

**MEDICAL CENTER ARCHIVES
OF
NEWYORK-PRESBYTERIAN/WEILL CORNELL**

**1300 York Avenue # 34
New York, NY 10065**

**Finding Aid To
THE E. LOVELL BECKER, MD (1923-1986) PAPERS**

**Dates of Papers:
1943-1976**

**150 Linear Inches
(10 Boxes)**

**Finding Aid Prepared By:
Elizabeth Shepard
Assistant Archivist
July 2008**

PROVENANCE:

The papers were donated to the archives in 1978.

ADMINISTRATIVE/BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:

Dr. Ernest Lovell Becker was born in January 13, 1923 in Cincinnati, OH. He received a B. A. in 1944 from Washington and Lee University in Virginia and a M. D. degree in 1948 from University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. After graduating from medical school, he was a resident at Medical College of Virginia. Prior to coming to this medical center, he studied with Dr. Homer Smith at New York University/Bellevue Hospital from 1951-1953 and was an assistant professor of medicine at Medical College of Virginia from 1955-1957. In addition, he was a captain with the U.S. Air Force Medical Corps from 1953-1955. He came to this medical center in 1957 as an assistant professor of medicine at Cornell University Medical College and assistant attending physician at New York Hospital. He rose to director of the Eugene F. DuBois Pavilion (Clinical Research Center) in 1960, chief of the Renal Division under the Department of Medicine in 1967 and professor of medicine/attending physician in 1969. He left in 1977, but continued to serve as an adjunct professor of medicine at Cornell University Medical College. He was the director of Graduate Medical Evaluation at AMA from 1978-1980, professor of medicine at Mt. Sinai and director of medicine at Beth Israel Medical Center from 1980-1984.

Dr. Becker was a leading expert in kidney research and treatment. He served as president of the National Kidney Foundation from 1970-1973 and received the Martin Wagner Memorial Award from this foundation in 1985. He helped get a house bill passed that provided money for dialysis and transplantation under Medicare and Medicaid. During his years in the military in the 1950s, he conducted several studies of high altitude physiology in the Andes in Peru. He studied the effects of high altitude on the heart, kidneys, and lungs, and how the natives there had adapted to the high altitude over generations. In addition, he published over 100 publications on his various kidney research.

He died on February 21, 1986 of diabetes at the age of 63.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:

The papers have been organized into Correspondence (1953-1975), ICNNRD (1966-1974), Other Committees (1964-1976), Speeches, Articles, and Reprints (1943-1976), and Research Files (1958-1966). The papers provide an good overview of his research interests and his work with the ICNNRD. No information is provided here on his personal life.

Duplicate reprints and miscellaneous patient files were discarded. His microscopic slides were also discarded. Two boxes of his original papers are missing or were discarded at an earlier date.

Series I: Correspondence, 1953-1975 (Box 1)

This series, arranged alphabetically, only provides a few correspondences. Most notably his correspondence with Dr. Homer Smith.

Series II: ICNNRD, 1966-1974 (Boxes 1-3)

This series consists of his files regarding his work with the International Committee on Nomenclature and Nostology of Renal Diseases to publish a book on nomenclature for renal diseases. The series is divided up into meetings (1966-1971), correspondence (1962-1974), and manuscript files (1968-1971). This international group succeeded in publishing their book in 1974.

Series III: Other Committees, 1964-1976 (Box 4)

This series, arranged alphabetically, consists of his work with other organizations including the Cardiovascular Medicine (journal), 3rd International Congress of Nephrology, Journal of Hypertension and Renal Diseases, Life Sciences Advisory Group, and National Kidney Foundation.

Series IV: Speeches, Articles, and Reprints, 1943-1975 (Boxes 4-6)

This series, arranged alphabetically, provides an overview of some of Dr. Becker's 100 publications.

Series V: Research Files, 1958-1966 (Boxes 6-10)

This series was not processed. It contains his data books for his various kidney research activities.

ACCESS RESTRICTIONS:

Some of the research files contained information regarding clinical studies of human subjects. These files are protected under the federal HIPAA privacy rule.

