



The Ernst Strüngmann Forum announces the new

Strüngmann Forum Report

Julia Lupp
Series Editor

Disease Eradication in the 21st Century *Implications for Global Health*

Edited by Stephen L. Cochi and Walter R. Dowdle

Disease eradication represents the ultimate in global equity and the definitive outcome of good public health practice. Thirty years ago, the elimination of smallpox defined disease eradication as a monumental global achievement with lasting benefits for society. Today, the global commitment to eradicate polio and guinea worm and heightened interest in the potential eradication of other infectious diseases, including measles/rubella, lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, and malaria, dominate public health concerns. But what does it take to eradicate a disease? This book takes a fresh look at the evolving concepts of disease eradication, influenced by scientific advances, field experience, societal issues, and economic realities. A diverse group of experts from around the world, representing a range of disciplines, examines the biological, social, political, and economic complexities of eradicating a disease.

The book details lessons learned from the initiatives against polio, measles/rubella, and onchocerciasis. Further chapters examine ethical issues, the investment case, governance models, organizational and institutional arrangements, political and social factors, feasibility of eradication goals, priority setting, and the integration of disease eradication programs with existing health systems.

This distinguished panel of authors from many disciplines and professions and worldwide experience has given us a robust and holistic view of what it really takes to eliminate and eradicate infectious and parasitic diseases at the regional and global levels, respectively, and they make a sound and compelling case for investing in these efforts which are critically important to improve global health and bring an end to unnecessary suffering, disabilities, and death.

—**Mirta Roses Periago**

Director, Pan American Health Organization

This excellent and detailed study on the applicability of eradication of disease in the global health field comes at a time when the world is about to eradicate polio. This in depth look at the effects on global health is timely and the Strüngmann Forum is to be congratulated in underwriting such an event. These findings will be of great interest to many involved in global health in all its facets, not solely disease eradication.

—**Kalyan Banerjee**

2011–12 President, Rotary International

What are the distinct benefits of disease eradication programs? An investment of this generation benefits all future generations providing ultimate benefit cost ratios. Disease eradication programs, at their best, explore and promote cutting edge science and technology, improve delivery approaches, and develop innovative global political liaisons. They bring out the best in global health work. The implications, considerations, progress and possibilities are presented in this Strüngmann Forum Report, "Disease Eradication in the 21st Century."

—**William H. Foege**

Senior Fellow, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation; former Director of the Centers for Disease Control and chief of its Smallpox Eradication Program



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Photos by Uwe Dettmar

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Contributors

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The Ernst Strüngmann Forum is founded on the tenets of scientific independence and the inquisitive nature of the human mind. Through its innovative communication process, it facilitates the continual expansion of knowledge.

Themes selected for a Forum transcend classic disciplinary boundaries. They are problem-oriented, of high-priority interest to the disciplines involved, and timely to the advancement of science. Proposals are submitted by leading scientists active in the field and selected by the Forum's Scientific Advisory Board.

A Forum can best be imagined as an intellectual retreat or think tank. International experts are brought together to identify gaps in knowledge; key questions are posed and innovative ways of filling these gaps are sought. Each project creates a unique synergism, from which new insights emerge and future research directions are delineated.

To complete the communication process, the Ernst Strüngmann Forum publishes the results in partnership with The MIT Press.

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Ernst Strüngmann Forum

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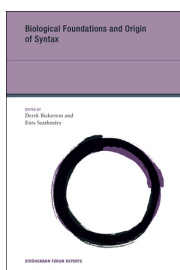


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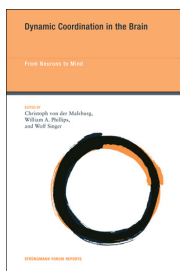
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