Ill Table

Likely	Not likely	Don't know/Refused
45	54	*

21. To the best of your knowledge, can someone who has physical contact with a person who has recently been vaccinated for smallpox contract an infection that could have side effects such as death or serious illness, or can't someone be infected this way?

Someone can be infected this way	Someone cannot be infected this way	Don't know/Refused
27	68	6

22. As you may know, a vaccine for smallpox exists, but it may produce serious side effects in a small number of cases. If such a vaccine were made available to you, would you go get (vaccinated/re-vaccinated) as a precaution against a terrorist attack using smallpox, or wouldn't you get such a vaccination?

Yes, would get vaccinated/re-vaccinated	No, would not get vaccinated/re-vaccinated	Don't know/Refused
61	36	3

(Asked of those who said they would get vaccinated/re-vaccinated)

23. Here's a list of things that some people say might happen. After I read each one, please tell me if it would change your mind and make you NOT want to be (vaccinated/re-vaccinated), or if you would still want be (vaccinated/re-vaccinated) against smallpox. What if (INSERT STATEMENT)? Would this make you NOT want to be (vaccinated/re-vaccinated), or would you still want to be (vaccinated/re-vaccinated) against smallpox?

In this case, still WOULD get vaccinated (Base = total sample)	
Your doctor and many other doctors refused to get vaccinated against smallpox because they believed the vaccine was too risky	21
You'd have to stay out of work for two weeks	44
You heard that one in a million people who get vaccinated die from the vaccine	51
You heard that some people who had gotten vaccinated had died from the vaccine	33

(Asked of those who said they would not get vaccinated/re-vaccinated)

24. Here's a list of things that some people say might happen. After I read each one, please tell me if it would change your mind and make you want to be (vaccinated/re-vaccinated), or if you would still NOT want be (vaccinated/re-vaccinated) against smallpox. What if (INSERT STATEMENT)? Would this make you want to be (vaccinated/re-vaccinated), or would you still NOT want to be (vaccinated/re-vaccinated) against smallpox?

In this case, WOULD get vaccinated (Base = total sample)	
Your doctor and most other doctors were getting vaccinated against smallpox	73
President Bush and his family were getting vaccinated against smallpox	66
Cases of smallpox were reported somewhere in the world	65
Cases of smallpox were reported IN THE UNITED STATES	75
Cases of smallpox were reported IN YOUR COMMUNITY	88
Would not get vaccinated	9

26. As you may know, no cases of smallpox have been reported in the United States, but there has been much debate about what should be done regarding smallpox vaccination to prepare for a possible bioterrorist attack. (The Bush Administration/ the federal government) has proposed vaccinating a number of doctors and nurses against smallpox so that they will be prepared to vaccinate others if an outbreak should occur. The vaccinations of the doctors and nurses would be voluntary, but they will have to take time off from work and there may be some deaths or other serious side effects from the vaccinations. Do you favor or oppose the (Bush Administration/federal government) proposal to vaccinate a number of doctors and nurses?

Favor	Oppose	Don't know/Refused
81	17	2

(One half sample asked about "Bush Administration"; n = 503)

Favor	Oppose	Don't know/Refused
82	16	3

(One half sample asked about "The Federal Government"; n = 503)

Favor	Oppose	Don't know/Refused
80	19	1

27. (Some/other) experts say that smallpox vaccinations should be given to the general public ONLY if there is an actual case of smallpox in the U.S. (Other/some) experts say that vaccinations should be made available NOW on a voluntary basis to any American who wants one. Which comes closer to your own view?

Smallpox vaccinations should be given to the general public ONLY if there is an actual case of smallpox in the US	Vaccinations should be made available NOW on a voluntary basis to any American who wants one	Don't know/Refused
35	65	1

#### D. HEALTH SYSTEM RESPONSE

28. If an outbreak of smallpox occurred in your community and you thought you might have symptoms of smallpox, where would you go first for diagnosis or care? Would you go to...?

A hospital emergency room	A public health department	Your own doctor	None of these	Don't know/Refused
40	7	52	1	*



(Asked of respondents who would go to their doctor first; n = 527)

29. If you were not able to see your own doctor, would you try to see another doctor, or would you go to...?

Try to see another doctor	A hospital emergency room	A public health department	None of these	Don't know/Refused
24	62	13	*	*

28/29. Combo Table

Would go to your own doctor first				Would go to a hospital emergency room first	Would go to a public health department first	None of these	Don't know/Refused
NET	Would then try to see another doctor	Would then go to a hospital emergency room	Would then go to a public health department				
52	12	32	7	40	7	1	*

30. How confident are you that your doctor can recognize the symptoms of smallpox? Are you very confident, somewhat confident, not very confident, or not at all confident?

