

# Biographical and Family History Resources in the Wellcome Library

February 2012

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## 1) Who we are

Through its collections and services the Wellcome Library provides insight and information to anyone seeking to understand medicine and its role in society, past and present. The Library is freely open to the public. We are one of the world's major resources for the study of medical history and also provide access to a growing collection of contemporary biomedical material.

### The history of the Library

The Library is descended from the collections of [Sir Henry Wellcome \(1853-1936\)](#), the pharmaceuticals manufacturer who founded the [Wellcome Trust](#). This independent charity is now the UK's largest non-governmental source of funds for biomedical research.

Sir Henry took a very broad view of what constituted material of medical interest. He saw the history of medicine as part of a wider story of humankind's place in the physical universe; of how people have tried to make sense of their environment and control it. As a result, Sir Henry's collections overlapped into various disciplines beyond the strictly medical.

### The Library today

The formats of the materials held in the Library are as varied as their content. Our published holdings cover books dating from the invention of printing right up to the present day. We hold manuscript and archive sources ranging from medieval anatomical texts to the typescript records of twentieth century societies and pressure groups. The Library also possesses a huge amount of illustrative material – paintings, prints, photographs, and so forth – depicting medical personnel, processes, institutions and a miscellany of other topics. A growing number of electronic resources are being made available to registered Library users.

All year round the Library runs free workshops to help you to discover and exploit various library resources. These are all listed on the [Library website](#). We also offer [tours and visits](#).



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<http://library.wellcome.ac.uk>

## 2) Access and contact details

### Who can use the Library?

The Wellcome Library is freely open to the public. Please just bring one photo ID and proof of address on your first visit, and allow ten minutes to complete the registration process.

Readers using the Library's Archives and Manuscripts collection for the first time will be required to speak briefly with the Duty Archivist and complete a Reader's Undertaking form.

### Opening hours

Monday	10.00am - 6.00pm
Tuesday	10.00am - 6.00pm
Wednesday	10.00am - 6.00pm
Thursday	10.00am - 8.00pm
Friday	10.00am - 6.00pm
Saturday	10.00am - 4.00pm



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### 3) Using the catalogues

#### Published material

The Library's book, pamphlet, journal and database holdings are detailed on an [online catalogue](http://catalogue.wellcome.ac.uk/) (http://catalogue.wellcome.ac.uk/). For works by a particular author, search the catalogue using the "Author" option. For material about an individual, select "Name/Brand/Title" from the drop-down menu on the left of the screen. Using an individual's name in the "Word" option will bring up works by or about that individual.

Most of the published sources for biographical and family history research are housed in the Library's Quick Reference Collection. A small but growing number are also available electronically. Checklists which summarise some of the most important sources are at the back of this guide.

#### Archives and manuscripts

The Library's archive and manuscript material runs from the Dark Ages to the present, taking in illuminated manuscripts, administrative records, personal correspondence and research notes, and a wide variety of other types of document. The majority of material of use to biographical research dates from before 1900. Twentieth century archive material held at the Library is, with a few significant exceptions, not useful for this type of research.

Most of our unpublished material is detailed on the [archives online catalogue](http://archives.wellcome.ac.uk/) (http://archives.wellcome.ac.uk). It can be searched by name or any other keyword. Printed or typescript catalogues can also be consulted in the Library. The only material not yet described in electronic form comprises a few twentieth century collections.

Downloadable [sources guides and handlists](#) on various themes can be found on the Library website. Particularly useful finding aids are the two guides to [Manuscripts relating to London](#) and [Manuscripts relating to specific areas, outside London](#). These gather together information about records of hospitals, general practitioners, chemists, personal diaries and letters.

#### Paintings, prints and drawings

Many of the Library's iconographic holdings are described in the same [online catalogue](#) as the published material. A drop-down menu on the right of the screen allows you to narrow a search to "Pictures" only.

Searching for a name using the "Word" option will generate a list of images by or of that individual. The catalogue can also be searched for the names of hospitals or other institutions at which an individual may have been employed, or places in which they lived or where their tomb is located.

All of the pictures described on the catalogue can be viewed in the Library. Images of them are gradually being digitised and mounted on [Wellcome Images](http://images.wellcome.ac.uk/) (http://images.wellcome.ac.uk/). This website also includes images taken from books, journals and pamphlets.



