This is a non-critical electronic bibliography to acquaint the user with monographs and classic works in the field of American history of medicine and related topics. The remarks following the listing of some titles are quotes from the book not critical comment. Users of this bibliography are referred to such review media as, Bulletin for the History of Medicine and Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences for critical analysis of the books contained in this list.

Your comments, including titles for addition to the list and quotes from a particular work are welcome, e-mail billings@iupui.edu. We especially welcome recommendations for works on Canadian, Mexican and Central American Medicine, etc.

**General History of Medicine and Reference Works**

- Keinman, A. *Patients and Healers in the Context of Culture* Berkeley: University of California, 1982
- Porter, Roy and Andrew Wear *Problems and Methods in the History of Medicine*, London: Croom Helm, 1987

**Bibliography**

**American History of Medicine and Related Fields**

  - The author, as a sociologist, has traced group action by physicians, nurses, labor, and the body politic in general as they have interacted in development of group opinions.
  - Cared for (or, rather, neglected) by different parties, blacks and mill operatives also had their own characteristic health profiles...As for specific diseases, cotton operatives had far more hookworm and substantially more pellagra than blacks, while the latter had a greater incidence of venereal disease, tuberculosis,
and illnesses (and deaths) associated with maternity and infancy.

  - The university hospitals of the land have long been recognized as field where already discovered concepts are applied, but now it is evident that they are the only places where certain discoveries basic to the advancement of pure science are likely to occur. Such institutions are indispensable units in the advancement of some aspects of conceptual science.

  - Before this can happen [replacement of a collection of disparate programs], however, we need to bring order to the labyrinth and expose the contradictions of our present approach. This book relies on a historical overview of five representative and important disability programs to achieve that objective.


- Bonner, Thomas Neville *American Doctors and German Universities: A Chapter in International Intellectual Relations 1870-1914*, Lincoln, NB: University of Nebraska Press, 1963

- Bonner, Thomas Neville *Becoming a Physician: Medical Education in Britain, France, Germany, and the United States, 1750-1945* New York: Oxford University Press, 1995
  - The growth of medical training, I believe, has too long been viewed in almost exclusively national terms. Scholars working in American medicine have overstated the weaknesses of medical schools in the nineteenth century United States.


  - The medical profession and other medical interest groups each tried to make medicine serve their own narrow economic and social interests. Foundations and other corporate class institutions insisted that medicine serve the needs of "their" corporate capitalist society.
• Bruce, Robert B. *The Launching of Modern American Science, 1846-1876* Reprint.


  - I am convinced that the Association's heroic struggles throughout much of the century are too important to ignore as well as the less impressive aspects of its record in some decades.

  - Despite frequent scholarly references to the political power of organized medicine, no extensive effort has been made to explain the process by which it secured this power at the crucial state level.

• Caldwell, Mark *The Last Crusade: the War On Consumption, 1862-1954* New York: Athenaeum, 1988

• Cassedy, J Charles *V. Chapin*, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1962
  - Chapin's two great achievements are inseparable. First he made an exhaustive study of the confused accumulation of ancient theory about the communicable diseases, and weighted his findings in the light of the new facts revealed by the laboratory investigator and the epidemiologist. The results were an unprecedented attack on outmoded sanitary dogma and the formulation of a new body of principles which provided the basis for the entire modern attitude toward these diseases. Chapin then transferred these principles into a system of standards and values for the guidance of the practicing health officer.

  - ...considers the historical expansion of nineteenth-century American medicine itself as a demographic phenomenon within the framework of population movement, graphic phenomenon with in the framework of population movement, regional development, disease incidence, and social change.

• *Catalogue of the Transylvania University Medical Library* Lexington, Kentucky: Transylvania University Press, 1987
  - The chronicle of the building and collection of the Transylvania University Medical Catalogue of the Transylvania Medical School
1799-1859. Provides a close up view of medical education in the early 19th century.