CONFIDENT		NOT CONFIDENT		Don't know/Refused
Very	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	
43	40	10	5	1

31. How prepared do you think your local hospital emergency room is to diagnose and treat people who have smallpox? Very prepared, somewhat prepared, not very prepared, or not at all prepared?

PREPARED		NOT PREPARED		Don't know/Refused
Very	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	
22	47	20	9	2

32. If an outbreak of smallpox occurred, how prepared do you think your local health department would be to prevent smallpox from spreading? Very prepared, somewhat prepared, not very prepared, or not at all prepared?

PREPARED		NOT PREPARED		Don't know/Refused
Very	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	
15	50	25	8	1

33. If an outbreak of smallpox occurred in your community, do you think you could get vaccinated quickly if you wanted to, or do you think it would take a long time?

Could get vaccinated quickly	It would take a long time	Don't know/Refused
40	57	2

34. If an outbreak of smallpox occurred in your community, do you think there would be enough doses of vaccine available to vaccinate everyone, or would there NOT be enough?

<b>There would be enough</b>	<b>There would NOT be enough</b>	<b>Don't know/Refused</b>
27	70	3

35. Do you think there is enough smallpox vaccine to vaccinate everyone in the United States in the event of a bioterrorist attack using smallpox, or would there NOT be enough?

<b>There would be enough</b>	<b>There would NOT be enough</b>	<b>Don't know/Refused</b>
16	83	2

36. If you were diagnosed with smallpox and health officials told you that you needed to be isolated for three or four weeks in a special health care facility with other people who have the disease, would you agree to go, or wouldn't you?

<b>Would agree</b>	<b>Would not agree</b>	<b>Don't know/Refused</b>
77	22	1

37. Suppose you were exposed to smallpox but didn't know if you had the disease, and health officials told you that you and your family needed to be quarantined in your home for two or three weeks away from other people in order to prevent spreading the disease. Would you agree to do it, or wouldn't you?

<b>Would agree</b>	<b>Would not agree</b>	<b>Don't know/Refused</b>
95	5	*

38. If you were quarantined in your home for this length of time, how worried would you be about each of the following? First, (INSERT FIRST ITEM). Would you be very worried, somewhat worried, not very worried, or not at all worried about that? How about (INSERT NEXT ITEM)?

a. Not getting a paycheck because you would have to miss work

WORRIED		NOT WORRIED		Don't work for pay	Don't know/Refused
Very	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all		
32	17	15	26	10	--

b. Not being able to get enough food or water

WORRIED		NOT WORRIED		Don't know/Refused
Very	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	
35	22	19	25	--

c. Not being able to get your regular medical care and the prescriptions you need

WORRIED		NOT WORRIED		Don't know/Refused
Very	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	
31	23	20	26	*

d. Not being able to see family members who are not with you

WORRIED		NOT WORRIED		Don't know/Refused
Very	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	
26	24	23	27	--

39. If cases of smallpox were reported in your community, would you stay in your community, or would you leave and stay somewhere else until the outbreak was over?

Would stay in community	Would leave until the outbreak was over	Don't know/Refused
67	32	1

(Asked of respondents who would leave their community if cases of smallpox were reported; n = 288)

40. Suppose you thought you might have been EXPOSED to smallpox. In that case, would you stay in your community, or would you still leave and stay somewhere else?

Would stay in community	Would still leave	Don't know/refused
75	23	2

39/40. Combo Table

NET	Would stay in your community		Would leave even if you thought you had been exposed	Don't know/refused
	If cases of smallpox were reported	If you thought you had been exposed		
91	67	24	7	1

**E. STATE HEALTH EMERGENCY POWERS**

41. A number of emergency powers have been proposed that state officials could use in the event of a bioterrorist attack using smallpox. Please tell me if you would favor or oppose giving state officials the authority to take the following steps. First (INSERT FIRST STATEMENT). Would you favor or oppose this? How about (INSERT NEXT ITEM)?

	Favor	Oppose	Don't know/refused
a. Requiring hospitals and health clinics to provide services to people who think they may have smallpox, even if a hospital or clinic does not want to provide them.	87	12	1
b. Requiring a person to be vaccinated against smallpox. Exceptions would be made for those who have a letter from their doctor exempting them from vaccination for medical reasons. If a person who is not exempt refuses to be vaccinated, he or she could be arrested and quarantined in a special health facility.	41	57	1
c. Requiring a person to have a medical exam or test to diagnose whether the person has smallpox. People who refuse could be arrested.	51	48	1
d. Quarantining people suspected of having been exposed to smallpox. People who refuse could be arrested.	57	42	1
e. Requiring people who actually have smallpox to be isolated in a special health facility with other people who have the disease. People who refuse could be arrested.	73	26	1
f. Destroying personal effects that might be contaminated by smallpox.	69	29	2

42. If state officials were given emergency powers like the ones we have been discussing, do you think they would administer them properly, or would they ABUSE these powers?