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## 4) General sources

### Background reading

[\*British archives: a guide to archive resources in the United Kingdom\*](#) by Janet Foster and Julia Sheppard, 4th edition published 2002  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark YHC.41)

[\*A dictionary of medical & related terms for the family historian\*](#) by Joan E Grundy, published 2006  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark YMM/GRU)

[\*Family history on the net\*](#) by Colin Waters, published 2009  
(Shelfmark: Gallery YHC/WAT)

[\*Records of the medical professions: a practical guide for the family historian\*](#) by Susan Bourne and Andrew H. Chicken, published 1994  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41 /BOU)

[\*Tracing your medical ancestors: a guide for family historians\*](#) by Michelle Higgs, published 2011  
(Shelfmark: Gallery YHC/HIG)

### Biographical dictionaries

The *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* gives brief biographies of significant figures in the history of the United Kingdom. It is available in the Library in both printed and [electronic form](#); the electronic version can only be accessed from within the Library. There are various equivalent works covering the wider world:

America:	<a href="#">Dictionary of American biography</a>	(Online request)
Australia:	<a href="#">Australian dictionary of biography</a>	(Online request)
Belgium:	<a href="#">Nouvelle biographie nationale</a>	(Online request)
Canada:	<a href="#">Dictionary of Canadian biography</a>	(Online request)
France:	<a href="#">Dictionnaire de biographie française</a>	(Online request)
Germany:	<a href="#">Deutsche biographische Enzyklopädie (DBE)</a>	(Online request)
Italy:	<a href="#">Dizionario biografico degli italiani</a>	(Online request)
Netherlands:	<a href="#">Nieuw Nederlandsch biografisch woordenboek</a>	(Online request)
Switzerland:	<a href="#">Dictionnaire historique &amp; biographique de la Suisse</a>	(Online request)

The [World Biographical Information System Online](#) includes American, British, French and German biographical articles from printed reference works published from the sixteenth to the twentieth century. This subscription resource is accessible to all registered users.

The Wellcome Library's [Subject catalogue of the history of medicine and related sciences](#), published in 1980, includes five volumes that lists biographical sources (including material not actually held in the Library). Information relating to biographical material published after 1991 is recorded on the [online catalogue](#).

The [Biography Index](#) is a cumulative quarterly index to biographical material in books and magazines (1946 to present) housed on the History of Medicine Collection open shelves at



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the end of shelfmark BW. Having found a useful reference, you should then check the [online catalogue](#) to see if it is held in the Wellcome Library.

## Directories

<a href="#">Who's who</a>	( <a href="#">online to registered users within the Library</a> )
<a href="#">Who was who</a>	( <a href="#">online to registered users within the Library</a> )
<a href="#">Burke's peerage &amp; baronetage</a>	(Online request)
<a href="#">Burke's landed gentry</a>	(Quick Ref., shelfmark BYB.41)
<a href="#">Cockayne's complete peerage</a>	(Quick Ref., shelfmark BYB.41)

## Schools and Universities

A selection of registers of students who have attended public schools, such as Charterhouse, Eton, Harrow, Lancing, Marlborough, Rugby, Sherborne and Winchester are available.

(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark [BYB.41.ZTS](#))

A selection of registers of students who have attended Oxford and Cambridge (and their various individual colleges), St. Andrews, Glasgow, Aberdeen and Trinity College Dublin are held.

(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark [BYB.41.ZTU](#))

## Local history

Record society publications of probate records or consistory court material and biographical dictionaries relating to particular counties, towns or regions are available.

(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYB.43... to BYB.47...)

A digital collection of local and trade directories for England and Wales, from 1750 to 1919, is available freely online via the [Historical Directories](#) website

(<http://www.historicaldirectories.org/>). The Library holds a variety of printed trade directories for particular towns or counties, chiefly from the early nineteenth century.

(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.43... to BYD.47...)

## Biographies

Alongside autobiographies and biographies of medical and scientific personnel, books about famous patients are shelved in alphabetical order of the subject of the biography.