- Chapman, Carleton B. *Order Out of Chaos: John Shaw Billings and America's Coming of Age* Boston: Boston Medical Library in the Francis A. Countaway Library of Medicine, 1994.
  - Ne straightforward narration of the history of the institute.
  - "Anthropological historiography" "The most important changes brought on by the Columbian voyages were biological in nature."
- Davenport, Horace W. *Fifty Years of Medicine at the University of Michigan, 1891-1941* Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Medical School, 1986
- Diamond, E. Grey and Herman Hattaway, eds. *Letters from Forest Place: A Plantation Family's Correspondence, 1846-1881* Jackson: University of Mississippi Press, 1993
- *Disease and Distinctiveness in the American South*, edited by Todd L. Savitt and James Harvey, Young Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1988
  - Was the waning of tropical diseases in the South a factor in the success of the Sunbelt States?
- Dowling, Harry *Filmore City Hospitals: the Undercare of the Underprivileged* Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1982
This study is a microhistory, but it is also a medical history about an individual doctor in a dramatically changing professional world and a social history about a nineteenth century community in an emerging country.


  
  - ...its (the Rockefeller Sanitary Commission) creation in 1909 marks the convergence of two separate tributaries of American philanthropy: scientific medicine and public education


  
  - I am concerned with the intellectual and organizational issues of professional public health education in the earlier decades of this century, as reflected in the Hopkins experience.

  
  - The Welch physicians who preceded him were men of charity and consolation, with a genius for conduct rather than thought; he himself became a man of study and of uncomfortable truth-telling, and the spokesman for change and innovation.


  
  - The success of American medicine in the twentieth century can be traced to the introduction of the research ethic into America's medical schools and collateral developments in the preliminary and professional training of physicians in the United States.

- Galishoff, Stuart *Newark: the nation's Unhealthiest City, 1832-1895* New Brunswick, NJ : Rutgers University Press, 1988
In instances where Newark's public health development appears to have been singular I have noted it in the text or in a note. Where I have not drawn comparisons to other cities it may be assumed that I found Newark's experience to parallel that of other nineteenth American cities that underwent rapid growth and industrialization.

  - Yes, this book is about black physicians and their hospitals, but it is about more than just that. It uses the black hospital as a prism to understand how issues of race and racism affected the development of the American hospital system. The reader will also find out a great deal about the attitudes and beliefs of white Americans.

  - It attempts to tell the history of changing public policy and attitudes toward the mentally ill.
  - In a certain sense, then, this study falls somewhere between traditional medical history and contemporary social history. The medical profession and other medical interest groups each tried to make medicine serve their own narrow economic and social interests. Foundations and other corporate class institutions insisted that medicine serve the needs of "their" corporate capitalist society.
  o Both myths agreed that Freud's work had criticized and replaced a medical and moral order. ...Clarifies the state of American psychiatry, neurology and sexual morality before Freud became important
  o If anything, doctors in the period from 1840 to 1910 were profoundly self-conscious about themselves and their profession. This uneasy self-consciousness was a fundamental reality of the age and reflected the bifurcated nature of their business and ethics, their hatred for and absorption of sectarian ideas, their clinging to old drug theories and their uneasy marriage with modern science
  o They glimpsed the possibility of a truly reformed medical practice but dissipated their energies in acrimonious debate and controversy.
• Haller, John S. *Outcasts From Evolution; Scientific Attitudes of Racial Inferiority, 1859-1900* Urbana, University of Illinois Press, 1971
  o What was at once the worst of nineteenth-century America in the sense that we now judge its racial attitudes was also ironically, the best that American culture had to offer the sciences became the means through which both scientist and social scientists sought to determine the relative value of the races of man, delineate social categories, and even justify the rationale of race legislation.
• Haller, John S. *The Physician and Sexuality in Victorian America* Urbana, IL: University of Illinois Press, 1974
  o The Victorian era, not simply a bald sexual regression, was rather a time of molding new sex mores, which even when compared to the permissive society sparked by World War I marked significant departures from the ultra-masculine world.
This association was founded when the AMA and other medical scientists disagreed about the Committee to set up the International Medical Congress in 1885. The AMA championed a geographical representation on the committee, the committee—by some opinions was intended to represent scholarship.

