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Aronson JD, Palmer CE (1946). Experience with BCG vaccine in the control of tuberculosis among North American Indians. Public Health Reports 61:802-820.

Key passages

EXPERIENCE WITH BCG VACCINE IN THE CONTROL OF TUBERCULOSIS AMONG NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS

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Design of the Study

Briefly, the general plan of the study first involved the selection of a group of Indian children and young adults, living on different reservations and communities in various parts of the United States and Alaska, who were free from tuberculosis as indicated by their failure to react, definitely, to a maximum dose (0.005 mg.) of a standardized tuberculin PPD. Second, a random portion of the negative reactors was vaccinated intracutaneously with freshly prepared BCG vaccine, while the remainder served as controls. Systematic annual follow-up of the two groups by means of X-ray films of the chests, tuberculin tests, and histories of exposure to tuberculosis, was then instituted to determine the effectiveness of the BCG vaccine in preventing the development of tuberculosis. An outline of the name and location of the reservation, date of tuberculin testing, vaccination, times of annual re-examination, year last examined, and years of observation is presented in table 1.