(History of Medicine Collection, shelfmark BZP [medics] or BZPX and BZPXA [patients])

## Obituaries

The [online catalogue](#) contains references to over 18,000 obituaries. To locate an obituary, choose the "Name/Brand/Title" option from the drop-down menu on the left of the screen. Enter the individual's surname in the search box. To browse all the obituaries, choose the "Genre/Medium" search option and enter the word 'Obituaries'. In most cases the record will simply tell you the journal in which the obituary is located but in a few cases there is a link to the relevant page in an electronic journal.

Obituaries of late eighteenth and early nineteenth century individuals are found in [The Gentleman's Magazine](#). Although the Library does not hold a complete set of the magazine,



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it holds [The Gentleman's magazine biographical and obituary notices, 1781-1819](#) index volume.

(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYB.41.AA7-8)

Obituaries, and notices of births, marriages and deaths, published by *The Times* newspaper from 1785 to 1985 can be searched for and printed from the online [Times Digital Archive](#). This subscription resource is accessible to all registered users. Furthermore, 48 newspapers can be searched in a similar way via the [19th Century British Library Newspapers](#) subscription resource, which is only accessible from within the Library.

## 5) Doctors, physicians, surgeons and apothecaries

### Medieval

[Medical practitioners in medieval England: a biographical register](#) by C.H. Talbot and E.A. Hammond, published 1965

(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41.AA2)

### Sixteenth century onwards

*Lives of the fellows of the Royal College of Physicians of London* [Munk's roll]  
Biographical sketches of Fellows of the Royal College of Physicians 1518-1997, in 10 volumes.

(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41)

[Medical practitioners in the diocese of London...1529-1725](#) by J. Harvey Bloom and R. Rutson James, published 1935

(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41 /BLO)

*Directory of medical licences issued by the Archbishop of Canterbury 1536-1775 in Lambeth Palace Library* by Melanie Barber

[Part 1 Vicar general series licences, 1576-1775](#), published 1997

[Part 2 Faculty office series licences, 1535-1764](#), published 2000

Details those licensed to practice in the province of Canterbury. Until the 1858 Medical Act a medical practitioner in England or Wales only needed a license to practise from the established church. In practice, the system fell into disuse after the mid-eighteenth century.

(Open shelves, History of Medicine Collection, shelfmark CB.4412.AA5-7)

### [Gloucester and Hereford Consistory Courts](#)

Extracts from records of the courts relating to physicians and surgeons, compiled by A. W. J. Haggis, are held in the archives.

(Online request: MS. 5350)

Apprenticeship indentures, account books, recipe books, letters, and so forth are held in the archives. Search on the relevant surname in the "Any Text" field of the [archives online catalogue](#) to check our holdings.

### Seventeenth century

[Directory of English Country physicians](#), 1603-1643 by John H. Raach, published 1962

(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41.AA6)



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## **Eighteenth century onwards**

[Eighteenth century medics](#) by P. J. and R. V. Wallis, published 1988

Lists eighteenth century personnel mentioned in subscriptions, licences, and apprenticeship papers.

(Quick Reference Collection, folios, shelfmark BYD.41.AA7)

[List of the graduates in medicine in the University of Edinburgh from MDCCV. to MDCCCLXVI](#)

List of Edinburgh medical graduates, 1705-1866.

(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.4646)

[List of Sussex medical apprentices, 1710-1752](#)

Manuscript compiled by A. W. J. Haggis is held in the archives.

(Online request: MS. 5353)

[Hunterian Society, London](#)

Records and manuscripts, 1748-1985, are held in the archives.

(Online request: MSS. 5520-5624)

[Military Hospital Society, London](#)

Membership lists, minutes and accounts, 1764-1767, are held in the archives.

(Online request: MS. 5404)

[Medical Society of London](#)

Microfilmed minutes, 1773-1938, are held in the archives.

(Online request: AMS/MF/4)

*The Medical Register*, 1779, 1780 & 1783

Unlike the nineteenth century *Medical Register*, inclusion in this volume was not compulsory. Only the 1783 edition includes a name index. The three volumes are available in the Library in both [printed](#) and electronic form. The electronic version is available through the subscription resource *Eighteenth Century Collections Online* (ECCO) and offers full text searching. It is accessible to all registered users.