  - In this volume an attempt will be made to depict the formative period in the century before the development that appears to be America's most important contribution to modern-day medicine.

  - This work is grounded on an analysis of white racism and black efforts to overcome its manifestations as a key to understanding the evolution of the black nursing profession in particular and nursing history in general.


  - This book is intended for anyone making an early encounter with the development of medical thinking about the nature of disease and its control.

- Humphreys, Margaret, *Yellow Fever and the South* New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1992


...it is an examination of the major trends and developments that affected the colleges. This book is written in the hope that it will help others to understand how changes in medical education were related to the social and cultural milieu, to scientific developments, and to problems within the medical profession itself.

  - The period 1880-1910 saw a decisive transformation in American medical practice. 1.) The establishment of effective licensing boards 2.) Welch and Halsted contact with German laboratory medicine 3.) Abraham Flexner began his "holy war" on 2nd and 3rd rate medical schools.

- Kevles, Daniel J. *In the Name of Eugenics* Berkeley: University of California Press, 1986
  - This book is thus not an up-to-the-minute technical guide, and it is certainly not a tract for the times. I am under no delusion that a history of eugenics will provide any detailed moral or political map to follow in the uncharted territory of human genetic engineering.

- King, Charles R. *Children's Health In America: A History* New York: Twayne, 1993


- Kohler, Robert E. *From Medical Chemistry to Biochemistry: the Making of a biomedical Discipline* New York: Cambridge University Press, 1982
  - Disciplines were the framework for descriptive natural histories of knowledge, not for analyses of the evolution and perpetuation of social forms.

  - There is a tension that pervades this book. On the one hand, immigrants can be and, from time to time, have been the bearers of diseases harmful or even fatal to the native-born population. Officials responsible for the public health have had to deal forthrightly with this threat. On the other hand, pre-existing ethnic prejudices and public hysteria in the face of disease often created a wholly false linkage between illness and specific immigrant groups.

- This book focuses on the phenomenon of birth precisely because of its centrality to women's lives. By understanding childbirth we can understand significant parts of the female experience...My finding are stated quite simply: until childbirth moved to the hospital during the first third of the twentieth century, birthing women themselves were the most active agents of change in American childbirth history.


Lederer, Susan E. *Subjected to Science: Human Experimentation in America Before the Second World War* Baltimore: Johns Hopkins, 1995
- This book examines the public and professional debates over human experimentation in the first four decades of the twentieth century.


- A century ago being a medical student in America was easy.


Marcus, Alan I. *Cancer from Beef: DES, Federal Food Regulation, and Consumer Confidence* Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1994

- I shall demonstrate that in the coming decades, alongside race, class and gender, the role of disease will have to be illuminated if we are to acknowledge fully the social history of modern black America.


  o If there was a dominant view among women doctors in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, it was that women belonged in the medical profession by virtue of their natural gifts as healers and nurturers.


  o "Views of medical profession towards national compulsory health insurance The differences between medical organizations, practice, and therapeutics in Old and New England during most of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries cannot be attributed solely to climatic variations between the two regions. As the historian Michael Kammen has observed, the professions in England were not as highly developed as we have assumed, "nor were they so primitive in provincial America as some had suspected."


• Other Healers: Unorthodox Medicine in America Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1988


  - It is meant as a work of social and cultural history, combining the history of medicine with film studies and comparing past events with medical ethics, health policy and mass culture today. It is intended to provide a useful model for integrating contextual history, mass culture, and medicine.

