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Atlas of Epidemic Britain: A Twentieth Century Picture (Hardback)

By Reader in Geography Matthew Smallman-Raynor, Professor of Geography at Cambridge University and Fellow Andrew Cliff

Oxford University Press, United Kingdom, 2012. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 362 x 268 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Over a hundred years have passed since Charles Creighton's A History of Epidemics in Britain was published. Then, epidemics of infectious diseases accounted for a third of all deaths in the British Isles, caused principally by familiar infections like measles, whooping cough, scarlet fever, and smallpox, as well as by a host of now unfamiliar conditions in Britain like plague, cholera and typhus. By the beginning of the twenty-first century, mortality from infectious diseases had dropped to less than one in ten thousand of all deaths. But an invidious change had been taking place. Many of the old infectious diseases had been pushed into retreat by improvements in health care, delivered for three generations by a National Health Service, socio-economic progress, and medical advances - particularly mass vaccination which caused morbidity and mortality from a series of vaccine-preventable infections to implode. The vacuum generated was filled not just by cancers and cardio-vascular conditions. To add to the mix, infectious disease morbidity and mortality began to increase again, caused by a complex mixture of apparently new pathogens like bird flu,...



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