100 Years. 100 Facts.

Celebrating 100 Years as the United Voice of Ohio Hospitals
Daniel Drake obtains a charter for the Medical College of Ohio, the forerunner of the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine.
1823

Ohio’s first hospital, the Cincinnati Commercial Hospital and Lunatic Asylum, opens.
Starling Medical Center College/Saint Francis Hospital is established on the present site of Grant Medical Center in Columbus as the first teaching hospital in the U.S. It is the forerunner for the College of Medicine at Ohio State University.
Charity Hospital Medical Center, now St. Vincent Charity Hospital, opens Cleveland’s first amphitheater for demonstration of surgery and clinical procedures.
Mother M. Angela and Sister M. Rufina Dunn, of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross of Notre Dame, Indiana, convert a sturdy four-story red brick building to two wards, 18 private rooms and an operating room with an amphitheater. The facility is called Hawkes Hospital of Mount Carmel and eventually becomes Mount Carmel West.
A 10-bed Christ Hospital opens in Cincinnati after a group of local businessmen led by James Gamble (whose prospering soap business eventually became Procter & Gamble) invited Isabella Thornburg to the city in 1888 to train deaconesses and missionaries. She soon expands beyond training to open a hospital in the west end of the city.

One of the nation’s first two nursing baccalaureate degree programs begins at the University of Cincinnati.

Blanchard Valley Hospital, the anchor subsidiary of Blanchard Valley Health System, opens as the Findlay Home for Friendless Women and Children.
1891  Zanesville City Hospital becomes the city’s first hospital in 1891, as well as the area’s first training school for nurses.

1892  The City Hospital Association of Akron purchases the East Market street home of Dr. S.W. Bartges and converts it to medical use. In the facility’s first year, 143 patients are treated.

1898  The Newark Hospital Association, the forerunner of Licking Memorial Health System, opens the area’s first hospital in a nine-room house at 154 N. Third St. Food, linens and nine beds are donated by the residents of Newark.
Eight hospital superintendents meet in Cleveland in 1898 to discuss common concerns and form the Association of Hospital Superintendents. The group expands membership to other hospital leadership and changes its name in 1906 to the American Hospital Association.
1902

Lake County’s first chartered hospital is formed when the New Connecticut Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution initiates a drive to provide a hospital for the Painesville area. By 1904, the group opens the hospital in the Stephen Matthews residence.
1905

The world’s first blood transfusion is performed by Dr. George W. Crile, Sr. at the Cleveland Clinic.
1906

Union Hospital opens in a rented house on Iron Avenue in Dover with 20 beds and three nurses.
1908 Elyria Memorial Hospital opens with 36 beds.
Mary Miller Hayes, daughter-in-law of President Rutherford B. Hayes pledges $50,000 and her home for construction of a hospital in Fremont. Memorial Hospital opens in 1918 and becomes ProMedica Memorial Hospital in 2014.

Salem Regional Medical Center’s Dr. Stanton Heck, chief of the hospital’s x-ray department, recognizes the value of imaging technology to detect and treat disease. He finances the purchase of x-ray equipment himself, giving patients local access to this important innovation. Dr. Heck was a national pioneer in the x-ray industry and invested a stereoscopic fluoroscope used in WWI.

Sixty hospital leaders from across Ohio gather at the Breakers Hotel in Sandusky to form the nation’s first state-level hospital association to advocate on behalf of the growing medical community.
Elyria Memorial Hospital is the first hospital dedicated exclusively to the care and treatment of crippled children, due to the pioneering efforts of Edgar F. Allen.
1916 Fairfield Medical Center opens in Lancaster. The hospital will mark its centennial in 2016 by opening a new surgical tower.

1917 Lakeside Hospital, now part of University Hospitals, deploys the first American military unit (Lakeside Unit) to Europe during World War I. UH’s ties to the military remain strong. The Lakeside Unit, now known as the 256th Combat Support Hospital, was the last unit to leave Iraq during the second Gulf War.

1925 OHA celebrates its 10th anniversary at the 1925 annual convention at the Breakers Hotel at Cedar Point. The opening address is delivered by Mary E. Yager, RN, OHA’s first woman president.
Shown here are UH nurses preparing to go overseas.

