Eponyms

Adamkiewicz, Albert (1850–1921), Professor of Pathology, Cracow, Poland.
Addison, Thomas (1793–1860), physician, Guy’s Hospital, London, UK. His original specimens may still be seen in the Gordon Museum at Guy’s Hospital.
Altemeier, William Arthur (1910–1983), Professor of Surgery, Cincinnati, OH, USA.
Arnold, Julius (1835–1915), Professor of Pathology, Heidelberg, Germany.
Auerbach, Leopold (1828–1897), neuropathologist, Breslau, Poland.
Bancroft, Joseph (1836–1894), physician and Public Health Officer, Brisbane, Australia.
Barlow, John Bereton (1924–2008), Professor of Cardiology, Johannesburg, South Africa.
Barr, Yvonne (b. 1932), Epstein’s assistant, Middlesex Hospital, London, UK.
Barrett, Norman (1903–1979), thoracic surgeon, St Thomas’s Hospital, London, UK.
Battle, William Henry (1855–1936), surgeon, St Thomas’s Hospital, London, UK.
Behçet, Hulusi (1889–1948), Professor of Dermatology, Istanbul, Turkey.
Billroth, Theodor (1829–1894), Professor of Surgery, Vienna, Austria. He performed the first successful gastrectomy for cancer at the pyloric end of the stomach in 1881.
Blakemore, Arthur H. (1897–1970), surgeon, Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center, New York, USA.
Bochdalek, Vincent (1801–1883), Professor of Anatomy, Prague, Czech Republic.
Boerhaave, Hermann (1668–1738), physician, Leiden, the Netherlands. Diagnosed spontaneous rupture of the oesophagus at postmortem on the Grand Admiral of the Dutch Fleet.
Bouchard, Charles-Joseph (1837–1915), pathologist, Paris. Described the aneurysms while a student of Charcot at Salpêtrière; Bouchard also described the nodes characteristic of osteoarthritis of the proximal interphalangeal joints.
Bowen, John Templeton (1857–1941), dermatologist, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA.
Breslow, Alexander (1928–1980), pathologist, George Washington University Hospital, Washington, DC, USA.
Broca, Pierre (1826–1880), Professor of Clinical Surgery, Paris, France.
Brown-Kelly, Adam (1865–1914), ENT surgeon, Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow, UK.
Brown-Séquard, Charles Edward (1817–1894), born in Mauritius, trained in Paris, France. Neurologist at the National Hospital for Nervous Diseases, London, UK, and later Professor of Medicine at Harvard, Boston, MA, USA, and then the Collège de France in Paris, France.
Budd, George (1808–1882), Professor of Medicine, King’s College, London, UK.
Buerger, Leo (1879–1943), born in Vienna; urologist, Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, USA.
Cajal, Santiago Ramón (1852–1934), histologist and professor, successively in Valencia, Barcelona and Madrid, Spain. Awarded the Nobel Prize in 1906 with Golgi for studies of the neurone.
Calmette, Léon (1863–1933), Director of the Pasteur Institute, Paris, France.
Chagas, Carlos (1879–1934), Professeur of Tropical Medicine, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
Charcot, Jean Martin (1825–1893), First Professor of Neurology, Salpétrière Hospital, Paris, France.
Cheyne, John (1777–1836), an Edinburgh-trained physician who migrated to Ireland.
Chiari, Hans (1851–1916), Viennese pathologist, successively Professor at Strasbourg, France, and Prague, Czech Republic; he also described the syndrome of hepatic venous outflow obstruction.
Chvostek, Frantisek (1835–1884), physician, Josefs-Akademie, Vienna, Austria.
Clark, Wallace H., Jr (1924–1997), pathologist, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, USA. Described five levels of invasion of melanoma in 1967.

Cloquet, Jules Germain (1790–1883), Professor of Surgery, Paris, France.

Cock, Edward (1805–1892), surgeon, Guy’s Hospital, London, UK.

Conn, Jerome (1907–1994), physician, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA.

