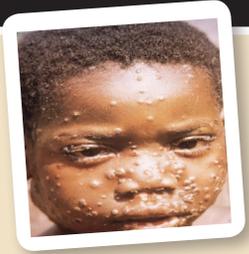


Immunizations Timeline

100 Years of Public Health



1790s – Edward Jenner began development of a smallpox vaccine after observing that dairymaids who had developed cowpox were naturally immune to smallpox.

1800 – Benjamin Waterhouse became the first doctor to test the smallpox vaccine in the U.S.

1916 – Arkansas required rules for a statewide compulsory school smallpox vaccination program.

1949 – The last known case of smallpox occurred in the U.S.

1971 – The U.S. ended its routine smallpox vaccination.

Due to a successful vaccination campaign worldwide, smallpox disease was completely eradicated from the earth with the last known case occurring in Somalia in 1977.

1955 – The development of the polio vaccine by Dr. Jonas Salk was announced and provided to the state at no cost by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

The Health Department led the charge in distributing the vaccine to local health units and administering the inoculation to children.

1963 – Licensed vaccines became available for measles.

1963 to 1965 – Arkansas Children's Colony in Conway, Arkansas became home to individuals suffering from rubella.

Physicians and nurses capitalized on the Colony's remote location to conduct research on the newly licensed vaccines. With their parents' approval, children were vaccinated, and the successes gave rise to the popularity of the rubella vaccine.

1971 – Arkansas First Lady Betty Bumpers began the Every

Child by '74 Campaign to eradicate preventable diseases among Arkansas's children.

Mrs. Bumpers continued her efforts, working with then-President Jimmy Carter and First Lady Rosalynn Carter, to implement the first federal initiative in comprehensive childhood immunization. When this national program was launched in 1977, only 17 states required immunizations for children by the time they entered school. With more than 95 percent of school-aged children immunized today, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) still recognizes this as one of its most successful public health programs ever.

1991 – Mrs. Bumpers and Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter founded Every Child by Two, designed to immunize all children by age two and create state immunization registries.

Early 2000s – The Health Department began offering seasonal flu vaccinations at mass flu clinics statewide.

2009 – The Health Department conducted flu clinics in almost 1,100 schools in the state during the H1N1 pandemic, with the help of volunteers and funds provided by the CDC and the Arkansas legislature.

More than 700,000 doses of H1N1 and seasonal flu vaccine were administered in school and mass flu clinics and local health units statewide.

2013 – The Health Department continues to host school and mass flu clinics statewide each flu season. In addition, by providing nearly 400,000 vaccinations annually, the Department is the state's single largest provider of a variety of immunizations.