ACCESS POINTS:

RELATED MATERIAL:

BOX AND FOLDER LIST:
Box 1: Series I, Correspondence, 1953-1975

| Folder: | Description: |
|----------------|---|
| 1 | Association of American Medical Colleges, Medical Education Group, 1975 |
| 2 | Explorer Club, 1973-1975 |
| 3 | Finch, Rufus, 1976 |
| 4 | Smith, Homer, 1953-1962 |

Box 1: Series II, ICNNRD, 1966-1974

| Folder: | Description: |
|----------------|--|
| | Meetings |
| 5 | ICNNRD Address List |
| 6 | ICNNRD, Meetings, 1966 |
| 7 | ICNNRD Meeting, Washington DC, 03/10-11/1967 |
| 8 | ICNNRD, Meeting, Chicago, 06/16/1967 |
| 9 | ICNNRD, Meeting, Chicago, 11/04/1967 |
| 10-11 | ICNNRD, Meeting, San Juan, 12/14-15/1967 |
| 12 | ICNNRD, Pathology Subcommittee Meeting, San Juan, 12/15/1967 |
| 13 | ICNNRD, Meeting, London, 06/20/1968 |
| 14 | ICNNRD, Executive Committee Meeting, Washington DC, 11/24/1968 |
| 15 | ICNNRD, Meeting, Washington DC, 02/20-21/1969 |
| 16 | ICNNRD, Meeting, Paris, 03/15-16/1969 |
| 17 | ICNNRD, Meeting, Stockholm, 06/22/1969 |
| 18 | ICNNRD, Executive Committee Meeting, Chicago, 11/07-08/1969 |
| 19 | ICNNRD, Meeting, Washington DC, 12/02-03/1969 |
| 20 | ICNNRD, Meeting, Hollywood Beach, 10/09-10/1970 |
| 21 | ICNNRD, Executive Committee Meeting, Washington DC, 11/22/1970 |
| 22 | ICNNRD, Pathology Subcommittee Meeting, Montreal, 03/10/1971 |
| 23 | ICNNRD, Meeting, Sanibel Island, 04/04-05/1971 |
| 24 | ICNNRD, Meeting, Barbados, 11/29-12/06/1971 |
| 25 | Subcommittees |
| 26 | Contributors |

Correspondence

| | |
|----|--|
| 27 | Abrams, Herbert, 1967-1970 |
| 28 | Alleyne, G. A., 1969 |
| 29 | Asscher, A. W., 1969-1972 |
| 30 | Bartter, Frederic, 1969 |
| 31 | Bergstrand, Anders, 1967-1974 |
| 32 | Bialestock, Dora, 1969 |
| 33 | Blainey, J. D., 1967-1969 |
| 34 | Boyarsky, Saul, 1969 |
| 35 | Brod, Jan, 1969, 1971 |
| 36 | Brun, Claus, 1966-1969 |
| 37 | Bucht, Harje, 1969 |
| 38 | Churg, Jacob, 1967-1975 |
| 39 | Clarke, B. G., 1967-1969 |
| 40 | Crocker, Diane, 1969-1972 |
| 41 | Dent, C. E., 1969 |
| 42 | Dolger, Henry, 1969 |
| 43 | Dustan, Harriet, 1969-1970 |
| 44 | Earle, David, 1967-1973 |
| 45 | Elwood, J. Clint, 1969 |
| 46 | Executive Committee, 1968-1974 |
| 47 | Executive Committee, Memos, 1969-1971 |
| 48 | Fanconi, G., 1969 |
| 49 | Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, 1966-1969 |
| 50 | Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, 1970-1973 |
| 51 | Forland, Marvin, 1969 |
| 52 | Friedenberg, Richard, 1969 |
| 53 | Funck-Brentano, J. L., 1968-1969 |
| 54 | Goldsmith, H. J., 1969 |
| 55 | Gordon, Burgess, 1968 |
| 56 | Graham, John |
| 57 | Grayhack, John, 1967 |
| 58 | Habib, Renee, 1966-1969 |
| 59 | Hamburger, Jean, 1969-1971 |
| 60 | Heptinstall, Robert, 1966-1970 |
| 61 | Holland |
| 62 | Janeway, Charles, 1968 |
| 63 | Jennings, Robert, 1966 |
| 64 | Johnson, Robert, 1968 |
| 65 | Kark, Robert, 1967-1972 |
| 66 | Kessler, Richard |
| 67 | Kimmelstiel, Paul, 1966-1968 |
| 68 | Kincaid Smith, Priscilla, 1969-1972 |