Coombs, Robin Royston Amos (1921–2006), Professor of Immunology, Cambridge, UK. Described the test for detecting the presence of antibodies to red blood cells.

Cooper, Astley Paston (1768–1841), surgeon, Guy’s Hospital, London, UK.

Courvoisier, Ludwig (1843–1918), Professor of Surgery, Basle, Switzerland.

Crohn, Burrill Bernard (1884–1983), gastroenterologist, Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, USA. The disease was first described by Morgagni (1682–1771).

Curling, Thomas Blizzard (1811–1888), surgeon, the London Hospital, London, UK; he also wrote the first accurate description of cretinism in adults (myxedema) in 1850.

Cushing, Harvey (1869–1939), Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA. He was one of the founders of neurosurgery.


de Morgan, Campbell (1811–1876), surgeon, Middlesex Hospital, London, UK.

de Quervain, Fritz (1868–1940), Professor of Surgery, Bern, Switzerland.

Dejerine-Klumpke, Auguste (1859–1927), neurologist, Paris, France; her husband, J. J. Dejerine, was also a distinguished neurologist.

Delorme, Edmond (1843–1929), Chief of Surgery, French Army.

Dercum, Francis Xavier (1856–1931), Professor of Clinical Neurology, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, PA, USA.

Dieulafoy, Paul Georges (1839–1911), physician, Paris. The lesion is a submucosal artery running abnormally close to the mucosa, typically occurring in the gastric fundus near the oesophagogastric junction and a cause of recurrent bleeding.

Doppler, Christian (1803–1853), Professor of Physics, University of Vienna, Austria.

Dormia, Enrico (1928–2009), Professor of Urology, Milan, Italy.


Drummond, David (1852–1932), Professor of Medicine, University of Durham, Durham, UK.

Dukes, Cuthbert Esquire (1890–1977), pathologist, St Mark’s Hospital, London, UK.

Dupuytren, Baron Guillaume (1777–1835), surgeon, Hôtel Dieu, Paris, France.

Eaton, Lealdes M. (1905–1958), Professor of Neurology at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN, USA.

Ehlers, Edvard Lauritz (1863–1937), Professor of Clinical Dermatology, Copenhagen, Denmark.

Ellison, Edward Horner (1918–1970), Associate Professor, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA.

Epstein, Michael Anthony (b. 1921), Professor of Pathology, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK.

Erb, Wilhelm (1840–1921), Professor of Neurology, Heidelberg, Germany.

Fick, Adolf Eugen (1829–1901), born in Germany, Professor of Physiology, Zurich, Switzerland.

Fogarty, Thomas (b. 1934), surgeon, Portland, OR, USA.

Foley, Frederick (1891–1966), urologist, Boson, MA, then St Paul, MN, USA.

Fournier, Jean Alfred (1832–1914), venereologist and Professor of Dermatology, Hôpital St Louis, Paris, France.

Frey, Charles Frederick (b. 1929), surgeon, UC Davis Medical Center, USA.

Ganz, William (1919–2009), Professor of Medicine, UCLA, and Senior Research Scientist, Cedars of Lebanon Hospital, Los Angeles, CA, USA.

Gardner, Eldon John (1909–1989), geneticist, later Professor of Zoology, Utah State University, Logan, UT, USA.

Gartner, Hermann (1785–1827), Danish surgeon.

Gaucher, Phillipe (1854–1918), physician, Hôpital St Louis, Paris, France.
Gimbernat, Manuel (1734–1816), anatomist and surgeon to King Carlos III of Spain.

Gleason, Donald (1920–2008), pathologist, Minneapolis, MN, USA.

Goldblatt, Harry (1891–1977), Professor of Experimental Pathology, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, USA.

Goodsall, David (1843–1906), surgeon, St Mark’s Hospital, London, UK.

Graves, Robert (1796–1853), physician, Meath Hospital, Dublin, Ireland.

Grawitz, Paul Otto (1850–1932), pathologist, Grefswald, Germany.