(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41.AJ; online via [ECCO](#))

[St. Albans Medical Club, London](#)

Administrative records, 1789-1990, are held in the archives.

(Online request: MSS. 6216 & 6994-7017)

[Society for the Improvement of Medical and Chirurgical Knowledge, London](#)

Proceedings of the Society, 1790-1882, are held in the archives.

(Online request: MS. 5282)

[Lyceum Medicum Londinense](#)

Minute books, 1792-1805, are held in the archives.

(Online request: MS. MSL.140)

[Sydenham Medical Club, London](#)

Treasurer's books, membership lists and a photograph album, 1796-1928, are held in the archives.

(Online request: MSS.6208-6215)



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## Nineteenth century onwards

### [Askesian Society, London](#)

Minutes of experiments and demonstrations performed at meetings of the Society, 1801-1808, are held in the archives.  
(Online request: MS. 6135)

### [A list of persons who have obtained certificates of their fitness ... to practise as apothecaries, from August 1, 1815, to July 31, 1840\[- July 31, 1877\]](#)

(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41 /SOC)

Obituaries in [The Lancet](#) (1823-present) can be found using either the indexes of the printed volumes or the full-text search option of the electronic version. The electronic version also allows you to find references to professional appointments, death notices and letters. This resource is available only from within the Library.

(Journals, shelfmark /LAN; online within the Library, [The Lancet via ScienceDirect](#))

### [Society of Noviomagians, London](#)

Proceedings of this convivial club composed of members of the Society of Antiquaries of London, 1830-1905, are held in the archives.

(Online request: MSS. 5305-5307)

### *Lives of the fellows of the Royal College of Surgeons of England* [Plarr's lives]

Biographical sketches of Fellows of the Royal College of Surgeons 1843-2002, in 9 volumes.  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41 /LIV)

### [List of the fellows and members of the Royal College of Surgeons of England ... 1845 \[1850, 1855, 1859-60\]](#)

(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41 /ROY)

### *The Medical Directory*, 1846-present.

This lists most practising and retired doctors in Britain and its colonies, although it is not compulsory for a doctor to be in it. Entries provide details of addresses, qualifications, places of training, places of work and any publications. The format changes over the years. At some stages the volumes list doctors in a straight alphabetical sequence and at others divides them between London and the Provinces, or even subdividing the Provinces with separate sections for Scotland and Ireland. You should carefully check the contents page to ascertain the arrangement used. Doctors' deaths are usually deducible only from the year that they disappear from the directory but some include an obituary section.

(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41)

Obituaries in [British Medical Journal](#) (1857-present) can be found using the indexes of the printed volumes or increasingly through the full text search option of the journal via [PubMed Central](#). The back issues of this journal are currently being digitized and made freely available online.

Those that are available electronically allow you to also find references to professional appointments, death notices and letters.

(Manual request, shelfmark S7455; freely online via [PubMed Central](#))

### [The Medical Register](#), 1859-1989, incomplete

This is compiled by the General Medical Council and records all doctors entitled to practice.  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41)



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[Medical students' register](#), 1882-1937, incomplete  
Compiled for the General Medical Council.  
(Manual request, shelfmark S120)

Society of Apothecaries, London: [Licentiates to whom the diploma of the Society in medicine, surgery and midwifery was granted between July 1st 1887 and December 31st, 1906\[- 31st December, 1948\]](#)  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41 /SOC)

[UK Medical Registers](#), 1859-1959  
(Online within the Library, Ancestry Library Edition)

## Twentieth century

[The lives of the fellows of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists: 1929-1969](#)  
by John Peel, published 1976  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41 /PEE)

## 6) Nurses and midwives

Central registration of qualified nurses only dates from the early twentieth century; prior to this the various bodies involved in training nurses kept records of their own personnel, but no central register existed.

