

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

- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe is composed of duly elected representatives of the people of the White Mountain Apache Tribe; and
- WHEREAS,** All Tribal Council members share the common goal of raising the level of health of its Tribal members; and
- WHEREAS,** The problem of hepatitis A infection has reached epidemic proportions among the White Mountain Apaches, especially among children and adolescents, and is now a problem that is approximately 10-20 times worse among its tribal members than in the population of the rest of the U.S.;
- WHEREAS,** Hepatitis A infection, which is caused by the hepatitis A virus, is contagious and causes much hardship and inconvenience to those afflicted with the disease and to their families and results in much loss of time, effort, and money in dealing with the disease;
- WHEREAS,** Those afflicted with hepatitis A infection usually recover without complications, however, the infection can result in serious liver damage and other complications and rarely causes death;
- WHEREAS,** In research done elsewhere in the U.S., a vaccine has been found that can protect individuals from infections caused by the hepatitis A virus and is safe from serious side effects and is expected to be licensed soon;
- WHEREAS,** Before licensure, the Food and Drug Administration requires one final evaluation of the vaccine to see if three different lots of the vaccine consistently produce comparable immune responses in children and adolescents throughout the U.S.;
- WHEREAS,** a project site operated by the Johns Hopkins University has been present in Whiteriver since 1980 and has conducted a number of research programs which have benefitted the White Mountain Apache Tribe in raising the level of health of infants and young children such as drastically lowering the rates of diarrhea and meningitis and other diseases caused by the Haemophilus bacteria;
- WHEREAS,** other sites operated by Johns Hopkins on the Navajo Reservation have successfully used the same hepatitis A vaccine among children who have since been protected from hepatitis A infection;

WHEREAS, it is felt that the vaccine to be give in this immunogenicity project--a vaccine found to be safe and effective in preventing hepatitis A infection--can likewise benefit the White Mountain Apache population by reducing the high rates of hepatitis A disease; and

WHEREAS, the Johns Hopkins Project, which has developed good rapport with the White Mountain Apaches, has had experience in conducting research projects of this type.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that based on the foregoing it hereby grants approval to the Johns Hopkins Study Center in Whiteriver to conduct this immunogenicity trial using an investigational hepatitis A vaccine manufactured by Merck Sharp & Dohme for the purposes stated above and according to the protocol approved by the Indian Health Service.

The foregoing resolution was on August 05, 1993, duly adopted by a vote of seven for and one against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article V, Section 1 (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).

RECEIVED

AUG 24 1993

FORT APACHE INDIAN AGENC.
WHITERIVER, ARIZONA



Chairman of the Tribal Council



Secretary of the Tribal Council