

Related READING

Rima Apple, ed. *Women, Health, and Medicine in America: A Historical Handbook*. Garland, 1990.

Ruth Bleier. *Gender and Science: A Critique of Biology and its Theories on Women*. Pergamon Press, 1984.

Eliza Lo Chin, ed. *This Side of Doctoring: Reflections from Women in Medicine*. Sage Publications, 2002.

Frances K. Conley. *Walking Out On the Boys*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1998.

Regina Markell Morantz (later Morantz-Sanchez), Cynthia Stodola Pomerleau, and Carol Hansen Fenichel, eds. *In Her Own Words: Oral Histories of Women Physicians*. Greenwood Press, 1982.

Regina Markell Morantz-Sanchez. *Sympathy and Science: Women Physicians in American Medicine*. Oxford University Press, 1985.

Ellen S. More. *Restoring the Balance: Women Physicians and the Profession of Medicine, 1850–1995*. Harvard University Press, 1999.

Changing the Face of Medicine is traveling to public, academic, and medical libraries throughout the United States. For a schedule of exhibition locations, please visit www.ala.org/publicprograms; contact the American Library Association, Public Programs Office, 50 East Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; or call 1-800-545-2433, ext. 5045.

On the WEB

www.nlm.nih.gov/changingthefaceofmedicine

The exhibition Web site features biographies of more than 330 women physicians who have practiced medicine in the last 150 years. Visitors can browse through hundreds of photographs, search the physician database, watch a series of short films, and review resources for planning a career in medicine. Visitors are invited to add their own stories about inspiring women physicians at www.nlm.nih.gov/changingthefaceofmedicine/shareyourstory.

Local Legends WEB SITE

www.nlm.nih.gov/locallegends

Across America, women physicians demonstrate commitment and creativity in their chosen specialties. To recognize them, members of the United States Congress have nominated outstanding physicians from their home states or districts. These Local Legends have made exceptional contributions to the profession and the public in one of four categories: public health and/or military service, health policy making, research and education, and patient care.

(Right) In 1988, Barbara Barlow founded the "Injury Free Coalition for Kids" to provide children in Harlem, New York, with safe places to play. Courtesy: Barbara Barlow, M.A., M.D., 2000



The Traveling EXHIBITION

Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America's Women Physicians was developed by the Exhibition Program of the History of Medicine Division of the National Library of Medicine in collaboration with the American Library Association Public Programs Office. The traveling exhibition is based upon a major exhibition displayed at the National Library of Medicine in 2003–2005.

This traveling exhibition has been made possible by the National Library of Medicine, dedicated to making the most accurate and up-to-date health information freely available to all, and the National Institutes of Health Office of Research on Women's Health, dedicated to promoting, stimulating, and supporting efforts to improve the health of women. The American Medical Women's Association provided additional support.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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OFFICE OF RESEARCH ON WOMEN'S HEALTH
National Institutes of Health



American Medical Women's Association

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(Cover) Anna Wessels Williams, M.D.
Courtesy: The Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University, ca. 1900

CHANGING THE FACE OF MEDICINE

CELEBRATING AMERICA'S WOMEN PHYSICIANS



Women have always been healers, yet when medicine became established as a formal profession in Europe and America, women were shut out. They waged a long battle to gain access to medical education and hospital training. Since then, women have overcome prejudices and discrimination to succeed in every area of the profession. *Changing the Face of Medicine* introduces some of the many extraordinary women who have studied and practiced medicine. We invite you to celebrate them all.



Elizabeth Blackwell became the first woman in America to earn the M.D. degree in 1849. She was an advocate for women in medicine and wrote and lectured on the topic throughout her career.
 Courtesy: The Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University, 1840s

Confronting **PREJUDICE**

The first women of color to gain access to medical schools faced financial hardship, discrimination against women, and racism. For generations, their families had been enslaved or oppressed. They had been denied both the means of making a living and access to decent medical care. Once they became doctors, women of color often played an important role in bringing better standards of care to their own communities. They served as role models for all women.



Matilda Evans in the operating room of Taylor Lane Hospital, the hospital she founded in 1901.
 Courtesy: South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia

Achieving **BREAKTHROUGHS**

Trying to build successful careers in a sometimes hostile climate, women physicians created their own opportunities by founding new specialties and by building expertise in understudied areas. As the first to address some of these needs, women often led the way in developing new public health strategies and improving health care for the poor and the underserved. In medical practice and scientific research, they have made breakthrough discoveries that have benefited patients and communities in America and around the world.



(Left) In 1919, Alice Hamilton was the first woman appointed to the faculty of Harvard University. A specialist in occupational health, she spent her career investigating dangerous practices and unsafe workplaces in American industries.
 Courtesy: Jane Addams Memorial Collection, The University Library, University of Illinois at Chicago, ca. 1900

(Right) Gerty Cori was the first woman in America to receive the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. In 1947, she and her husband were named joint recipients for their work on the cycle of carbohydrates in the human body.
 Courtesy: Becker Medical Library, Washington University School of Medicine, 1947

Leading **CHANGE**

Bringing fresh perspectives to the profession, women are changing the way medicine is taught and practiced. They are developing innovative educational programs to attract students from many different backgrounds to all medical specialties. As role models and mentors, women physicians are helping young students build successful and rewarding careers. As advocates, they are transforming the lives of doctors and patients.



Through her efforts to support reproductive rights, abolish enforced sterilization, and provide neonatal care to underserved people, Helen Rodriguez-Trías expanded the range of public health services for women and children in minority and low-income populations in the United States, Central and South America, Africa, Asia, and the Middle East.
 Courtesy: JoEllen Brainin-Rodriguez, M.D., photograph by Rafael Pesquera, 1972

Inspiring **OTHERS**

In recent decades, women physicians have risen to the top ranks of the institutions that lead scientific research and define standards of medical practice. Serving in influential and high-profile positions, they direct and fund patient studies, develop public health policies, and draft legislation to meet emerging medical challenges. Working at home and abroad, these women are improving health care provision to extend the benefits worldwide.



(Left) Bernadine Healy, the first woman to direct the National Institutes of Health, speaks with a patient during her tenure as president of the American Red Cross.
 Courtesy: American Red Cross, 2000

(Right) Dermatologist Nancy Jasso volunteers at the tattoo-removal clinic she helped found. Many of her patients have been turned down for jobs because of their tattoos, or they live in fear of retaliation because the designs link them to past membership in gangs.
 Courtesy: Nancy E. Jasso, M.D., M.P.H., 2001

Transforming **OUR WORLD**

Whether they are working in small rural practices or at the highest levels of government, women physicians are introducing new ways to promote health and well-being, balance family life and other interests with a career in medicine, and improve the way that medicine is taught and practiced. Their influence reaches across the profession and out into our lives, helping to redefine women's roles and society's responsibilities. By changing the face of medicine, women physicians are changing our world.

Health care professionals treat individual patients, communities, and whole populations. They solve medical problems and look for new answers that benefit us all. Can you see yourself in such a role?



(Left) Barbara Ross-Lee was appointed dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine of Ohio University in 1993, making her the first African American woman dean of an American medical school.
 Courtesy: Barbara Ross-Lee, M.A., D.O., photograph copyright Jay Brandy Photography, Inc., 2001

(Right) When Linda Shortliffe earned her board certification in urology in 1983, there were only 15 women urologists in the United States. Now there are more than two hundred.
 Courtesy: Linda M. Dairiki Shortliffe, M.D., 2000