### Sixteenth century onwards

[Gloucester and Hereford Consistory Courts](#)  
Extracts from records of the courts relating to midwives, compiled by A. W. J. Haggis, are held in the archives.  
(Online request: MS. 5350)

### Seventeenth century onwards

[Midwives' licenses](#)  
A collection of licences, chiefly from the Welsh Marches area, 1687-1728, is held in the archives.  
(Online request: MS. 3544)

### Nineteenth century onwards

[Nightingale nurses, 1854-1856](#)  
A list of nurses who worked with Florence Nightingale in the Crimea is held in the archives.  
(Online request: MS. 5479/1)  
For further details on material relating to Florence Nightingale, see the Library's [guide to Florence Nightingale sources](#) written in 1997.

[Queen's Nursing Institute](#), 1887-1997  
Records, including the national roll of its nurses and records of their periodic inspections, are held in the archives. The section of particular biographical interest to the family historian is SA/QNI/J: the indexed records of nurses.



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[The Register of Trained Nurses](#), 1891, 1892 & 1896

Issued by the Royal British Nurses' Association.

(Manual request, shelfmark S130)

### Twentieth century

[The Midwives Roll](#), 1904-1959, incomplete

(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41)

[Register of Nurses](#), 1916-1923

Issued by the College of Nursing Ltd.

(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41)

*Nursing guide, handbook of Nurses' League, and register of nurses trained at Guy's Hospital*, 1920, 1923 & 1932

(Medical Collection, shelfmark [WY23 1920G99n](#), [WY23 1923G99n](#) & [WY23 1932G99n](#))

[The Register of Nurses](#), 1930-1950, incomplete

Issued by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales.

(Manual request, shelfmark S131)

## 7) Military, naval and colonial medical personnel

### Army

[Commissioned officers in the medical services of the British Army, 1660-1960](#) by A.

Peterkin, William Johnston and R. Drew, published 1968

Includes only career medical officers, not those conscripted.

(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41 /WEL)

*The Medical Directory*

Some editions include an army list. See section 5 above for further details.

(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41)

[Royal Army Medical Corps muniment collection](#)

The administrative records of the Royal Army Medical Corps are held at the National Archives but its muniment collection – a collection of diaries, photographs, writings by individual RAMC personnel – is held by the Wellcome Library. A general “Any Text” search on the [archives online catalogue](#) will pick up references to particular individuals or units. The printed catalogue available in the Library additionally indexes items by particular conflicts to which they refer.

(Online request: A&M RAMC)

### Navy

[A list of His Majesty's ships ... of the Royal Navy: to which is added, a list of the captains, lieutenants, masters, and commanders. Also, a list of the principal officers of His Majesty's land forces](#), 1741

Bound with other works including Rider's *British Merlin* and *The court kalendar*.

(Online request: EPB Almanac)



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[A list of the medical officers of His Majesty's Navy](#), 1823  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41 /NAV)

[The new Navy list, containing the names of all the commissioned officers ... also the masters, medical officers, pursers, chaplains, schoolmasters and the officers on full pay of the royal Marines](#), 1843  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41 /NAV)

*The Medical Directory*  
Some editions include a navy list. See section 5 above for further details.  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41)

## Colonies

[Roll of the Indian Medical Service, 1615-1930](#) by D.G. Crawford, published 1930  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41 /CRA)

[Poplar Hospital, London](#)  
A list of marine pensioner inmates formerly serving with the East India Company, 1843-1860, is held in the archives.  
(Online request: MS.2271)

*The Medical Directory*  
Some editions include 'Practitioners resident abroad, registered under the Medical Act of Great Britain and Ireland, 1858' and 'Medical Officers of the Naval, Military & Indian Medical Services and of the Mercantile Marine' sections. See section 5 above for further details.  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41)

## 8) Veterinary surgeons

Cash books, recipe books and vets' bills document this area of practice. The most significant group of records is the [Norman Comben Collection](#) of ephemera, containing documentation relating to veterinary practitioners, farriers and agricultural chemists across the United Kingdom from the late eighteenth century to the early twentieth (MSS.7562-7569). [Western Manuscripts handlist no. 29](#) indexes the individuals concerned.

The [Veterinary records database](#) records the location of surviving records of veterinary surgery in this country. The resource is available to search within the Library via PCs with networked CD-ROM access.

