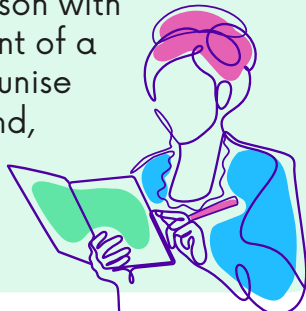


A history of vaccinations

1721

From Turkey to England

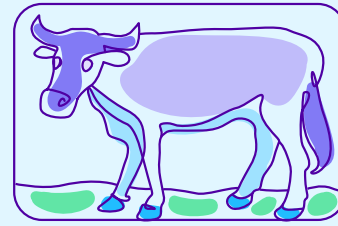
Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, after surviving smallpox, brings variolation (the practice of deliberately infecting a person with the small amount of a disease to immunise them) to England, changing the course of public health.



1724

A Farmer's Bold Experiment

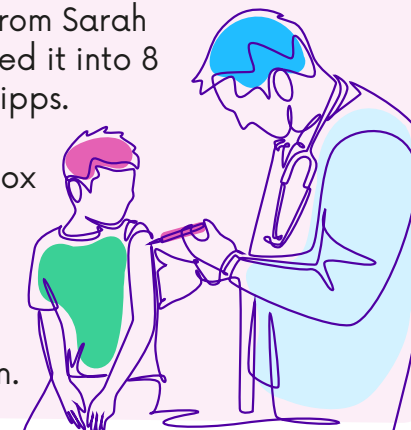
Dorset farmer Benjamin Jesty deliberately infected his family with cowpox to protect them from smallpox. Drawing on his own experience and that of local milkmaids who seemed immune, he took a risky step that, despite backlash, laid the groundwork for modern vaccine science.



1776

First True Vaccine

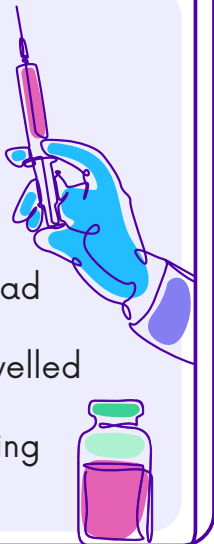
Edward Jenner, a doctor from Gloucestershire, used cowpox pus from Sarah Nelmes and injected it into 8 year old James Phipps. James was then exposed to smallpox and was immune, proving immunity to smallpox and launching the age of vaccination.



1798

World's first Vaccination Campaign

Edward Jenner published his research which led to widespread knowledge and support. He travelled neighbouring areas, vaccinating people for free.



Early 1900s - 1961

Polio is Defeated!

Polio causes paralysis to limbs and the respiratory system, and impacts children the most. Outbreaks throughout the early 20th century led to the development of iron lungs to help with treatment. Jonas Salk's polio vaccine cuts cases by 50% in one year. Albert Sabin's oral version follows, making mass immunisation possible worldwide.



1885

Pasteur and Germ theory: A scientific revolution

Louis Pasteur developed evidence on germ theory and isolated viruses that cause harm in beer, milk and other industries. He also isolates the rabies virus and develops a vaccine against it.



1840/53/67

Protection for All: The Vaccination Act

First law passed to make vaccinations compulsory, and free for all. Followed by 1853 and 1867 laws to vaccinate children. Later leading to the Leicester Anti-Vaccination League being founded in 1869 and mass protests.



Early 1800s

First Anti-vaccine Movement

Anti-vaccination campaigns, including use of graphic images, started. Records show this was being driven by some who had ulterior motives including Dr Benjamin Moseley, who feared vaccination would destroy his business.



1963

Measles Vaccine introduced

Once a routine childhood illness with a hidden death toll. John Enders created the first vaccine, later refined by Maurice Hilleman to reduce the side effects.

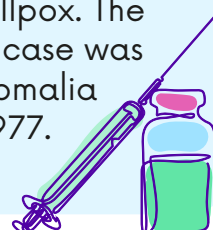
It has saved millions of young lives. Although we are now starting to see cases in the UK.



1980

Smallpox is eradicated!

The World Health Organisation declares the elimination of smallpox. The last case was in Somalia in 1977.



1994 - 2019

The Vaccine Boom

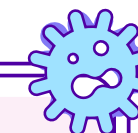
In these 25 years, 20 vaccines or combination vaccines were developed and launched. These have led to reductions in many illnesses in children and adults including diphtheria, meningitis, influenza, pertussis, shingles and rotavirus, protecting billions worldwide.



2021

Covid Vaccines and a Global Crisis

In 2021, licence was given for the COVID vaccine. This was a new type of vaccine delivery that had been studied since 1984 for treatments and vaccines.



FUTURE

Science never sleeps

Scientists continue to work on new vaccines for many different illnesses. These include Alzheimer's, auto-immune diseases, Ebola, Dengue and Hepatitis B and very recently the new HIV vaccine that will change many lives!