*Physiology in the American Context, 1850-1940* Baltimore, MD: Physiological Society: Distributed by Williams and Wilkins, 1987

Postell, William Dosite *The Health of Slaves on Southern Plantations* Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1951
  - Still valuable for its reliance on primary sources.

Reed, James *From Private Vice to Public Virtue: The Birth Control Movement and American Society Since 1830* New York: Basic Books, 1978
  - Roles of key individuals and their relationship to American society. "Birth control was a metaphor for individual responsibility, an essential first step in the effort to achieve self-direction."


Rothstein, William *American Physicians in the Nineteenth Century* 1972

Rosen, George *A History of Public Health* introduction by Elizabeth Fee; biographical essay new bibliography by Edward T. Morman


A careful study of their [physicians’] writings on cholera discloses as well something of the slow and complex way in which scientific ideas change, not necessarily in the minds of a few great men, but in the substrate of assumption and accepted wisdom which constitutes the intellectual texture of an age.

  - American have tended to respond to disease and disorder as though they were corruptions imported to this uncontaminated continent from foreign sources....In this light, health is regarded as indigenous to our soil; disease, as an odious alien.

  - This book continues my previous research published in American Physicians in the Nineteenth Century.


  - Sickness and death were constant worries of nineteenth century Americans, especially in the disease-ridden antebellum South. Whether one live in a city or on a large, isolated plantation, whether one was white or black, one could not totally escape the ravages of endemic and epidemic disease. Health was a ubiquitous topic of conversation among businessmen, artisans, planters, laborers, and agricultural workers of both races. ...Remaining alive and well was an ever-present concern for these people-one which had to be faced day in, day out.


- Shryock, Richard H. *Medicine In America: Historical Essays*, Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University, 1966
  - NE Great introduction to American medical history
• Stanton, William Ragan *The Leopard's Spots: Scientific Attitudes Toward Race in America, 1815-59* University of Chicago Press, 1960
• Stevens, Rosemary *American Medicine and the Public Interest* New Haven; Yale University Press, 1971
  o ...its primary goal: that of identifying and tying together in their evolving context the elements of today's health and professional crises.
• Stevens, Rosemary *In Sickness and In Wealth: American Hospitals in the Twentieth Century* New York: Basic Books, 1989
  o In tracing the recent history of the medical research enterprise in the United States and the federal government's role in its development, I have attempted to illuminate the policy process, and to define and evaluate the specific policy involved, as well as to chronicle the sequence of fascinating scientific, organizational and personal episodes that are the most obvious guideposts to that history.
  o It is about science and health, free inquiry and accountability, basic science and disease. It is also a human story of what a few men with ideas and energy, a cause and a support system can do for the good of all.
• Stuart, Paul *Nations within a Nation: Historical Studies of American Indians* Westport, Conn: Greenwood Press, 1987
• Taylor, Lloyd C. *The Medical Profession and Social Reform, 1885-1945* New York: St. Martin's Press, 1974
• Taylor, Robert *Saranac: America's Magic Mountain* New York: Paragon House, 1988
• Thornton, Russell *American Indian Holocaust and Survival: a Population History Since 1492* Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1987
In writing this book about American Indian population history, I use what information I can, in what way I can. Moreover, I attempt to write from the perspective of the American Indian themselves. The result is sometimes neither definable, complete, nor orderly; but my justification is simple: the story is important; it should be told as best it can.

- Walsh, Mary Roth *Doctors Wanted: No Women Need Apply* New Haven: Yale University Press, 1977
• Wells, Robert V. *Revolutions in Americans’ Lives: A Demographic Perspective on the History of Americans, Their Families, and Their Society* Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1982
  o ...to provide a concise but reasonably complete summary of major components of health care in this country.

  o Sequel to Toadstool Millionaires which explores patent medicines in the twentieth century.
  o Quackery is important because through it vast numbers of our people have sought to bolster or restore their health and because it affords insight into an anti-rational approach to one of the key problems of life