## 9) Dentists

*The Medical Directory*  
Licentiates and graduates in dental surgery are listed from 1866 to 1924. See section 5 above for further details.  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41)

[The Dentists Register](#), 1879-1986, incomplete



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Compiled by the General Medical Council and records all dentists entitled to practice.  
(Online request, shelfmark M8027)

[Medical and dental students' register: lists of medical and dental students registered during the year, 1911-1937](#)

Compiled for the General Medical Council.  
(Manual request, shelfmark S122)

## 10) Pharmaceutical chemists and druggists

[Annual register of pharmaceutical chemists and chemists and druggists, 1882-1992, incomplete](#)

Compiled by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41)

The [Pharmaceutical records database](#) records the location of surviving records of the pharmaceutical industry in this country. This resource is available to search within the Library via PCs with networked CD-ROM access.

## 11) Physiotherapists

[The Physiotherapists Register, 1963-1974, incomplete](#)

Compiled by the Council for Professions Supplementary to Medicine, Physiotherapists Board.

(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41)

[Chartered Society of Physiotherapy](#)

Membership registers spanning 1895-1975 plus published lists of members 1920-1986 and minutes and registers of the fund and prize committees 1949-1957 are held in the archives.  
(Online request: A&M SA/CSP)

## 12) Opticians

[General Optical Council](#)

The official registers spanning 1959-1991 of the statutory body which regulates the Optical professions (Dispensing Opticians and Optometrists) are held in the archives.

(Online request: A&M SA/GOC/D)

## 13) Patients

### Hospitals

The [Hospital Records database](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/hospitalrecords/) (<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/hospitalrecords/>) records the whereabouts of surviving public hospital records in the UK. There are currently over 2,800 entries in the database, which is freely available online. Archives classed as public records, such as documentation from NHS hospitals, are usually deposited at their local record office and not the Wellcome Library.

Histories of various individual hospitals, often including information on key individuals, can be found at the History of Medicine Collection shelfmark CAF. You can search this location on the [online catalogue](#) by selecting the “Barnard Class” option from the drop-down menu on the left of the screen.

The Library holds over three thousand printed annual reports of hospitals and asylums. These are described in the [online catalogue](#). To find a specific institution, choose the “Name/Brand/Title” option from the drop-down menu on the left of the screen and search under the institution’s name. Alternatively, to browse all reports choose the “Genre/Medium” search option and type in ‘Hospital reports’ or ‘Asylum reports’.

### Patients

Most of our patient records come chiefly from mental hospitals. Formal case records under one hundred years old are closed under the Data Protection Act. Significant quantities of patient records (and other material listing individuals) are held for the following institutions:

#### [Camberwell House Asylum, London](#)

Casebooks; patients admitted 1847-1853.  
(Online request: MSS. 6220-6221)

#### [Holloway Sanatorium for the Insane, Virginia Water, Surrey](#)

Casebooks; patients admitted 1887-1926 (with gaps).  
(Online request: MSS. 5157-5163)

#### [Manor House Asylum, Chiswick, London \(later Chiswick House Asylum\)](#)

Case records 1870-1925 and correspondence.  
(Online request: MSS. 5725-5726 & 6222-6227)

#### [Royal Albert Asylum, Lancaster](#)

Staff lists, 1880s, in the papers of G.E. Shuttleworth.  
(Online request: MS. 4569)

#### [Ticehurst House Hospital, Sussex](#)

Full archive from late eighteenth century to present, including patient records, registers of employees and financial documentation. Patient records under 100 years old are closed; permission from the hospital is required before any other material under 100 years old can be consulted.  
(Online request: MSS. 6245-6790)



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<http://library.wellcome.ac.uk>

### [Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children](#)

A database of patient admission records from 1852 to 1914 is available freely online via the UCL Institute of Child Health's Small and Special website (<http://www.smallandspecial.org>).

## **Practitioners**

The Library has numerous accounts/recipe books relating to general practitioners and apothecaries that include patients' names. You can check the [archives online catalogue](#) to see if a practitioner is mentioned, but there are too many patients' names for these to be indexed. Use the [archives online catalogue](#) and/or [sources leaflets](#) to see what practitioners' records are held for the appropriate town or area. You then have to come into the Library to check through them, and use whatever indexing is present in the records themselves.

