

## **Edy Bucher**

### **Polio survivor and former member of the Board of the Association of the Swiss Interest Group for Post Polio Syndrome, Switzerland**

I am a polio survivor. I contracted the disease in 1952, when I was seven years of age.

The symptoms of paralysis were severe, and in the end, doctors advised that only a stay in an 'iron lung' would be able to save my life. Fortunately, the paralysis began to alleviate itself slightly, and I began to re-attain some limited strength in my fingers and hands.

I spent many weeks in a local hospital, along with other children affected by polio. But the realisation that my body recovered even ever-so-slightly instilled in me a sense of courage and energy, and strengthened my will to continue to recover.

Over the years, I underwent a number of surgical interventions, including a major one to strengthen my spine, in order to regain some level of mobility.

Today, I look back on my 75 years of age filled with challenges, but also enriching, interesting, live-giving and wonderful years, despite my disability.

For several years now, I support the global fight to eradicate polio, through various activities. We must and will win this fight! We are so very close, though the last mile is often the most challenging but we will not stop.

But in the interim, we must not forget those who are affected by the disease.

That is why I support the Polio Survivors Fund.

That is why I 'EradiCare'!

Please join our community of 'EradiCarers'. Together, we can make a real difference in children's lives.

Thank you.