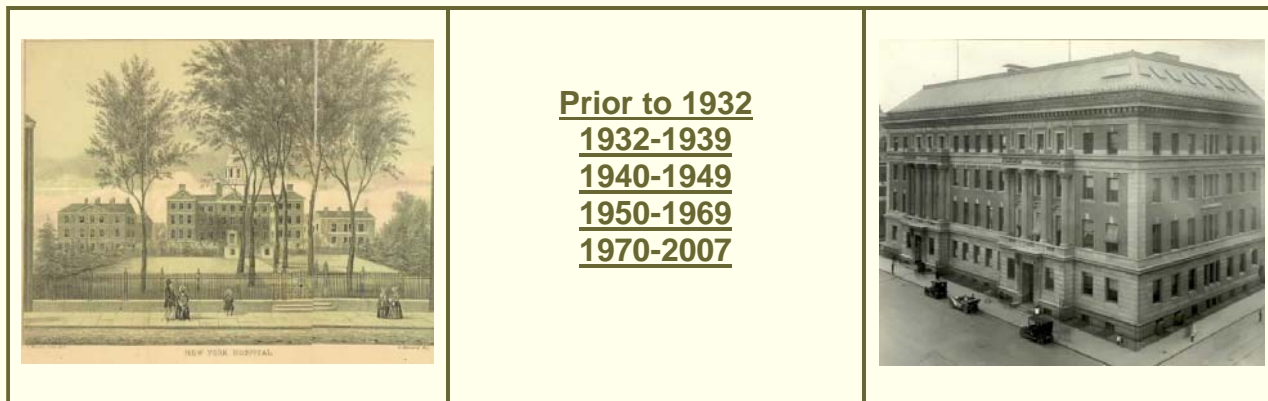


Historical Timeline of Department of OB/GYN NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center



Date	Event
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1801-1827

General History:

The Society of the Lying-In Hospital of the City of New York, founded in 1799, operates a maternity ward for poor women at New York Hospital's first location on Broadway between Duane and Worth Streets.

1877

New York Hospital opens the Diseases for Women Clinic in the Outpatient Department at its second location on West 15th and 16th Streets between Fifth and Sixth Avenues.

1898-1932

At Cornell University Medical College, the students study women's diseases under the Department of Gynecology led by Dr. William Polk. The students receive clinical training at Bellevue Hospital, Women's Hospital, and the college's dispensary. Dr. George Ward is the chairman of the department after Dr. Polk's death in 1918.

The Department of Obstetrics, led by Dr. J. Clifton Edgar, provides students with instruction and clinical training at Mothers and Babies Hospital. Later, students are also trained at Manhattan Maternity and Dispensary.

In 1921, the two departments are combined into the Department of Ob/Gyn led by Dr. George Ward. Students receive clinical training in obstetrics at Berwind Maternity Clinic and clinical training in gynecology at Women's Hospital.

1927

In June, The Society of the New York Hospital and Cornell University sign an affiliation agreement leading to the formation of New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center.

1928

On June 19th, The Society of the New York Hospital and The Society of the Lying-In Hospital of the City of New York sign an affiliation agreement. The Lying-In Hospital becomes the Women's Clinic (Department of Ob/Gyn) at the medical center.



1932-1939

1932

General History:

In September, New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center opens.

The Department of Ob/Gyn is one of the five major clinical departments of the new medical center.

1932-1948

Dr. Henricus Stander serves as chairman/obstetrician and gynecologist-in-chief until his death on May 2, 1948.

1932

The Lying-In Hospital Women's Clinic (Department of Ob/Gyn) offers services in obstetrics and gynecology. In addition, the clinic operates two outdoor delivery services. The Ladies' Auxiliary Board of the Lying-In Hospital provides social services. The department has its own nursing department, which trains student nurses from New York Hospital School of Nursing as well as students from other nursing schools.

1934

Medical Education Highlight: Residency

A five-year residency program is established for training ob/gyn doctors.

1938-1939

Patient Care Highlight: Blood Bank

A blood bank is established for blood transfusions in the Department of Ob/Gyn. A year later, the Blood Bank, which is the first in New York State and second in the nation, is more formally organized under the Central Laboratories.

1939

Division History: Maternal Welfare Department

The Maternal Welfare Department, led by Ruth Doran, is established to provide parenting classes, home prenatal and postnatal visits, and other social services. The Maternity Center Association had offered these services from 1932 to 1939.



1940-1949

1947

General History:

The Society of the Lying-In Hospital completes a more formal legal merger with The Society of the New York Hospital on May 15th. The Women's Clinic continues to be called the Lying-In Hospital.

1948-1964

Dr. R. Gordon Douglas, Sr. serves as chairman/obstetrician and gynecologist-in-chief.

1949

Patient Care Highlight: Rooming-In

The rooming-in plan is organized so mothers can have their babies with them overnight.



1950-1969

1953

Division History: Reproductive Medicine and Infertility

A special clinic for studying infertility opens.

1956-1962

General History:

The ob/gyn pavilion is divided into four sections with each containing sixteen beds. Renovations are made that include a recovery room, which opens in December 1957; a nursery in 1959; and delivery rooms in 1962.

1964-1978

Dr. Fritz Fuchs serves as chairman/obstetrician and gynecologist-in-chief.

1965

Patient Care Highlight: Laparoscopy

Dr. Lennart Jacobson of Sweden instructs doctors in the use of laparoscopy in the practice of gynecology. Dr. Fritz Fuchs is credited with the instrument being introduced into the gynecological practice at New York Hospital and the country.

1966

Patient Care Highlight: ICU

A six bed special care ICU opens in November.

1967

Research Highlight: Premature Labor

Dr. Fritz Fuchs develops the use of alcohol as an intravenous agent for preventing premature labor.

Research Highlight: Family Planning Clinic

The Rockefeller Foundation awards a five-year grant for developing a model family planning clinic.



1970-2007

1974

Research Highlight: Home Pregnancy Test

Dr. Brij Saxena develops technology for measuring human chorionic gonadotropin that leads to the development of the home pregnancy test.

**1975-
1977**

Division History: Perinatology Center

The Perinatology Center is a joint operation between the Departments of Pediatrics and Ob/Gyn. High-risk mothers are brought to the facility to deliver their babies.

**1978-
1998**

General History:

Dr. William Ledger serves as chairman/obstetrician and gynecologist-in-chief.

