



PENICILLIN – A MEDICAL REVOLUTION

by Wilfried Hauke



SYNOPSIS

Once celebrated as a life saver, penicillin today is alarming researchers all over the world. A fascinating film about the history and current status of antibiotics.

Ninety years ago, in the summer of 1928, Scottish doctor Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin by accident. It took another two decades and a world war for him and others to succeed in producing the antibiotic in such large quantities that the epidemics of that time – typhus, syphilis, gangrene and tuberculosis – could be eradicated. But Fleming already suspected that one day a downside to his medical triumph would emerge. While the discovery of penicillin was celebrated at the time as a revolutionary new „life saver“, scientists and politicians around the world today are in a state of alarm. It is estimated that over 70 percent of aggressive germs are already resistant to the alleged wonder drug penicillin. The consequence of overuse. Fleming already warned of this in his Nobel Prize speech in 1945, but by...

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