Grey Turner, George (1877–1951), Professor of Surgery, University of Durham, then Foundation Professor of Surgery at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School, London, UK.

Guérin, Camille (1872–1961), veterinary surgeon, Lille, France.

Hadfield, Geoffrey John (1923–2006), surgeon, Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Aylesbury, UK.


Hartmann, Alexis Frank (1898–1964), Professor of Paediatrics, St Louis Children’s Hospital, USA.

Hartmann, Henri (1860–1952), Professor of Surgery, Hôtel Dieu, Paris, France.

Hashimoto, Hakaru (1881–1934), surgeon, Kyushu University, Kyushu, Japan.

Hassall, Arthur (1817–1894), physician, Royal Free Hospital, London, UK. He published the first textbook on histology in English.

Heimlich, Henry J. (b. 1920), thoracic surgeon, Xavier University, Cincinnati, OH, USA.

Heller, Ernst (1877–1964), surgeon, Leipzig, Germany. Hippocrates (c. 460–c. 370BC), ancient Greek physician. Said to be the first person to believe that disease occurred naturally, and not due to the will of the gods. Described the facial appearance of impending death.

Hirschsprung, Harald (1830–1916), Professor of Paediatrics, Queen Louisa Hospital, Copenhagen, Denmark.

Hodgkin, Thomas (1798–1866), Curator of Pathology, Guy’s Hospital, London, UK.

Horner, Johann (1831–1886), Professor of Ophthalmology, Zurich, Switzerland.

Hunter, John (1728–1793), surgeon, St George’s Hospital, London, UK.

Hutchinson, Jonathan (1828–1913), surgeon, The London Hospital, London, UK. Described numerous conditions and was first to perform a successful operation for reduction of an intussusception in a child.

Jeghers, Harold (1940–1990), Professor of Medicine, Georgetown University School of Medicine, Washington, DC, and Tufts University Medical School, Boston, MA, USA.

Kantor, John Leonard (1890–1947), radiologist, Presbyterian Hospital, New York, USA.

Kaposi, Moriz (1837–1902), Professor of Dermatology, Vienna, Austria.

Kernig, Vladimir (1840–1917), German physician and neurologist, St Petersburg, Russia.

Killian, Gustav (1860–1921), Professor of Otorhinolaryngology, Freiburg and Berlin, Germany.

Klatskin, Gerald (1910–1986), liver physician, Yale, New Haven, CT, USA. Pioneered the liver biopsy and was considered to be one of the fathers of hepatology.

Klinefelter, Harry Fitch (1912–1990), Associate Professor of Medicine, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD, USA.

Klippel, Maurice (1858–1942), French neurologist, Salpêtrière Hospital, Paris, France. The Klippel–Trénaunay syndrome involves multiple congenital venous malformations producing varicose veins together with hypertrophy of bones and soft tissues and extensive cutaneous haemangiomas, usually affecting the lower limbs.

Kocher, Theodore (1841–1917), Professor of Surgery, Bern, Switzerland. He won a Nobel Prize in 1909 for work on the thyroid gland.

Krukenberg, Friedrich (1871–1946), pathologist, Halle, Germany.

Kultschitzky, Nicolai (1865–1925), Professor of Histology, Kharkov, Russia. After the Russian Revolution he became Lecturer in Anatomy at University College, London, UK.