## **14) Looking further**

### **Clergymen**

#### [Clergy of the Church of England Database](#)

Church of England clergymen working between 1540 and 1835 can be searched for freely online via the Clergy of the Church of England Database website (<http://www.theclergydatabase.org.uk/index.html>).

### **Criminals**

#### [The Proceedings of the Old Bailey, London 1674 to 1834](#)

A fully searchable online edition of accounts of over 100,000 trials held at London's central criminal court is freely available at <http://www.oldbaileyonline.org/>.

### **Quaker families**

Many medical practitioners have been Quakers. Individuals whose papers are held can be located through the [archives online catalogue](#). One important collection is the large Hodgkin family archive. They were linked by marriage or friendship to many other significant nineteenth century Quaker families. Names well-represented in the archive include Backhouse, Barclay, Fox, Gurney, Howard, Lloyd, Pease and Rickman. The [archives online catalogue](#) includes detailed indices of correspondents.

(Online request: A&M [PP/HO](#))

[Biographical dictionary of British Quakers in commerce and industry 1775-1920](#), by Edward H. Milligan.

(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark ZVE.41.AA7-9)

### **Witches**

#### [Names of Witches \(in Scotland\) 1658](#)

(Online request: MS.3658)



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## Archives

### [Medical Archives and Manuscripts Survey](#)

This project aims to record all medical history archive material (between 1650 and 1945) that researchers can use in Britain. The survey for London is freely available to search online at <http://library.wellcome.ac.uk/node265.html>.

### [National Register of Archives](#).

Maintained by the National Archives, this freely available website (<http://www.nra.nationalarchives.gov.uk/nra/>) provides a searchable summary of material held in record offices and some private collections in England and Wales. The database can be searched by name and location.

## 15) Starter checklists

### Sixteenth to Eighteenth century biographical sources: Starter checklist

This is a selective checklist of printed and electronic resources available from the Wellcome Library that are helpful for locating information about doctors.

- Wellcome Library catalogues:
  - [Library catalogue](#)
  - [Archives and Manuscripts catalogue](#)
- Oxford Dictionary of National Biography  
(online within the Library via [ODNB](#))
- World Biographical Information System Online  
(online via [WBIS](#))
- Munk's Roll (Fellows of the RCP)  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41)
- Wallis: Eighteenth century medics  
(Quick Reference Collection, folios, shelfmark BYD.41.AA7)
- Medical Register, 1779, 1780, 1783  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41.AJ; online via [ECCO](#))
- Bloom: Medical practitioners in the diocese of London 1529-1725  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41)
- The Times Digital Archive 1785-  
(online via [TDA](#))
- Historical Directories, 1750-  
(online via <http://www.historicaldirectories.org/>)
- Gentleman's Magazine obituary notices, 1781-  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYB.41.AA7-8)
- Alumni registers:
  - London
  - Oxford
  - Cambridge
  - St Andrews
  - Glasgow
  - Dublin  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYB.41.ZTU)
  - Edinburgh  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.4646)

## Nineteenth and Twentieth century biographical sources: Starter checklist

This is a selective checklist of printed and electronic resources available from the Wellcome Library that are helpful for locating information about doctors.

- Wellcome Library catalogue
  - [Library catalogue](#)
  - [Archives and Manuscripts catalogue](#)
- Medical Directory, 1845-  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41)
- Medical Register, 1859-1989  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41)
- The Lancet backfile, 1823-  
(Journals, shelfmark /LAN; online within the Library via [The lancet backfiles](#))
- British Medical Journal, 1857-  
(Journals, shelfmark /BRI; online via [PubMed Central](#))
- The Times Digital Archive 1785-  
(online via [Times Digital Archive](#))
- 19th Century British Library Newspapers, 1800-1900  
(online within the Library via [19th Century British Library Newspapers](#))
- List of ...apothecaries, 1815-1948  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41)
- Munk's Roll (Fellows of the RCP)  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41)
- Plarr's Lives (Fellows of the RCS)  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41)
- List of Fellows and members of the Royal College of Surgeons of England  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.41)
- Alumni registers:
  - London
  - Oxford
  - Cambridge
  - St Andrews
  - Glasgow
  - Dublin  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYB.41.ZTU)
  - Edinburgh  
(Quick Reference Collection, shelfmark BYD.4646)