



# “Lest We Forget! Why You Are So Important to the Immunization Process”

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# “Lest We Forget! Why You Are So Important to the Immunization Process”

- › Over the centuries of mankind’s existence on this planet, we have been threatened by a multitude of natural and manmade disasters that have threatened our very existence on this planet. Somehow, we have managed to survive and develop scientific technologies that have advanced that existence.
- › My question to you is: are we on the verge of compromising our own existence? We now know that many other living species are extinct or on the verge of extinction due to lack of food, pollution and a burgeoning world population that we may not be able to sustain.





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- › I am not here today to be a doomsayer, or preach the gospel, nor am I predicting the extinction of our species on this earth.
- › I am here today to remind you of some of our negative past that we have overcome but at the cost of millions of lives over the centuries.
- › These events would have been preventable had there been the vaccines and other medications that we have in our medical tool box today. Medication solutions that represent the intellect, hard work, dedication, research and development past and present, that is being carried out by people just like you today.
- › Of course this included a little luck along the way, but we also learned the importance of personal and community based hygiene practice and how it fit into this equation.

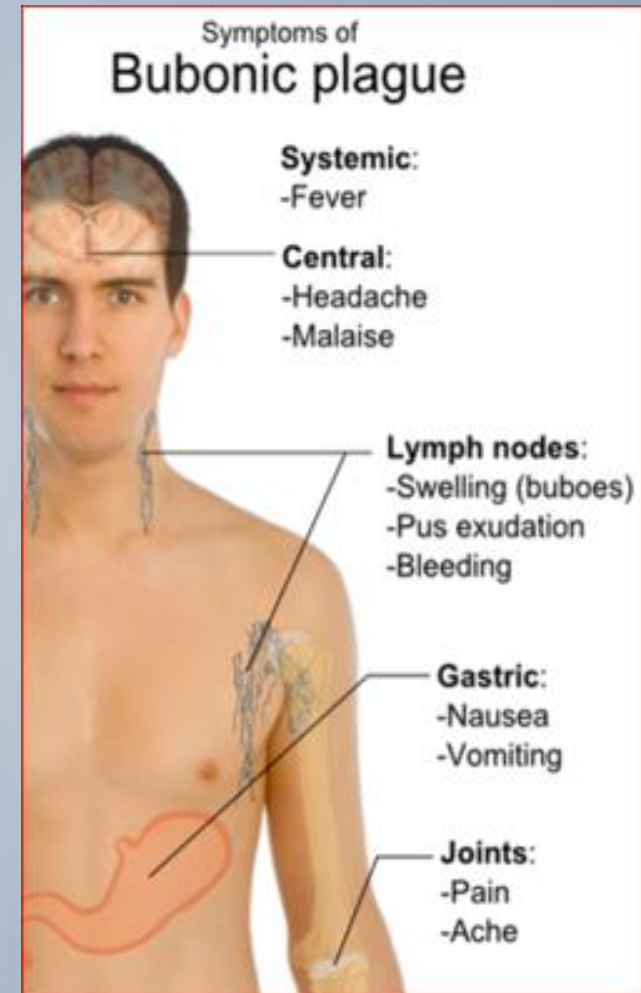
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- › This persistence and caring of people like you in this room today plus the tens of thousands of fellow healthcare professionals worldwide that want to see healthy children grow up to be healthy adults, in a safe and secure world.
- › At the same time, I believe that our technological development, the intertwining of international economies, plus the ease of international travel has brought to us both the positive and negative developments in health care that we are now faced with.
- › When you leave this room today, I hope you will leave with a renewed sense of dedication to your daily practice of community health.



# Vaccine Preventable Pandemics and Epidemics – a brief review of the 10 most deadly

- › Bubonic Plague
- › Repeated itself at various times in world history decimating up to 70% of the populations where it occurred – probably in the hundreds of millions worldwide



# Vaccine Preventable Pandemics and Epidemics – a brief review of the 10 most deadly

- › Small Pox = 430 BC? To 1979
- › Has repeated many times over the centuries with a toll in the millions, 60 million in Europe alone. The explorer Cortes and crew brought it to the Americas. One infected crew member or soldier nearly wiped out the Aztec civilization including the Aztec king. This epidemic ensured Cortes' victory having nearly wiped out the Aztec army and general population. Estimated to have killed more than 300 million people worldwide in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century alone



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- › Spanish Flu 1918 - 1920
- › While this one stands out like a sore thumb, there has been many other influenza events and variations, this one stands out because it is estimated to have caused the death of over 75 million people in just 2 years (some estimates of over 100 million)



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- › Malaria and Yellow Fever
- › Both have occurred and re-occurred over the centuries causing the deaths of millions.





