



Information Session:

VACCINATION: FACTS & MYTHS

Part I

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Vaccines are prepared from:

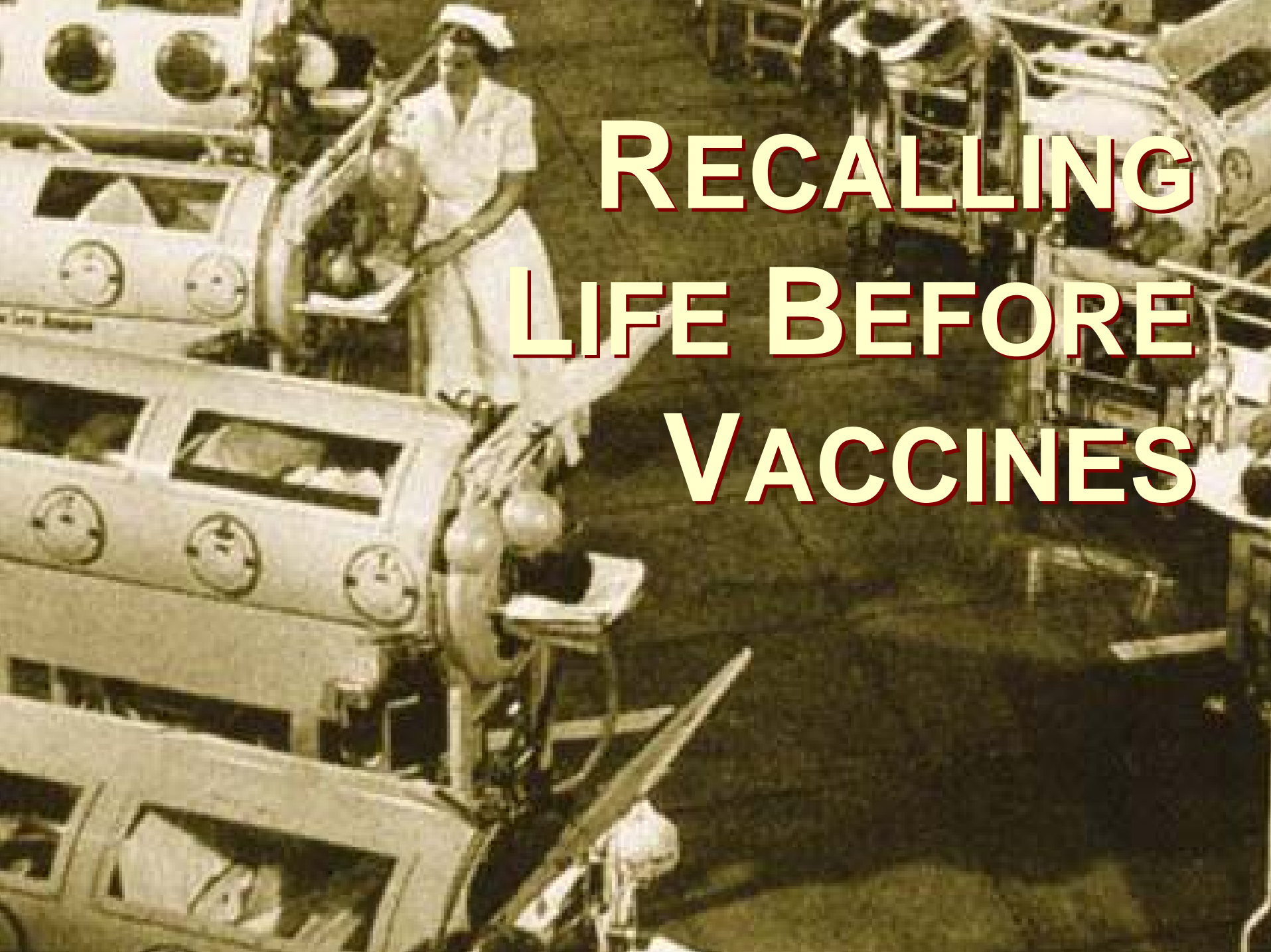
- ❖ **killed or inactivated viruses (e.g., polio and influenza)**
- ❖ **living microorganisms that are altered (e.g., measles, mumps and rubella)**
- ❖ **components of bacteria or viruses necessary for immunity (*haemophilus influenzae* type b and pertussis)**

Vaccines...



- ❖ **Vaccines stimulate immune system to produce antibodies and special cells; this stored cellular information will produce appropriate antibodies if exposed to an infecting agent**

- ❖ **26 infectious diseases are vaccine preventable**



RECALLING LIFE BEFORE VACCINES

Before immunization...



... disease outbreaks caused great fear and anxiety within communities — feelings that have not been experienced recently in such intensity until the HIV/AIDS pandemic

Before immunization...

Polio



- ❖ **fecal-oral transmission**
- ❖ **5% develop flu-like illness**
- ❖ **2% develop acute flaccid paralysis (AFP)**
- ❖ **polio peaked every 2 to 4 years**
- ❖ **major epidemics in AB, MB, ON and SK in '53 and '59**

Before immunization...



“I am the second to the last of 13 siblings, five of whom died of vaccine-preventable diseases in infancy.”

“Even after many years, she spoke of the ‘*morte d’angeli*’ – death of her angels – with a great deal of emotion. Imagine losing not one or two or three or even four babies – but five.”

- Dr. Eugene J. Gangarosa, Professor Emeritus, Department of International Health, Emory University, Atlanta