

Letizia Gabaglio

Illustrations by Maddalena Carrai

Epidemics, Vaccines and Anti-Vaxxers

To understand and choose consciously

This book aims at providing a historical interpretation of the present and the future that awaits us. From the historical tale of the epidemics that have shocked the world over the millennia to the development of vaccines and the controversies that have always accompanied them. Till getting to the present day, with the new Coronavirus pandemic and the possible vaccine.

Contextualizing these calamities allows us to understand their real extent, grasp similarities and differences, have a clear idea of how they can be defeated. Against what do vaccines fight, how are they developed, what are the benefits they bring to private health and public welfare?

Through the short chapters and the in-depth boxes we gradually move from the historical vision proposed

by the book to current events with anti-vaxxers' position, the Coronavirus case, and the debate in which we will soon find ourselves having to deal with: whether or not we need to get vaccinated against Covid-19.





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The authors

Letizia Gabaglio, journalist, writes for *La Repubblica*, *Le Scienze*, *Galileo*. She heads the medical-scientific communication area of Galileo Servizi Editoriali, a company she founded in 2004. Graduated in Philosophy at Università La Sapienza in Rome, she has always loved science. She teaches at the Franco Prattico Master in Science Communication of Sissa, in Trieste. In 2010, she published *Il Fattore X* with Elisa Manacorda for Castelvecchi, the first book on gender medicine. In 2016, she edited with Elisabetta Marano the book *Liberi dalla meningite*. *Le nostre storie* for Mondadori.

Maddalena Carrai is an illustrator and graphic designer. She works as a freelance illustrator for several customers in the fields of fashion, scientific magazines, editorial illustrations and publishing for children and teenagers. Since 2016 she has been working as an editorial illustrator for *Cancer World Magazine and Sharing Progress in Cancer Care* (SPCC).