

Glossary

[disease] elimination: the removal of a disease from a specific region

[disease] eradication: the complete, worldwide removal of a disease from human or animal populations

herd immunity: a situation in which a large enough proportion of a population is resistant to a particular disease that the likelihood of a susceptible individual coming in contact with an infected individual becomes so low that disease transmission effectively ceases

“neglected tropical diseases”: a group of diseases that are neglected in terms of research or policy attention as a consequence of the lack of political and economic power of the people affected

orphan disease: diseases that have been ignored as targets for research because they afflict few people or are concentrated in poor populations and are thus unlikely to return much profit on investment

quarantine: the isolation of infectious individuals (or people suspected of being infectious) from uninfected individuals

ring vaccination: a vaccination approach in which all the contacts of an infected individual are vaccinated to stem the transmission of the disease