


# HEALTH INSURANCE MILESTONES TIMELINE

**1939:** 

Blue Shield plan introduced. It was originally developed by logging and mining companies in the Pacific Northwest to cover employee physician costs

**1986:** 

Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 provided that some employees may continue under their employer's health insurance after leaving employment. Mandated certain coverage requirements for employers to provide in order to receive a tax deduction. Included the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA), requiring Medicare to pay for emergency medical treatment regardless of patient insurance status.

**2003:** 

Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act created prescription drug coverage through Medicare.

**1929:** 

Justin Kimball develops a health insurance plan to cover teacher's hospital costs in Dallas, TX. This marks the beginning of Blue Cross.

**1965:** 

Social Security Amendments of 1965 lead to the creation of Medicare and Medicaid

**1972:** 

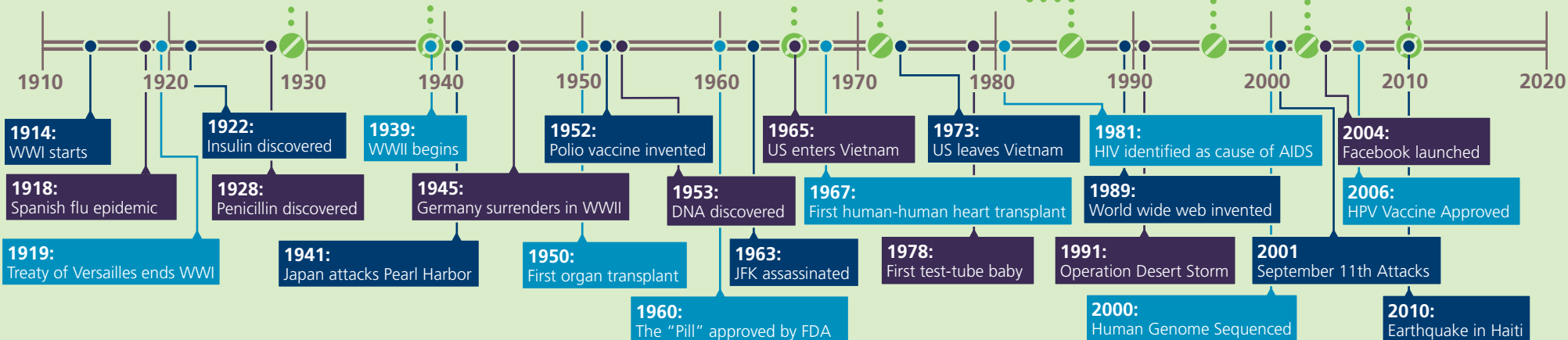
Social Security Amendment of 1972 extends Medicare to those who have been disabled for two or more years and are under the age of 65.

**1996:** 

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) passed to protect the confidentiality of health information.

**2010:** 

Affordable Care Act is passed providing nearly universal health coverage.



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## Further Resources:

- <http://online.wsj.com/public/resources/documents/HEALTHTIMELINE0907.html>
- <http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0779935.html#ixzz3Q2JuSZfP>
- [https://www.aamc.org/newsroom/keyissues/physician\\_workforce](https://www.aamc.org/newsroom/keyissues/physician_workforce)
- <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.MED.PHYS.ZS>