Vaccine Preventable Disease Pictures

- 12,000-20,000 cases of paralytic **POLIO** were reported each year prior to the introduction of the polio vaccine. The end results were children in braces, crutches, wheelchairs and iron lungs for the rest of their life. Physicians who treated people in the acute, early stage of polio saw that many patients were unable to breathe when the virus’s action paralyzed muscle groups in the chest. Death was frequent at this stage, but those who survived usually recovered much or almost all of their former strength.

- Advertisement for Drinker-Collins respirators, showing bellows on the bottom, 1950s

- 450 **MEASLES**-associated deaths each year between 1953-1963. Others were left with ear infections, pneumonia and diarrhea.
- 20,000 invasive **Hib** cases annually were reported killing 600 children each year and leaving others with bacteria in the blood which can result in amputations, pneumonia or inflammation of the epiglottis, deafness, seizures, or mental retardation.

  **Infant with severe vasculitis with disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC) with gangrene of the hand secondary to Hib septicemia**

- 150,000-260,000 cases of **Pertussis** were reported prior to vaccinations with up to 9000 related deaths. From 1990-1996 57 people died from Pertussis; 49 of these were less than six months of age.

- **Pneumococcus** caused 6,100 deaths in the US each year. Since the vaccine was introduced the pneumococcal rate has decreased 75%.

- 90% of infants born to mothers infected with **Rubella** during the first trimester of pregnancy will develop CRS (congenital rubella syndrome) resulting in heart defects, cataracts, mental retardation and deafness.
• **Varicella** caused an estimated 5 million cases of chickenpox, 11,000 hospitalizations, and 100-150 deaths each year.

  **Infant with necrotizing fasciitis, a complication of varicella**

• **Hepatitis B** infected more than 2 billion (not a typo!) people worldwide and of those one million people die each year from liver disease and liver cancer. Since the introduction of the vaccine, the number of new infections each year has dropped from 450,000 in the 1980’s to 80,000 in 1999.

• **Diphtheria** is a serious disease caused by a bacterium that produces a poisonous toxin which frequently causes heart and nerve problems. The fatality rate is 5-20% and in the 1920’s was the major cause of illness and death for children in the US. 15,520 deaths were reported in 1921. In 2001 only two cases were reported. This germ still exists and is only a plane ride away.

  **Child has diphtheria, thick gray coating over back of throat**
• **Tetanus** is a serious, often fatal disease caused by a bacterium in soil and street dust. From 1922-1926 approximately 1,314 cases were reported per year in the US. In 2000, only 41 cases were reported. **Worldwide** tetanus kills 300,000 newborns and 30,000 birth mothers who were not properly vaccinated.

![Baby has neonatal tetanus with complete rigidity](image)

• **Mumps** used to be the major cause of deafness in children prior to the introduction of the vaccine. In the US in 1964 212,000 cases of mumps was reported. In 2001 only 266 cases were reported.

![Child very swollen under the jaw and in the cheeks due to mumps](image)

Photos acquired from the Immunization Action Coalition Photo Library @ [http://www.immunize.org/photos/](http://www.immunize.org/photos/). We thank the Immunization Action Coalition.

Content adapted from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) @ [http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/).