Smallpox Timeline

1710: Lady Montagu sends letter from Constantinople

1721, Boston: Reverend Cotton Maher calls for inoculation

1723: Boston epidemic

1730: Inoculation in Philadelphia, NYC, Charleston

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1763: Smallpox used against Native Americans

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1774: Society for the Inoculation of the Poor

1775-1781: American Revolution

1778: Edward Jenner starts researching cowpox in England

1801, 1836: Native American epidemics

1842: Inoculation halted in England

1853: Vaccination for all English citizens

1855: All schoolchildren vaccinated in NYC, others follow

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Early 1940s: Smallpox eradicated in US

Late 1940s: Smallpox eradicated in US

1947: Small outbreak in NYC

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Jan. 1, 1977: WHO deadline for eradication

Eradication: 1971: Brazil
‘72: Indonesia
‘75: India
‘76: Ethiopia
‘77: Last case in Somalia
‘78: Research lab death in England

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1990s: Discussions over complete destruction of lab virus stocks

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