The editors would like to thank the Fritz-Thyssen-Foundation who funded the international conference on the development and change of immunisation throughout history – socio-political development and the implementation of new medical practices that took place in Berlin, Germany in April 2011. We would also acknowledge additional funding received for the conference from the European Science Foundation through the network ‘Standard drugs and drug standards. A comparative historical study of pharmaceuticals in the twentieth century’. The idea of the book and the collaboration of the authors started at this conference. We thank Dr Marion Hulverscheidt with whom we received funding for the conference in Berlin and who was a co-chair of the meeting and important discussant in shaping the book. To discuss and reflect on the chapters and to finalise the book, the authors received funding from the Society of Social History of Medicine to conduct a workshop on ‘Vaccination between Research, Health Politics, and Nation: Lessons learned from historical examples on vaccination campaigns and vaccination development’ held at the East Anglia University Medical School in Norwich, UK in October 2013. We also would like to thank the anonymous reviewers for their comments on an earlier version of the book. Finally, we thank those who helped us bring the book into shape for publication: in particular Juliana Thon, Iris Maertens, Julie Slater, and Ashley Witcher.