Would administer them properly	Would ABUSE these powers	Don't know/Refused
52	46	2

43. If state officials were given emergency powers like the ones we have been discussing, do you think it would or would not threaten your personal rights and freedoms?

Would	Would not	Don't know/Refused
69	30	1

(Asked of respondents who feel that state emergency powers would threaten their personal rights and freedoms; n = 691)

44. Is that a major threat or a minor threat?

State emergency powers would threaten personal rights and freedoms			State emergency powers would not threaten personal rights and freedoms	Don't know/Refused
NET	Would be a major threat	Would be a minor threat		
69	35	33	30	1

- 44a. If an outbreak of smallpox occurred and not everyone could get vaccinated quickly, do you think wealthy and influential people would get vaccinated first, or would everyone be treated the same?

Wealthy and influential people would get vaccinated first	Everyone would be treated the same	Don't know/Refused
72	28	1

45. If an outbreak of smallpox occurred and not everyone could get vaccinated quickly, do you think elderly people would be discriminated against when it comes to getting vaccinated, or would they be treated like everyone else?

Elderly people would be discriminated against	Elderly people would be treated like everyone else	Don't know/Refused
43	56	1

46. If an outbreak of smallpox occurred and not everyone could get vaccinated quickly, do you think blacks or African-Americans would be discriminated against when it comes to getting vaccinated, or would they be treated like everyone else?

<b>Blacks or African Americans would be discriminated against</b>	<b>Blacks or Africans Americans would be treated like everyone else</b>	<b>Don't know/Refused</b>
22	77	1

47. If there is a bioterrorist attack using smallpox in your state, should the governor be able to use National Guard troops to prevent people from leaving neighborhoods or communities where there have been outbreaks of smallpox, or SHOULDN'T the governor have that power?

<b>Governor should be able to use National Guard troops to stop people from leaving</b>	<b>Governor SHOULDN'T have that power</b>	<b>Don't know/Refused</b>
67	32	1

## F. FACTUALS

Now on a different subject...

48. During the past 12 months, have you done any of the following? Have you...?

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Don't know/Refused</b>
a. Seen a doctor	82	18	--
b. Gotten a flu shot	29	71	--
c. Gone to a hospital emergency room	30	70	--

49. How often do you think the vaccinations that are routinely given to children have serious side effects? Very often, somewhat often, not very often, or hardly ever?

<b>-----Often-----</b>			<b>-----Not very/hardly ever-----</b>			<b>Don't know/Refused</b>
<b>NET</b>	<b>Very</b>	<b>Somewhat</b>	<b>NET</b>	<b>Not very</b>	<b>Not at all</b>	
30	6	24	69	40	29	1

50. Do you have a health condition that leads you to believe you shouldn't get (vaccinated/re-vaccinated) for smallpox, or don't you have such a condition?

Have a condition	Don't have such a condition	Don't know/Refused
7	90	3

(Asked of respondents who have a health condition; n = 65)

51. Has a doctor or health professional ever told you that you should not get a smallpox (vaccination/re-vaccination)?

Yes	No	Don't know/Refused
--	100	--

52. Has your doctor or health professional told you that you currently have a condition or are taking a treatment that leaves you with a lower level of immunity against other diseases, or haven't you been told that?

Yes, been told have a lower level of immunity	No, have not been told that	Don't know/Refused
6	94	*

53. Eczema is a skin disorder involving inflammation, itching, and scaliness. Have you ever been diagnosed by a doctor or health professional as having eczema, or not?

Yes	No	Don't know/Refused
9	91	*

50/52/53. Doctor Told Condition Table

Yes, any	No	Don't know/Refused
14	84	3

54. Have you ever seen someone or a PICTURE of someone who has an active case of smallpox, or not?

Yes	No	Don't know/Refused
37	63	*

## X. DEMOGRAPHICS

58. Do you have any children age 2 through 17?

Yes	No	Don't know/Refused
38	62	*

(Asked of respondents who have children age 2-17; n = 362)

59. As you may know, a vaccine for smallpox exists, but it may produce serious side effects in a small number of cases. If such a vaccine were made available, would you get your CHILD vaccinated as a precaution against a terrorist attack using smallpox, or wouldn't you get your child such a vaccination?

Would get child vaccinated	Wouldn't get child such a vaccination	One/some/not both/all	Don't know/Refused
64	31	1	4