Breakers Hotel, Cedar Point

1925 Akron Children’s Hospital is named one of the top 10 hospitals in the U.S. rated “first class” for children.
1920’s

Elyria Memorial Hospital is the first hospital in Lorain County to offer a free, paid health plan to employees of North Ridgeville. The plan is implemented by administrator John Mannix, who later founds Blue Cross.
1930s–1940’s Scientists at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital, including Samuel Rapaport, develop a method for preserving and transporting whole blood, which saves lives on the battlefields of WWII.
BIRTHPLACE OF EASTER SEAL SOCIETY

The nationwide Easter Seal movement, first major voluntary effort to provide treatment for the crippled, was founded on this site with the organization of the Ohio Society for Crippled Children by Edgar F. (Dandy) Allen, April 27, 1919.

[OHIO HISTORICAL MARKER]
1933  The Lowman Pavilion, named after Dr. John Lowman, a pioneer in tuberculosis treatment, is established on the grounds of MetroHealth to treat the outbreak of tuberculosis spurred. Within a month it was filled to capacity, housing 352 patients.

1934  Elyria Memorial Hospital’s Edgar Allen establishes the Easter Seals Campaign After gaining popularity, the name is officially changed to the Easter Seals Society in 1967.

1940’s  Cleveland Clinic Drs. Irvine Page, Arda Green and Maurice M. Rapport isolate serotonin for the first time, publishing their discovery in 1948. The breakthrough opens a new world of research and paves the way for the development of new pharmaceuticals.
1946 The world’s first antihistamine, Benadryl, is developed by George Rieveschil at the University of Cincinnati.

1947 The first defibrillation of a human heart is performed by Dr. Claude S. Beck of University Hospital.

1950’s Dr. George Crile, Jr. pioneers alternatives to radical mastectomy for treating breast cancer at the Cleveland Clinic.
1950 Memorial Hospital (now Clinton Memorial Hospital) hires Elsie Delyn as president, making her one of the first women hospital administrators.

1951 The Cleveland Clinic’s Dr. George S. Phalen identifies carpal tunnel syndrome and creates a diagnostic test.

1951 Dr. Willem Kolff brings his dialysis machine, the “artificial kidney,” developed in the occupied Netherlands during World War II, to the Cleveland Clinic.
Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Drs. Samuel Kaplan and James Helmsworth along with Leland Clark, PhD, develop the first heart-lung machine, opening the door to open-heart surgery.
MetroHealth’s Dr. Fredrick C. Robbins is awarded the Noble Prize in Medicine for his work in pediatrics and contagious diseases, which paves the way for Dr. Jonas Salk to develop the polio vaccine. The same year, the hospital is designated as a National Respiratory Care Center by the National Foundation of Infantile Paralysis.
1952 Memorial Hospital (now Memorial Health) opens in Union County with the financial backing of local residents, who donate $300,000 to help fund the 40-bed hospital.

1952 St. Vincent Charity Hospital opens the Rosary Hall Solarium, founded by Sister Ignatia Gavis, CSA, as one of the first hospital-based programs for the treatment of alcoholism.

1954 Dr. Henry Zimmerman puts into operation the first fluoroscope for diagnosing heart disease in the United States at St. Vincent Charity Hospital.
1957  Dr. LeRoy W. Matthews pioneers the mist tent therapy for treating obstructive pulmonary lesions in patients with cystic fibrosis. University Hospitals’ research center on cystic fibrosis, is established in 1957 as the first facility of its kind in the nation, and continues to standardize care for the disease.

1958  Dr. F. Mason Sones develops cine-coronary angiography at the Cleveland Clinic, starting in 1950 and culminating in a breakthrough discovery in 1958 that allows real-time visualization of artery blockages. He later refines his techniques and equipment.

Dr. Sones, later in his career, performing a catherization. (1979)
1960’s Columbus Children’s Hospital, now Nationwide Children’s Hospital, creates the nation’s first birth defects study center and world’s first rhinovirus research lab.

