50 YEARS OF GLOBAL HEALTH PROGRESS



1968: Studies of cancer in nonhuman primates provided compelling new evidence that the Epstein-Barr virus, discovered four years earlier, can lead to cancer in humans.³⁸

> 1974: Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) established to develop and expand immunization programs, initially targeting diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, measles, poliomyelitis, and tuberculosis, towards the goal of providing universal immunization for all children by 1990.40

> > 1977: The first angiotensin-

inhibitor developed for the

treatment of hypertension,

1980: Worldwide vaccination programs

contagious virus with no known cure which

killed an estimated 300-500 million people

result in the eradication of smallpox, a

in the 20th century.43

is discovered.41

1971: Measles, mumps and rubella

(MMR) vaccine approved, providing

protection against three highly infectious

illnesses at the same time, via one shot.39

converting-enzyme (ACE)

1978: First synthetic 'human' insulin produced, the first human protein to be manufactured through biotechnology, enabling patients to avoid the allergic reactions that insulin from cattle and pigs could cause.⁴²

> 1981: First IFPMA Code of Practice developed as the foundation for industry's global self-regulation, setting ethical and professional standards.44

1987: Ivermectin developed for parasitic infections in animals and it is later found an effective treatment for river blindness and lymphatic filariasis in humans, two debilitating diseases which affect the world's poorest populations.47

1987: First statin approved, a key step in reducing cardiovascular disease.48

1987: The first antiretroviral (ARV) drug is approved by the US FDA as treatment for HIV, beginning a new era of highly active ARV treatment.⁴⁶

1985: First manufactured insulin pen launched, offering greater ease of use and accuracy for patients versus the vialand-syringe method of insulin delivery.45

1988: WHO publishes Ethical Criteria for Medicinal Drug Promotion, the first frame of reference for judging proper behavior in drug promotion.⁴⁹

2006: Human papilloma virus (HPV) vaccine approved, which protects from cervical cancer, a common cancer among women under 35.55

1989: Biotechnology

scientists identify the previously unidentified virus Hepatitis C, which is now known to affect about 2% of the world's population.⁵¹

2000: Adoption of the

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), a blueprint for meeting the needs of the world's poorest with a focus on child mortality, maternal health, HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases.53

> 2000: Launch of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, a public-private global health partnership committed to increasing access to immunization in poor countries.54

1996: A new class of combined antiretroviral treatment, HAART, is developed, leading to a 50% drop in the number of AIDS-related deaths in the U.S. and Europe in three years.⁵²

1988: Establishment of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. which has contributed to the 99.9% reduction in global incidence of polio.50

6 IFPMA

2012: Signing of the London **Declaration on Neglected** Tropical Diseases: 14 billion treatments pledged and commitment to control, eliminate or eradicate 10 debilitating NTDs responsible for more than 90% of the global neglected diseases burden by 2020.57

2017: Launch of Access Accelerated with 23 global biopharmaceutical companies, the World Bank, the Union of International Cancer Control (UICC), and Boston University to combat NCDs globally.⁶¹

2012: First approval of a TB drug in 40 years, bedaquiline, unique in that it interferes with the enzyme required by bacteria to replicate.58

2014: Development of CAR-T cell therapies programmed T cells aim to hunt, bind to, and eliminate cancer cells.59

2011: Approval of directacting antivirals (DAAs), called protease inhibitors, which, combined with interferon and ribavirin, improve cure rates among patients with the most common hepatitis C genotype to 70%.56

2018: RTS, S malaria vaccine introduced in pilot immunization programs in three African countries -Kenya, Malawi, and Ghana.62

2015: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by world leaders, setting out a global sustainable development agenda which emphasizes collaboration across countries. actors, and sectors for a wide array of development outcomes, health and wellbeing prime among them.⁶⁰

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