Ladd, William Edwards (1880–1967), Professor of Paediatric Surgery, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA.
Lambert, Edward (1915–2003), Professor of Physiology and Neurology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN, USA.
Latarjet, André (1876–1947), Professor of Anatomy, Lyon, France.
Leriche, René (1879–1955), Professor of Surgery, successively at Lyon, Strasbourg and Paris, France.
Lichtenstein, Irving L. (1920–2000), surgeon, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA, USA.
Lushka, Hubert von (1820–75), Professor of Anatomy, Tubingen, Germany.
Magendie, François (1783–1855), physician and Professor of Medicine, Collège de France, Paris, France.
Mallory, George Kenneth (1900–1986), Professor of Pathology, Boston University, Boston, MA, USA.
Marfan, Antonine (1858–1942), Professor of Paediatrics, Hôpital des Enfants Malades, Paris, France.
Marfan's syndrome is due to a mutation in the fibrillin-1 gene on chromosome 15, and manifests with cardiovascular, skeletal and ocular abnormalities.
Marjolin, Jean Nicholas (1780–1850), surgeon, Hôpital Sainte-Eugénie, Paris, France.
Marshall, Barry (b. 1951), gastroenterologist, Royal Perth Hospital, Australia. Marshall and Warren won the Nobel Prize for their observation in 2005. Spiral-shaped organisms were identified in stomach biopsies in 1875, and their relation to gastritis suggested in 1899 by Walery Jaworski, a Polish physician; the observation was largely overlooked until the work of Marshall and Warren in 1982.
Mayo, William (1861–1939), surgeon, Rochester, MN, USA.
Meckel, Johann Frederick (1781–1833), Professor of Anatomy and Surgery, Halle, Germany. His grandfather and father were both Professors of Anatomy.
Meige, Henri (1866–1940), Professor of Medicine, Hôpital de Salpêtrière, Paris, France.
Meissner, Georg (1829–1905), Professor of Physiology, Göttingen, Germany.
Meleney, Frank L. (1889–1963), Professor of Clinical Surgery, Columbia University, OH, USA.
Mendel, Gregor (1882–1884), Augustinian priest and scientist, St Thomas's Abbey, Brno, Czech Republic.
Mikulicz-Radecki, Johann von (1850–1905), Professor of Surgery successively at Cracow, Königsberg and Breslau, Poland. One of the first surgeons to use rubber gloves and to wear a face mask.
Milroy, William Forsyth (1855–1942), Professor of Medicine, University of Nebraska, Omaha, NE, USA.
Mondor, Henri (1885–1962), Professor of Surgery, Hôpital Salpêtrière, Paris, France.
Montgomery, William Featherstone (1797–1859), Professor of Midwifery, Dublin, Ireland.
Morgagni, Giovanni Battista (1682–1771), Professor of Anatomy, Padua, Italy.
Morison, James Rutherford (1853–1939), Professor of Surgery, University of Durham, Durham, UK.
Murphy, John Benjamin (1857–1916), Professor of Surgery, North Western University, Chicago, IL, USA.
Neelson, Friedrich Karl Adolf (1854–1894), Professor of Pathology in Rostock, later Prosector in the State Hospital, Dresden, Germany.
Nonne, Max (1861–1959), neurologist, Hamburg, Germany.
Nuck, Anton (1650–1692), Professor of Anatomy and Medicine, Leiden, the Netherlands.
Oddi, Ruggero (1864–1913), surgeon, Genoa, Italy; he identified the sphincter while a medical student in Perugia, Italy. The sphincter was first described in 1654 by Francis Glisson (1597–1677), Regius Professor of Physic, Cambridge, UK.
Ogilvie, William Heneage (1887–1971), surgeon, Guy’s Hospital, London, UK.
Osler, William (1849–1919), Professor of Medicine, successively at McGill University, Montreal, Canada; Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, USA; and the University of Oxford, Oxford, UK.
Paget, James (1814–1899), surgeon, St Bartholomew’s Hospital, London, UK. He also described diseases of the bone and penis, and discovered the parasite of trichinosis in humans while a first-year medical student.
Pancoast, Henry (1875–1939), Professor of Radiology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, USA.
