

# Vaccination

Vaccination was introduced in England in the early 18th century by the wife of the British ambassador at Istanbul after her son got inoculated by the embassy surgeon. The practice of vaccination can be traced back to parts of the Ottoman Empire. The Anatolian Ottoman Turks had discovered that if they inoculated their children with cowpox taken from cattle, they would not develop deadly smallpox. This was 50 years before Edward Jenner made his name for the same discovery and even before this a series of exchanges between scholars in the Arabic world and West had begun to establish the utility of vaccination against the disease.

Vaccination has made an enormous contribution to global health and is one of the most cost-effective public health interventions to date, averting an estimated 2 to 3 million deaths every year. In 1967, Turkey commemorated the 250th anniversary of the smallpox vaccination.

[\[View Source1\]](#)

[\[View Source2\]](#)

