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[Kendrick PK \(1943\)](#). Field study of alum-precipitated combined pertussis vaccine and diphtheria toxoid for active immunization. American Journal of Hygiene 38:193-202.

Key passages

A FIELD STUDY OF ALUM-PRECIPIATED COMBINED
PERTUSSIS VACCINE AND DIPHTHERIA TOXOID
FOR ACTIVE IMMUNIZATION ¹

By

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METHODS

Field procedures. In general the methods of selection of test and control groups and of follow-up were the same as described for previous series (1a, 3). The age group under study was defined to include children 6 months or more but under 5 years old. Actually, more than 90 per cent of the children in both the vaccine and the control groups were less than 3 years of age and approximately 80 per cent were less than 2 years old. The children were presumably susceptible; that is, there had been no known attack of whooping cough and no vaccination against the disease.

The vaccinated group was made up of children brought to the City Health Department clinic for pertussis immunization. The children who needed both pertussis and diphtheria immunization were given the combined antigen and they constitute the main test group; those who already had had diphtheria toxoid were given only plain pertussis vaccine. Each vaccine-injected child was entered on the date of the last injection.

The control group was designated specifically for comparison with the combined vaccine group and was made up of children of similar age and location in the city with respect to nursing districts. Whenever a group of completed immunization records was received by the laboratory from the clinic, approximately twice as many names were designated from the preschool immunization files as possible controls, with the object of having an acceptable control group approximately equal in number to the combined vaccine group. The children were visited for verification of their histories and, if found to meet the requirements as to age and susceptibility, they were entered as controls as of the date designated. Actually, of 3,125 children designated as possible controls throughout the course of the study on the basis of the information in the preschool immunization files, only 1,511 proved to be acceptable. Of the 1,614 who were not acceptable, 1,404 were not entered (699 had moved before the first visit for checking information, and 705 did not meet the requirements, particularly as to susceptibility); and 210 were entered and later rejected either because they had moved before the first follow-up visit, or subsequent information proved them ineligible.