Listening Guide for *The 1619 Project* Podcast
Episode 4: "How the Bad Blood Started"

1619 *is a* New York Times *audio series hosted by journalist Nikole Hannah-Jones, who created* The 1619 Project *initiative for* The New York Times Magazine. *You can find more information about the podcast along with transcripts for listening at* [nytimes.com/1619podcast](). *Episode four explores how Black Americans have fought from the shadows of exclusion to create the nation's first federal health care programs.*

Some questions to consider before listening:

1. This podcast episode talks about some of the history around access to medicine, medical insurance, and health care in the United States. Do you know what these terms mean? Where have you heard them before? Why might this history be important to know?
2. Black Americans have made important contributions to the history of medicine and development of health care systems in the United States. Which historical Black medical professionals can you name and what were some of their contributions?
3. Some of the history and personal stories told in this podcast are hard to listen to because they describe painful events. What can we do to take care of ourselves when something is both important to hear and difficult to listen to?

Listening Guide

Time Stamp	Main Topic	Questions to consider
0:00-6:56	Nikole's Uncle Eddie Anecdote	What emotions come up for you as you listen to *Hannah-Jones'* story about her Uncle Eddie? Can you relate to any of the experiences her family went through? This episode covers some facts and medical history. Why do you think the podcast producers made the choice to start with a personal story before diving into the facts?

6:56-16:59	Public Health Crisis during Reconstruction (Graphic descriptions of violence)	Have you heard about Rebecca Lee Crumpler before? What other questions do you have about her life and work? What can we learn about sharing unfounded or false medical and scientific theories from the historical perspective Jeneen Interlandi shares?
16:59-22:51	Harry Truman v. the American Medical Association	Have you heard people talk about universal health care before? Are you surprised to hear that it is not a new idea in politics? What demographics of American citizens would have benefited from Truman's proposed health care plan? What is your response to the AMA decision to campaign against the plan despite these benefits?
22:51-30:05	National Medical Association, Introduction of Medicare	Have you heard about William Montague Cobbs before? What other questions do you have about his life and work?
30:05-33:52	Hospital Desegregation	How did the passing of the Civil Rights Act help lead to the desegregation of hospitals?
33:52-39:12	Yaa Gyasi reading "Bad Blood"	What do you know about the Tuskeegee Experiment Gyasi references in her poem? How does this work help to illustrate the distrust some marginalized communities have in the public health system?

Some questions to consider after listening:

1. How has listening to this episode helped you to understand the history of health care in the United States?
2. What inequities do you think still exist in our medical system today? Who in your community do you know fighting to make positive changes in this area?

3. What additional research do you want to do about the history of medicine, access to health care, or civil rights in America after listening to this podcast episode?