OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY

Historical Perspective
Ronald M. Cyr M.D
The birth-room in Eucharius Rösslin’s *Der Swangern Frauen und Hebammen Rosegarten*, 1513.
Fig. 4. — Labor Scene among the Waskambas. (Western portion of Central Africa.)
FIG. 1.
FUNERAL URN, WITH ANCIENT PERUVIAN LABOR SCENE.
Home Birth - 1901
Waterbirth
Waterbirth
Difficult Labor
Fig. 54.—Management of difficult labor in Siam.
Fillet

Net passed over fetal head to help extract the child
Peter Chamberlen (1601–1683)
Early user of obstetric forceps in England
Forceps – 1700s
William Smellie 1697-1763
Famous writer, teacher of “man-midwifery”
Man-Midwife
Obstetric Cervical Dilators

Fig. 135.—Various types of balloon dilators: a, b, Voorhees'; c, Carl Braun's colpeuryniter; d, Barnes'; e, Hirst's; f, Champetier de Ribes'; g, air pessary; h, Pomeroy's; i, bougie (end is closed).
Obstetric Instruments
Morphine-Scopolamine Analgesia
Popularized in NYC 1914
Ignaz Semmelweis 1818-1865

1st to show effectiveness of antisepsis in reducing postpartum infection deaths
Oliver Wendell Holmes 1809-1894
Postulated infectious nature of puerperal fever
Fig. 3—The first illustration of Cæsarean section—Suetonius, 1506
Max Sänger 1853-1903
Introduced “modern” classical cesarean in 1882
J. Whitridge Williams 1866-1931

Professor Obstetrics, Johns Hopkins U
Writer, teacher - most influential
academic obstetrician of the 20th C
Joseph B. DeLee 1869-1942
Founder, Chicago Lying-In Hospital
Influential author and educator
The Hillis-DeLee obstetric stethoscope
"APGAR" Score
Maternal Mortality Rate
Infant Mortality Rate

(Rates per 1,000 live births)

1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960

Nonwhite

Total

White

history-of-obgyn.com
Ephraim McDowell 1771-1830
Performed 1st ovariectomy
GYN Exam – 1830s

“Touch…don’t look”
GYN Exam Table 1830s
For the less modest
J. Marion Sims 1813-1883
“Father of American GYN”
Pioneer vesico-vaginal fistula surgeon
Founder Woman’s Hospital NYC
Thomas Addis Emmet (1828-1919)
1st assistant to Sims
Later superseded him as vaginal GYN surgeon and textbook author
The last operation performed by T. A. Emmet at the Woman’s Hospital, 1900
Howard Atwood Kelly 1858-1943
1st Prof GYN at Johns Hopkins U
Most influential GYN surgeon of 20th C
Surgery at Johns Hopkins 1890s
Kelly in middle
Surgery at Johns Hopkins 1927
The present dress, in its worst form, consisting of twelve different articles, five hanging from the waist and four from the shoulders. (Modified from N. Y. Sun.)
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