1960 University of Cincinnati College of Medicine faculty member and Cincinnati Children’s Hospital physician Dr. Albert Sabin, develops the first oral polio vaccine. Twenty thousand doses are administered the first year.
Highland District Hospital (now Highland Hospital) opens with over 5,000 people in attendance at its grand opening.
University of Toledo College of Medicine is created as the Toledo State College of Medicine by a special session of the 105th Ohio General Assembly, making it the fourth medical school in Ohio and the 100th medical school in the country.
1965 Dr. Richard DeWall performs the first open-heart surgery in the Dayton area at Kettering Medical Center.

1968 Holzer Hospital and the Medical Center Hospital merge, as do Holzer Clinic and Gallipolis Clinic, to become Holzer Medical Center Clinic.

1969 Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center’s Dr. James Warren develops the Heartmobile, the first mobile coronary care unit in the United States.
Neonatologists Drs. John H. Kennell and Marshall Klaus conduct groundbreaking research at UH Rainbow Babies & Children’s Hospital on maternal-infant bonding during the 1970s–1990s. Their research recognizes the importance of providing family-centered care for newborns and revolutionizes postpartum care practices for infants that are still common-place today.
1970’s The Cleveland Clinic develops a left ventricular assist device to help weakened hearts pump blood.

1970 The first emergency medicine residency program in the U.S. is established at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine.


1972 The world’s first computerized data registry for cardiac diagnosis and care is unveiled at the Cleveland Clinic. A patient care registry is also developed for colon cancer (now the Jagelman Registry).
1974  McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital is the first hospital in Southwest Ohio to offer cost-saving alternatives to emergency room care through Family Care (later renamed Convenient Care).

1974  Blanchard Valley Hospital becomes the first hospital to guarantee its services.

1978  Dr. Douglas S. Hess performs the first bariatric surgery operation at Wood County Hospital. He develops the biliopancreatic diversion with a duodenal switch procedure, which is now practiced all over the world. Today, the Center for Weight Loss Surgery at Wood County Hospital is a bariatric center of excellence.

1979  Mercy New Life Hospice, Ohio’s first hospital-based hospice program, opens in Lorain.
1980’s  Drs. Gene Barnett and Joseph Hahn develop a brain-mapping technique for epilepsy surgery at the Cleveland Clinic.

1981  Two patients travel to Wood County Hospital from Saudi Arabia for a new type of surgery—balloon angioplasty. Dr. Said Shehata, a general and vascular surgeon, performs both procedures.

1982  Henry County Hospital opens as a 64,000-square-foot facility with 52 beds, then expands to a 100,000-square-foot critical access hospital.

1984  Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center surgeons perform the first liver transplant in Ohio.
1984 Grant Medical Center physicians pioneer rapid infusion and blood warming for massive transfusion in trauma and other causes of massive blood loss.

1985 Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center researchers Drs. Bertha Bouroncle, Michael Grever and Eric Kraut develop deoxycoformycin to treat and cure hairy cell leukemia.

1986 The nation’s first remote non-hospital based medical helicopter is placed in rural southern Ohio, in Wellston, by Grant Medical Center, (now part of OhioHealth). Known today as MedFlight 3, the helicopter was born of a revolutionary idea to bring time-saving air medical resources to critically ill and injured patients in Ohio.
St. Vincent Charity Hospital opens a psychiatric emergency department, one of only two in Ohio and one of only six in the country.
1990 The Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Research Institute opens as the first free-standing cancer hospital in the Midwest.

1991 Columbus Children’s Hospital, now Nationwide Children’s Hospital, becomes the first children’s hospital in Ohio certified as a pediatric Level 1 trauma center.

1991 Dr. Delos Cosgrove of the Cleveland Clinic develops valvuloplasty techniques to repair heart valves.

1994 St. Vincent Charity Hospital opens the first Center for Bloodless Medicine and Surgery, allowing patients to undergo treatments without donor blood.
Ashtabula County Medical Center affiliates with the Cleveland Clinic Foundation to bring anesthesia and pain management services to the county. ACMA becomes an affiliate member of the Cleveland Clinic Health System in 1998.
1998 Dr. Marshall Strome performs the world’s first laryngeal transplant at the Cleveland Clinic.

1998 Lake Hospital System partners with University Hospitals to create Lake/University Ireland Cancer Center, bringing state-of-the-art cancer care to Lake County. Lake Hospital System partners with the Cleveland Clinic to bring open-heart surgery to its West Medical Center.

