

CURRENT (Continued from p. 14)

Wyeth Plant Cited for Contamination

A FDA inspection of a Wyeth Pharmaceuticals New York plant found 59 quality-control failings including dirty work areas, insects in a hallway and contamination. Wyeth officials claim the safety and effectiveness of Prevnar, a vaccine for pneumonia, ear infections and meningitis.

Recently, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released a study finding Prevnar dramatically reduced pneumonia, ear infections and meningitis. But production problems have prompted rationing of the drug, with the CDC saying doctors should only give two doses by the age of 15 months instead of the recommended four.

Prevnar earned about \$1 billion in revenue last year for Madison, N.J.-based Wyeth, and is among the drug maker's best-selling products. The vaccine is made at a Sanford, N.C., facility and packaged at Wyeth's plant in Pearl River, N.Y.

For more information:

"FDA Found Problems at Wyeth Plant", May 3, 2004,
<<http://info.myway.com/index/id/spreadtheword.html>>

HIV Vaccine Research

A proposed spending of \$15 million has been backed to develop a HIV Vaccine at a medical center in the United States to advance vaccine research, said Dr. Anthony Fauci of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Eight countries adopted Bush's plan for a "Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise" at a economic summit. The plan, Fauci said, would set up HIV vaccine development centers around the world and standardize laboratories' measurement systems so that advances in one lab are usable in others and there will be a network of clinics for the trails.

Editors comment: Why aren't they doing research with natural less invasive methods of treatment?

For more information:

CNN News, Health Library: Aids/HIV, June 10, 2004
<http://www.cnn.com/>, International Edition ,
<http://edition.cnn.com> |
