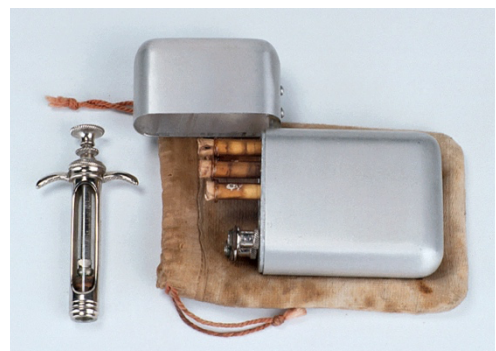# Teachers' Notes: KS4 Alice in Typhoidland

Content outline

This interactive session explores the development of germ theory and management of diseases such as typhoid and cholera in the 19th-century.

Students will watch a short animated film about typhoid in Oxford in the 19th-century and analyse data from a related epidemiological case study. They will explore medical instruments from the Museum's collection and trace the early history of vaccination and public health initiatives. We will look at historical reasons for public resistance to vaccination and compare these with our contemporary experience of the COVID-19 vaccination programme.

The session includes breakout activities and opportunities to discover more about objects from the Museum's collection.

19th-century hypodermic syringe, HSM inv. 48162

Learning

Students will:
- practise interpreting historical evidence in the form of a case study of epidemiological data
- analyse historical artefacts from the Museum's collection
- learn about Edward Jenner and the origin of vaccination
- learn about the significance of germ theory in late 19th-century medicine and related developments in public health
- explore ideas about resistance to vaccination

Curriculum

The session links to the following areas of the curriculum:

History:
- history of medicine including germ theory and disease in 19th-century Britain
- changes in public health and management of diseases such as typhoid and cholera

Pre-session activities

Explore online resources:

- Watch the animated film '***The Adventures of Alice in Typhoidland***':
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l3-hyufYnlg&t=3s
- ***Alice in Typhoidland***
  https://www.hsm.ox.ac.uk/alice-typhoidland-past-and-present-typhoid
- ***Chadwick and Snow (BBC animated film):***
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TT4Z1Ikf36w

Post-session activities

- Compare the similarities and differences between the causes and solutions to the Oxford typhoid outbreaks with those of cholera in the 19th-century?
- Useful resource: BBC bitesize
  https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z2d68mn/revision/5
- ***Medicine in the 19th-century***:
  https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zxg6wxs/revision/8
- ***Chadwick and Snow (BBC Teach animated film):***
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TT4Z1Ikf36w

IT set-up requirements and resources

This session would normally be delivered to a whole class using a VDU positioned at the front of the classroom and a link supported by an approved platform such as **Microsoft Teams** or **Google Meet** which can be set up by either the school or the Museum.

The workshop facilitator would normally expect to have a camera view of the classroom and microphone to pick-up sound in order to facilitate Q&A interaction which may need to be supported by the classroom teacher.

The workshop facilitator would normally expect to text the link with the class teacher at an agreed time at least 2 days before the workshop takes place in order to allow time to remedy any IT issues.

Activity resources needing printing would be emailed to the class teacher in advance of the workshop and printed copies should be handed out to the students before the session starts.