1999 Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center is the first medical center in the U.S. to perform a complete heart bypass using minimally-invasive robotics technology.
2000’s A rotavirus vaccine is developed and tested by two Cincinnati Children’s Hospital researchers, David Bernstein and Richard Ward, and approved for use in Mexico. It has since been approved in more than 100 countries around the world, including the U.S.
McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital completes a 17,500-square-foot facility in Oxford offering physical therapy and rehabilitation services, a women’s health center, an orthopedic surgery practice and two occupational health offices.
Clara Bloomfield, MD, identifies two genetic mutations that predict clinical outcomes for leukemia patients at the Ohio State University Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute.
2001 Firelands Community Hospital and Providence Hospital merge to become Firelands Regional Medical Center—the largest health system in the five-county area.

2005 Dr. Michael Caligiuri discovers the site and stages of human natural killer cell development at the Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center.
Holzer Medical Center Clinic establishes an affiliation with the Ohio State University Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute.
2007: The Nationwide Insurance Foundation donates $50 million to Columbus Children’s Hospital, the largest single gift in the hospital’s history and one of the largest given to any children’s hospital at the time.
2007 Knox Community Hospital becomes one of a small number of hospitals to receive a waiver from the Ohio Department of Health allowing non-emergent PCI procedures to be performed in facilities without on-site open-heart surgery by participating in a C-Port trial.

2007 Dr. Louis Keppler, orthopedic surgeon at St. Vincent Charity Hospital, performs the first short-term hip replacement in the U.S. The procedure now accounts for nearly 30 percent of all hip replacements in the country.

2008 Ohio State University Medical Center’s Diabetes Research Center organizes the first Global Diabetes Summit.
2008 Maria Siemionow, MD, PhD, and her team of eight physicians at the Cleveland Clinic perform a 22-hour near-total face transplant.

Three drawings showing face as injured, replacement portion, and positioning of replacement
2008  Bellevue Hospital is named one of the Top 100 Places to Work in healthcare by Modern Healthcare Magazine.

2009  Ohio State University College of Medicine is the first medical school in the country to apply the iPod Touch and iPhone as educational and patient care devices.
Wood County Hospital is the first hospital in Northwest Ohio to perform personalized joint replacement knee surgery.
2010 Fisher-Titus Medical Center becomes the first all digital Smart Community Hospital in the U.S.

2011 Wood County Hospital establishes the Center for Child Development for children from infancy to age 21 with developmental and behavioral conditions.

2011 Ohio becomes the first state in the nation to send and receive electronic health information across state lines using a secured system.
Vision 2010, a $1.2 billion plan to reinvest in northeast Ohio, includes the opening of University Hospitals Seidman Cancer Center in 2011. Its $30 million Proton Therapy Center will be the first in Ohio and one of only 12 in the country to offer this revolutionary therapy.

Nationwide Children’s Hospital completes the largest pediatric hospital expansion in U.S. history with the addition of 2.1 million square feet to its campus, including a new 12-story main hospital building.
Belmont Pines, serving children with behavioral health needs, is recognized as a 2013 Top Performer on Key Quality Measures by the Joint Commission.
2013 Ashtabula County Medical Center is named a North Coast 99 Top Employer for the eighth time and recognized as a Top Workplace in Northeast Ohio for the fourth consecutive year.

2013 Morrow County Hospital laboratory earns College of American Pathologists accreditation.

2013 Licking Memorial Hospital’s Active-Fit Youth Wellness Program is recognized as a Program of Promise by the Jackson Healthcare Hospital Charitable Service Awards for its innovative efforts to improve local health and increase access to health care education and services.
2014  Mercy St. Rita’s Hospital is the first hospital in the world to implement MyChart Bedside.

2015  Akron General Hospital celebrates its centennial.

2016  Union Hospital in Dover will open its UH Lauren Emergency Center, which will accommodate 60,000 patient visits annually in 38 treatment rooms.
Thank You!

The Ohio Hospital Association thanks the hospitals, health systems and other health care organizations that contributed facts and photos for *100 Years. 100 Facts.*
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