

RESOLUTION OF THE
WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE OF THE
FORT APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION

- WHEREAS, the White Mountain Apache Tribe has considered the Health of its Tribal members to be a priority concern; and
- WHEREAS, the severity of diseases caused by the Haemophilus influenzae germ among Apache infants and young children is 10 to 35 times that of the general population of the U.S. and that these diseases include infections of the blood, lungs (pneumonia), ears (otitis media), sinuses, joints, and brain (meningitis); and
- WHEREAS, there currently is a licensed vaccine called the Haemophilus influenzae Type b Polysaccharide Vaccine which has been given to over 60,000 infants and children between 2 months and 5 years of age and has been found to be safe and effective in young children 2 years of age and older and somewhat effective, but also safe, in babies between 18 and 23 months of age; and
- WHEREAS, information is still lacking on exactly how well the vaccine protects 18 to 23 month old infants despite the fact that the vaccine has already been used extensively. In particular, information is lacking in infants of this age group who are from high-risk populations, such as the Apaches; and
- WHEREAS, this vaccine has been recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Centers for Disease Control to be given to: 1.) young children 2 years of age and older in the general population of the U.S.; and, 2.) infants 18 months of age and older in high-risk populations, such as the Apache population; and
- WHEREAS, among Apaches, diseases caused by H. influenzae afflict primarily infants less than 1 year old, but also afflict infants 18 to 23 months of age almost 10 times more than the general population of the U.S., and that Apache infants 2 years of age and older continue to have high incidence rates of H. influenzae diseases; and
- WHEREAS, the John Hopkins University Infectious Disease Research Center, which has been located on the White Mountain Apache Reservation since 1981 under the directorship of Dr. Mathuram Santosham, has conducted many beneficial projects on behalf of

infants with diarrhea, and has also had experience investigating the problems of diseases caused by the H. influenzae germ in a successful project which has been operating since August 1983; and

WHEREAS, the John Hopkins University Infectious Disease Research Center wishes to incorporate the above listed recommendations for use of the vaccine in a project in order to make recommendations about the optimal time when Apache infants should receive this vaccine; and

WHEREAS, the risks involved in receiving the vaccine are very minimal, but the benefits to be received include definite protection among those 2 years of age and older, and possible protection among those 18 months of age and older (the extent to which is unknown and making this determination is one of the purposes of this proposed project); and

WHEREAS, this proposed project has been reviewed by both the Whiteriver PHS Hospital, which supports the project, and by the Health Board of the White Mountain Apache Tribal Health Authority, which approved the project at a regularly scheduled meeting.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that approval is hereby given for the John Hopkins Infectious Disease Research Center, located at the Whiteriver PHS Hospital, to conduct this project for the purposes stated in the attached protocol and according to the procedures outlined therein.

The foregoing resolution was on January 14, 1986, duly adopted by a vote of 9 for and 0 against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article V, Section 1 (a&i) of the Amended Constitution and Bylaws of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe June 27, 1958, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on May 29, 1958, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984)



Chairman of the Tribal Council



Secretary of the Tribal Council