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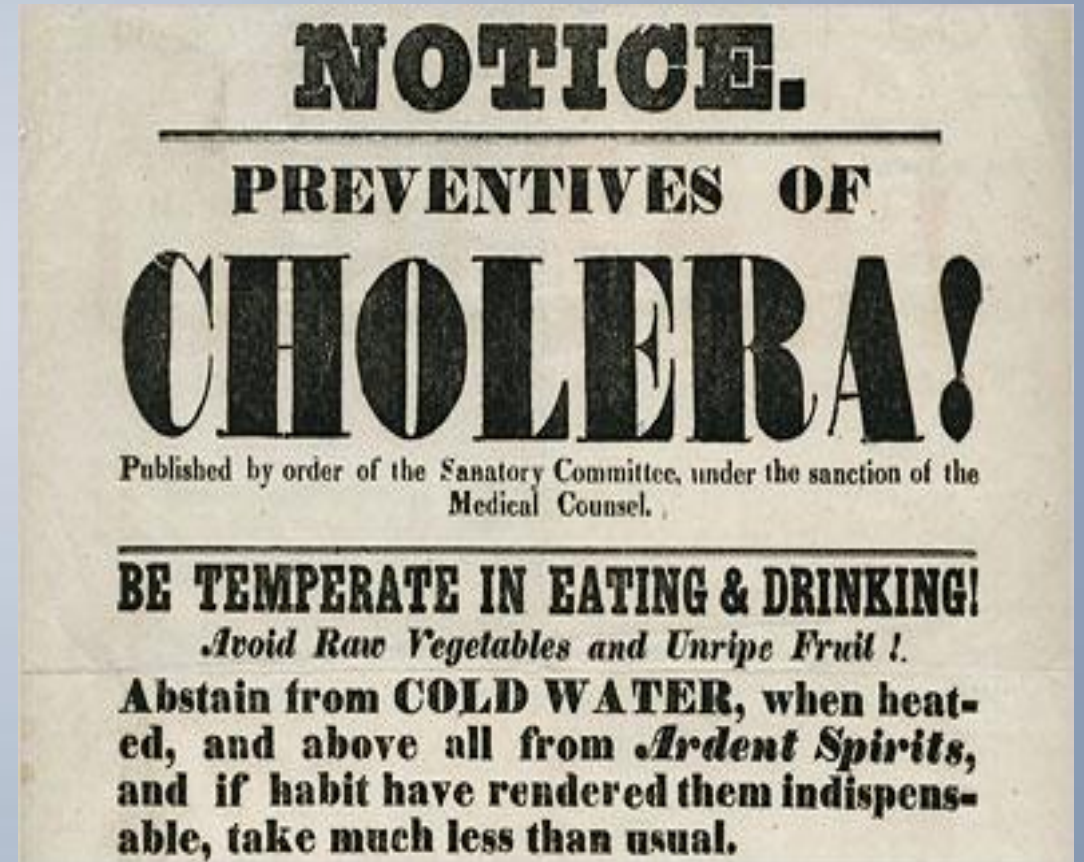
- › Aids
- › We are all too familiar with this ravaging disease state that has taken the lives of more than 30 million people worldwide but we are on the verge of a solution in the near future





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- › Cholera
- › Another one that has reoccurred many times over the centuries(at least 8 times that we know of) but we do have an effective vaccine, we just haven't solved the sanitation problems that keep helping it comeback



