

Review of: "Relevance of Medical Ethics in Public Health: Case Study of Polio Eradication"

Gabriela Arguedas-Ramirez¹

¹ Universidad de Costa Rica

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I want to thank Qeios for inviting me to review this manuscript.

The analysis and discussion about the ethical considerations that must guide public health policy and interventions, such as massive vaccination campaigns, is extremely important and should receive more attention. A historical approach to the evolution of immunization programs supported by the WHO, that brings to the front the structural inequalities, geopolitical issues and other social and economic factors that might have influenced the course of action in each particular case, is not only relevant as a research subject but indispensable in the accountability process of global health.

It is precisely because of the seriousness of these matters that I would like to encourage the authors to re-write and re-submit this manuscript taking into account the following suggestions:

1. In the process of writing an academic paper, careful attention should be given to the correct use of language. An adequate and precise narrative is key in the communication of ideas and arguments, avoiding the use of value judgments and comments that are more suitable for an opinion piece or an editorial.
2. There is a growing body of specialized literature on public health ethics, law and history, that is relevant to the subject matter of this manuscript. The authors should revise this literature in order to better understand, on one hand, and to better explain to the readers, on the other, what are the ethical issues in this case, which are the causes of those issues and how can they be resolved.
3. It is pertinent as well to include an analysis regarding how the benefit-cost paradigm plays a role in the conceptualization of the problem the authors are researching. An exploration of the ways in which this paradigm has shaped the institutional culture in global health could be useful in the discussion the authors want to push forward.