



Thank You Sidney!

Dr. Berezin Retires After 56 Years in Pediatric Practice



I recently retired from the practice of Pediatrics. Over 50 years ago I started a solo practice in Rockland County, and sixteen years ago I joined Clarkstown Pediatrics. I've enjoyed practicing with the group until my retirement this Spring.

During the early years of my practice before modern immunizations, my practice centered around caring for children with infectious diseases. There were frequent outbreaks of *measles*, *mumps*, *german measles (rubella)*, *chicken pox*, *poliomyelitis*, and more. I often saw children develop awful complications from these infections. One had to be especially alert in caring for these acutely ill children!

In those days, when a child had a fever and headache in the summer, the parents were afraid of *polio*. These days when a child has fever and headache in the summer a parent will call, "just to know what's been going around?" *Polio* is not even a thought.

One has only to go to an old cemetery and see the headstones of children who died of *Diphtheria*, *Whooping Cough*, *Polio*, *Meningitis*, and other infectious diseases.

Over the past 50 years so many diseases have been conquered. There are new vaccines on the horizon, and our children are protected now better than children ever were. The problems of today center around developmental issues, drugs, psychological problems, and child abuse.

When I look back on my career I could not have picked a more satisfying and wonderful profession. I have always loved caring for children. When I was able to help a severely ill child or one with a challenging problem, this was the best feeling. I know you will all see new and exciting advances to come in the care of children!

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