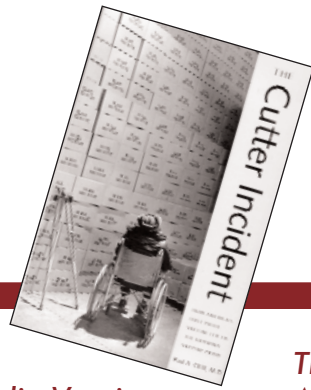


BOOKS



The Cutter Incident: How America's First Polio Vaccine Led to the Growing Vaccine Crisis

by Paul A. Offit, MD. October 2005;
ISBN 0-300-10864-8; \$27.50 hardcover,
240 pages, 25 black and white illustrations;
New Haven, CT: Yale University Press
(www.yalebooks.com)

This book recounts how a devastating episode in 1955—when, at the height of the polio epidemic, a vaccine made by Cutter Laboratories in Berkeley, California, inadvertently contained the live, virulent virus—resulted in liability laws that have discouraged companies from developing and producing vaccines to this day. Today, there is a critical shortage of vaccines—and only four companies make them.

Offit's book is very pertinent today, as the world faces a possible major flu pandemic with US litigation laws discouraging manufacturers from creating new influenza (or other) vaccines.

Paul Offit, MD, is chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases and a professor of pediatrics at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine.

The Death of a Disease: A History of the Eradication of Poliomyelitis

by Bernard Seytre and Mary Shaffer. October 2005; ISBN-13: 978-0-8135-3676-7 (hardcover); ISBN-13: 978-0-8135-3677-4; (\$22.95 paperbk., 161 pgs.); New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press
(<http://rutgerspress.rutgers.edu>)

This concise, very readable book tells the story of the poliovirus from its beginnings in ancient Egypt right up to WHO's eradication campaign. The authors, both professional science writers, explore the earliest stages of research, describe the wayward paths taken by a long line of scientists—each of whom made a vital contribution to understanding the disease—and trace the development of the Salk and Sabin vaccines.

Seytre and Shaffer use a global approach and explore the history of polio on four continents—Africa, Canada and the United States, India and Europe.

Other Recent Books by Polio Survivors

Orchid's Bloom by Roxann Gump O'Brien. 2005; ISBN 0-9770026-0-8 (\$13.95; paperbk., 188 pgs.); published by Rondell Glenn Publishing.

Through the Storm: A Polio Story (Revised and Expanded Edition) by Robert F. Hall. 2005; ISBN 1-59298-113-5 (\$20.00 USD, paperbk., 222 pgs.); Edina, MN: Beaver's Pond Press, Inc. (www.beaverspondpress.com).

Sucking Air, Doing Wheelies: Memoirs of a Fifties Polio Survivor by Robert Mauro. 2005; ISBN 1-4137-8791-6 (paperbk., 451 pgs.); Baltimore, MD: PublishAmerica, LLLP (www.PublishAmerica.com/books/10388).