



# Eradication of Polio



**Country: Mexico**

**Committee: WHO (World Health Organization)**

**Delegate: İlgin Tuna Gümrah**

In 1959, OPV was introduced to Mexico. Although in the past Mexico among other countries made improprieties by misusing the vaccine, we expect to radically change the problem through mass campaigning. Likewise, we have proved in 1972 by mass campaigning reached 70% of children younger than five years of age, and accordingly, the reported cases declined from 1.9 to 0.4 per 100,000 population. Our plans are to continue mass vaccination in an endeavor to reach small percentages in our nation that have been isolated and without vaccination.

The rising of Polio started in the early 18th century when in England physicians observed a disease with similar symptoms to poliomyelitis. Nevertheless, the first major epidemic recorded of the disease is in Sweden in 1881. Followed by, health officials announcing a polio epidemic centered in Brooklyn, New York. Like it is standard with polio outbreaks, infections rose high within the summer. More than 2,000 people would die in New York City alone. Across the United States in 1916, polio took the lives of about 6,000 people, leaving thousands more paralyzed. Consequently dread arose among parents and public spaces for instance pools and amusement parks were shut down to decrease contamination.

One of the most life-threatening symptoms of the illness includes muscle paralysis furthermore the virus affects the chest muscles leaving the patient unable to breathe without aid. Therefore Louis Agassiz Shaw and Philip Drinker at Harvard University innovated a machine that assists patients with breathing by pulling air into and out of the lungs by changing the pressure in an airtight metal box. It shortly became a vital feature of the polio wards of the mid-1900s. By 1939, approximately 1,000 iron lungs were in use in the USA. In 1931, John Haven Emerson enhanced the device to better give treatment to patients. The demand for iron lung decreased on account of the development of Salk's vaccine in the 1950s.

By 1954, new discovery of the Salk's vaccine brought hope to citizens and the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis surfaced. Dr. Albert Sabin convinced the USSR to do a controlled field trial of his own inoculation. After the trial was a grant success, U.S. Public Health Service approved the vaccine, and manufacturing began. Many people gave NFIP their complete approval yet some people believed that this was just a cover made by powerful men and women. Yet with the right communication, the government strengthened the trust and made this a huge success. This organization raised enough money each year to pay for hospital and rehabilitation costs of any polio patient in need of help, while at the same time sponsoring the laboratory research for both Salk and Sabin vaccines.

The United States of Mexico believes that every child in every nation deserves a healthy life without any diseases to worry about. Thus as the delegation of the United States of Mexico, we target to achieve a significant resolution.