69 King, Lowell, 1970
70 Kunin, Calvin, 1969

Box 2: Series II, ICNNRD, 1966-1974

| Folder: | Description: |
|----------------|--|
| 1 | Lange, Kurt, 1967-1971 |
| 2 | Lattimer, John |
| 3 | Levin, Nathan, 1969-1972 |
| 4 | Lowe, Charles, 1969 |
| 5 | Luxton, R. W., 1969 |
| 6 | Macy Foundation, 1966-1974 |
| 7 | Maher, John, 1969 |
| 8 | Mandema, Enno, 1969 |
| 9 | Mandel, Emmanuel, 1969 |
| 10 | Marshall, Victor, 1969 |
| 11 | McClusky, Robert, 1968 |
| 12 | McKelvey, Eugene |
| 13 | Merrill, John, 1967-1969 |
| 14 | Muehrcke, Robert, 1969 |
| 15 | Nagamatzu, George, 1969 |
| 16 | National Institutes of Health, 1966-1971 |
| 17 | National Medical Library, 1967-1973 |
| 18 | New Glossary Labels & Memo |
| 19 | Nomenclature Glossary Requests, 1972 |
| 20 | Nomenclature-Renal Diseases, 1967 |
| 21 | Oken, Donald, 1971 |
| 22 | Perkoff, Gerald, 1969 |
| 23 | Pirani, Conrad, 1966-1971 |
| 24 | Pollak, Victor, 1967-1970 |
| 25 | Potter, E. V. |
| 26 | Publishing Correspondence, 1972-1974 |
| 27 | Pullman, Theodore, 1966-1972 |
| 28 | Punch Cards-Pathology |
| 29 | Reiman, Arnold, 1967-1969 |
| 30 | Rennie, Drummond, 1969 |
| 31 | Rhodin, Johannes, 1969 |
| 32 | Rocha, Heonir, 1969 |
| 33 | Rosenthal, Ira, 1969 |
| 34 | Scheinberg, I. Herbert, 1969 |
| 35 | Simon, Norman |
| 36 | Soothill, J. F., 1969 |
| 37 | Spink, Wesley, 1969 |
| 38 | Strauss, Maurice, 1969 |
| 39 | Wesson, Lawrence, 1968 |

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| 40 | Wilentz, Joan, 1969-1970 |
| 41 | Wilson, David, 1969 |
| 42 | Woodbury, Max, 1967 |
| 43 | World Health Organization, 1970-1972 |
| 44 | Worthen, Howard, 1967-1969 |
| 45 | Zinsser, Hans, 1969 |

Manuscript Files

| | |
|-------|---|
| 46 | Anatomy Classifications |
| 47 | Anatomy Glossary, 1969 |
| 48 | Biographies |
| 49 | Clinical Chemistry-Oscar Bodansky |
| 50 | Clinical Glossary |
| 51 | Computers |
| 52 | Earlier Classifications |
| 53 | Functional Capacity |
| 54 | Glossary-Miscellaneous Notes |
| 55 | Handbook of Kidney Nomenclature |
| 56 | Hypertension, 1970 |
| 57 | Immunology |
| 58 | Nephrotic Syndrome |
| 59 | Nomenclature Outlines |
| 60 | Ophthalmic Techniques, 1969-1971 |
| 61 | Pathology Glossary, 1969-1971 |
| 62 | Pediatrics, 1970 |
| 63 | Physiology, 1968-1970 |
| 64 | Publicity |
| 65 | Radiology, 1970 |
| 66 | Renal Biopsies |
| 67 | Urology, 1968 |
| 68-69 | A Handbook of Kidney Nomenclature-earlier version |

Box 3: Series II, ICNNDR, 1966-1974

Manuscript Drafts-not processed

Box 4: Series III, Other Committees, 1964-1976

| Folder: | Description: |
|----------------|--|
| 1 | Cardiac Arrest Committee, 1976 |
| 2 | Cardiovascular Medicine, 1973-1976 |
| 3-5 | 3 rd International Congress of Nephrology, Finance Committee, Binder I, 1964-1966 |

- 6-8 3rd International Congress of Nephrology, Finance Committee,
Binder II, 1964-1966
- 9 Journal of Hypertension and Renal Disease, 1975-1976
- 10 Life Sciences Advisory Group, Inc., 1972-1973
- 11 National Kidney Foundation, 1970