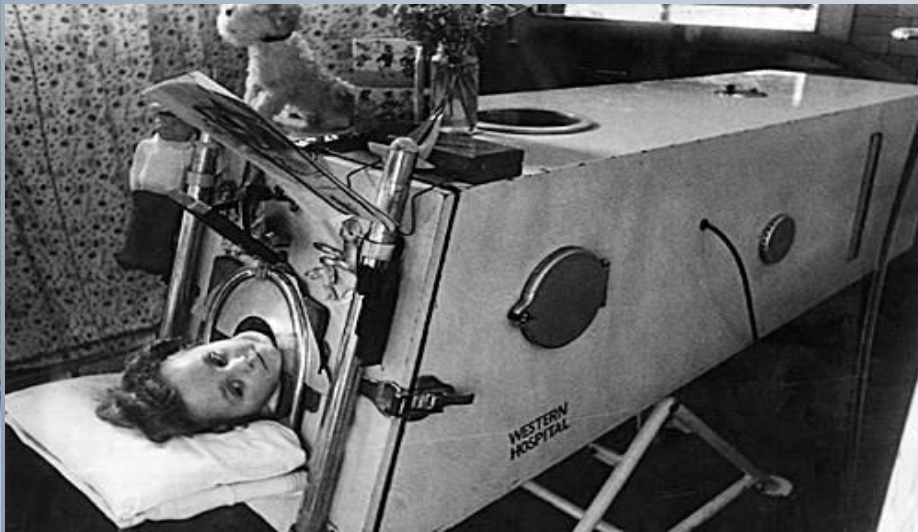
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- › Typhus
- › Dates back to at least 430 BC, killing at least 3 million people between 1918 and 1922. This doesn't include Napoleon's army which was devastated by Typhus during the invasion of Russia making the Russian victory easy.



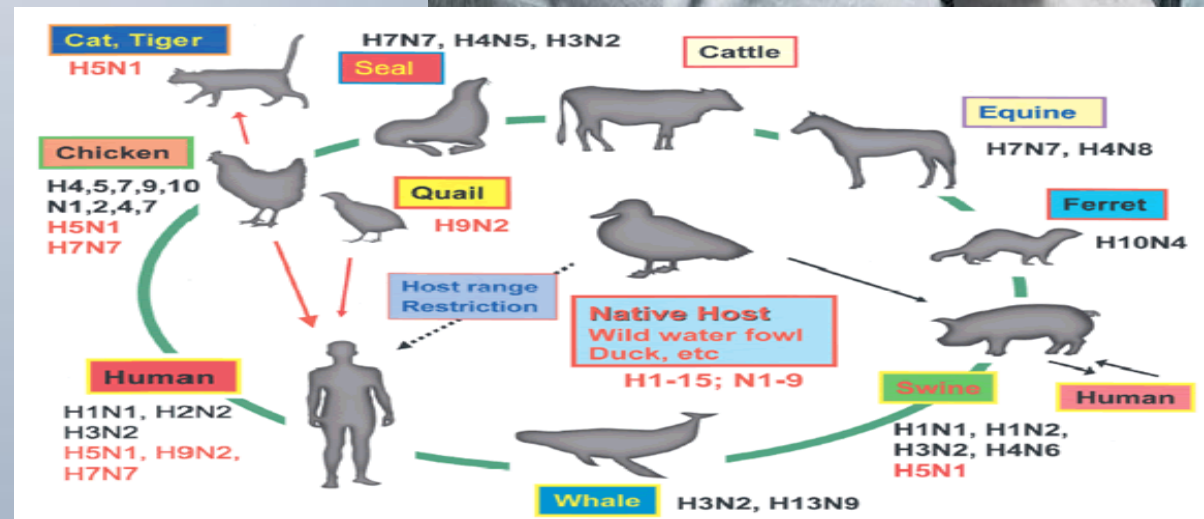
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- › Polio
- › Poliomyelitis is a viral disease that can affect nerves and can lead to partial or full paralysis.
- › The Salk vaccine, 1953-1954



# Vaccine Preventable Pandemics and Epidemics – a brief review of the 10 most deadly

- › Influenza – assorted variations
- › We are all too familiar with the modern variations and there is still no permanent cure at this time. The economic costs alone have been staggering for some world economies.



# Vaccine Preventable Pandemics and Epidemics – a brief review of the 10 most deadly

- › Honorable mention – measles, mumps, chickenpox, pertussis

