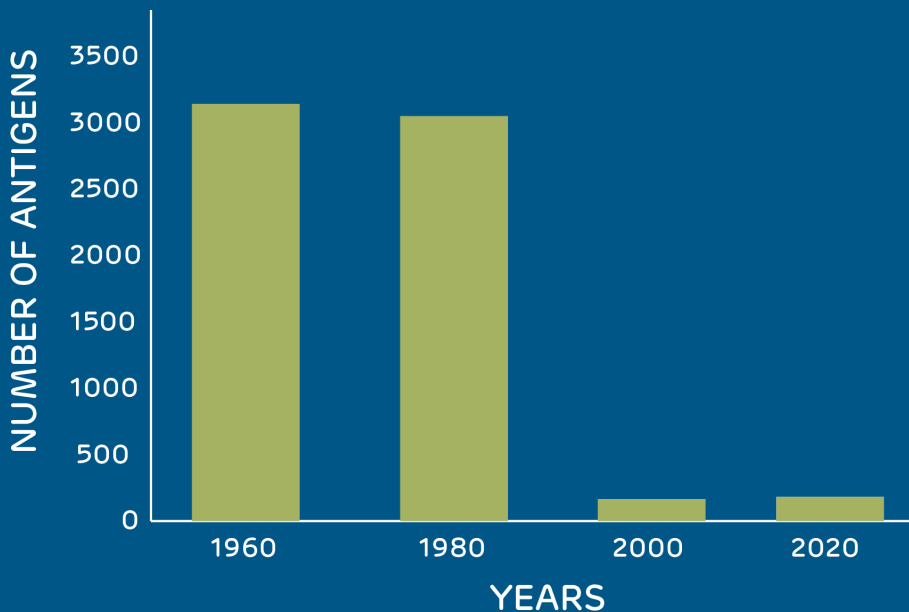


WHAT IS AN ANTIGEN?

Antigens are the parts of viruses and bacteria that induce immune responses. For example, viral proteins or bacterial proteins are antigens. These antigens may not be the part of the virus or bacteria that makes us sick. But, by introducing antigens in a vaccine, we can protect someone if they are exposed to these viruses or bacteria in the future.

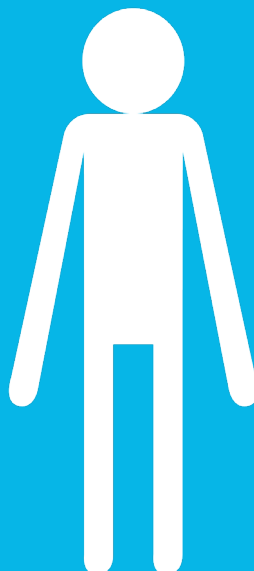


THE NUMBER OF ANTIGENS INTRODUCED IN VACCINES HAS DECREASED OVER TIME.



Our immune systems are busy managing antigens 24/7. Given the number of bacteria that an average adult has on or in their body, the 150 antigens from vaccines (by 2 years of age) are a drop in the bucket.

THE AVERAGE ADULT* CARRIES AROUND MORE BACTERIA THAN THE NUMBER OF CELLS THEY ARE MADE OF.



Cells:
30,000,000,000,000

Bacteria:
39,000,000,000,000

*20-30 yrs old, 5ft 6in, 154 lbs,