Box 4: Series IV, Speeches, Articles, Reprints, 1943-1976

- | Folder: | Description: |
|----------------|--|
| 12 | "Acidosis of Chronic Renal Failure," given at Medical Society of DC, 02/20/1957 |
| 13 | "Acute Glomerulonephritis in an Adult with Longstanding Diabetes Mellitus," 1960 (Restricted) |
| 14 | "Aortic Homografts in Dogs," ca. 1955 |
| 15 | "Capillary Vascularization in Puppies Born at a Simulated Altitude of 20,000 Feet," 1955 |
| 16 | "Clearances of Urinary Proteins in Patients who Underwent Renal Transplantation" |
| 17 | "Effect of a Mercurial Diuretic on the Excretion of Free Water in Diabetes Insipidus," 1957 |
| 18 | "Free Water Formation in Normal Man" |
| 19 | "Free Water Production during and after Osmotic Diuresis," 1963 |
| 20 | "Glomerulonephritis and the Nephrotic Syndrome Associated w/ Juvenile Diabetes," ca. 1969 (Restricted) |
| 21 | Photographs of Plates from Hoeber Book |
| 22 | "Hypertension of the Myocardium in Puppies Born at a Simulated Altitude of 20,000 Feet," ca. 1955 |
| 23 | "Hysteresis of Electrolyte Excretion and Maximal Urinary Concentration in Mannitol Diuresis," speech given at A. P.S. Fall Meeting, 09/04/1956 |

Box 5: Series IV, Speeches, Articles, and Reprints, 1943-1976

- | Folder: | Description: |
|----------------|---|
| 1 | "Life in Peruvian Andes," 1965 |
| 2 | "Myocardial Capillaries in Rats w/ Cobalt Induced Polycythemia," ca. 1959 |
| 3 | "Nephrotic Syndrome Following Contact with Mercury," 1962 |
| 4 | "Nephrotic Syndrome in Adults," 1963 |
| 5 | "The Nephrotic Syndrome in Adults," 1965 |
| 6 | "The Nephrotic Syndrome in Adults," 1965 |
| 7 | "The Nephrotic Syndrome in Adults," 1966 |
| 8 | "Observations on the Measurements of Extra-Cellular Fluid Volumes in Normal Dogs," 1955 |

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| 9 | "Observations on Renal Function and Electrolytes in the Llama," ca. 1955 |
| 10-11 | "Physiology of Marine Teleosis," 1958 |
| 12 | Physiology Summer, 1958-1959 |
| 13-14 | "Renal Function in Man Acclimated to High Altitude," 1957 |
| 15-16 | "Renal Function in Polycythemic Dogs," 1959 |
| 17 | "Renal Mechanisms for the Excretion of Inorganic Sulfate in Man," 1960 |
| 18-19 | "Renal Mechanisms for the Excretion of Inorganic Sulfate in Man" |
| 20-22 | "Renal Tubular Transport of Inorganic Sulfate," 1960 |

Box 6: Series IV, Speeches, Articles, Reprints, 1943-1976

| Folder: | Description: |
|----------------|---|
| 1 | Reprints, 1943-1949 |
| 2 | Reprints, 1954-1959 |
| 3 | Reprints, 1960-1964 |
| 4 | Reprints, 1966-1969 |
| 5 | Reprints, 1970 |
| 6 | Reprints, 1971 |
| 7 | Reprints, 1972-1976 |
| 8 | "Richard Bright and the Observations in Renal Histology" |
| 9 | "Selectivity of Protein Excretion in Patients with Nephrotic Syndrome," ca. 1963 |
| 10 | "Spontaneous Rupture of the Kidney," 1964 |
| 11 | "Tubular Transport of Phenol Red in the Flounder Kidney," ca. 1956 |
| 12 | "Urinary Concentrating Mechanism in Dogs," ca. 1963 |
| 13 | "Volume of Distribution of Inorganic Sulfate and Inulin in Man" |
| 14 | "Volumes of Distribution of Sodium Thiosulphate and Inulin in Normal Dogs," 1954 |
| 15 | "Work Performance at Altitudes after Adaptation in Man and Dog" |

Box 6: Series V, Research Files, 1958-1966

| Folder: | Description: |
|----------------|--|
| 16 | Cobalt Study (Restricted) |
| 17 | Cobalt Studies, 1957-1958 (Restricted) |
| 18 | Etharcrynic Acid Study, 1965-1966 |
| 19 | Furosemide Study, 1965-1966 (Restricted) |
| 20 | Imuran Study, 1965-1966 |
| 21 | Meticorten and Celestone Study, 1965 |
| 22 | Mercury and Salt Study (Restricted) |
| 23 | Jim Yen Toy Nephrotic Sulfate Space Studies (Restricted) |

Box: 7-10

Series V, Research Files, 1958-1966