Parks, Alan (1920–1982), surgeon, St Mark’s Hospital, London, UK.
Paterson, Donald Ross (1863–1939), ENT surgeon, Royal Infirmary, Cardiff, UK.
Paul, Frank Thomas (1851–1941), surgeon, Liverpool Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, UK.
Pemberton, Hugh Spear (1890–1956), physician, Liverpool, UK.
Peutz, Johannes (1886–1957), physician, the Hague, the Netherlands.
Peyer, Johann (1653–1712), anatomist, Schaffhausen, Switzerland.
Plummer, Henry Strong (1874–1937), physician, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN, USA.
Polya, Eugen Alexander (1876–1944), surgeon, St Stephen's Hospital, Budapest, Hungary.
Pott, Percival (1714–1788), surgeon, St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, UK.
Puestow, Charles (1902–1973), Professor of Surgery, College of Medicine, University of Illinois, Chicago, IL, USA.
Queckenstedt, Hans Heinrich (1876–1918), physician, Leipzig, Germany. He described his test while serving in the German Army; he was killed accidentally 2 days before the Armistice.
Ramstedt, Conrad (1867–1963), surgeon, Munster, Germany.
Ranvier, Louis (1835–1922), Professor of Histology, Paris, France.
Rathke, Martin Heinrich (1793–1860), Professor of Anatomy, Konigsberg, Germany. Gave an early description of the pituitary gland in 1838.
Raynaud, Maurice (1834–1881), physician, Paris, France.
Reiter, Hans C.J. (1881–1969), German bacteriologist, who described the syndrome in a fellow officer while serving as a doctor in the Great War.
Rendu, Henri (1844–1902), physician, Necker Hospital, Paris, France.
Richter, August Gottlieb (1742–1842), surgeon, Göttingen, Germany.
Riedel, Bernhard (1846–1916), Professor of Surgery, Jena, Germany. Also described Riedel's thyroiditis.
Ringer, Sydney (1834–1910), Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics, University College Hospital, London, and formerly also physician at Great Ormond Street, London.
Roux, Cesar (1857–1934), Professor of Surgery, Lausanne, Switzerland.
Santorini, Giovanni Domenico (1681–1737), Professor of Anatomy and Medicine, Venice, Italy.
Schatzki, Richard (1901–1992), radiologist, Boston, MA, USA. Described a circumferential ring of mucosal tissue in the distal oesophagus.
Schwann, Theodor (1810–1882), Professor of Anatomy, Louvain and then Liège, Belgium. He was one of the first to establish the cellular nature of all tissues.
Sengstaken, Robert (1923–1978), neurosurgeon, New York, USA.
Shouldice, Edward Earle (1890–1965), surgeon, Toronto, Canada.
Spiegel, Adriaan van den (Spigelius) (1578–1625), Professor of Anatomy and Surgery, Padua, Italy.
Starling, Ernest Henry (1866–1927), Professor of Physiology, University College, London, UK. Described capillary flow dynamics and discovered secretin (with Bayliss).
Stensen, Niels (1638–1686), Professor of Anatomy, University of Copenhagen, Denmark. Gave up his Chair in 1669 to become a bishop.
Stent, Charles (1845–1901), English dentist.
Stokes, William (1804–1878), physician, Meath Hospital, Dublin, Ireland.
Stryker, Homer (1894–1980), orthopaedic surgeon, Stryker Corporation, Kalamazoo, MI, USA.
Sturge, William Allen (1850–1919), physician, Royal Free Hospital, London, UK.
Swan, Harold James Charles ('Jeremy') (1922–2005), cardiologist, Cedars of Lebanon Hospital, Los Angeles, CA, USA.
Sydenham, Thomas (1624–1689). After serving under Cromwell in the Civil War, he became a distinguished London physician.
Sylvius, Franciscus (1614–1672), Professor of Medicine, Leiden, the Netherlands.
Thiersch, Karl (1822–1895), Professor of Surgery, Erlangen then Leipzig, Germany. Devised the split skin graft.
Tietze, Alexander (1864–1927), surgeon, Breslau, Germany.
Trénaunay, Paul (b. 1875), French neurologist; see Klippel.
Trendelenburg, Friedrich (1844–1924), Professor of Surgery, successively at Rostock, Bonn and Leipzig, Germany.
Troisier, Charles Émile (1844–1919), Professor of Pathology, Paris, France.
Trousseau, Armand (1801–1867), physician, Hôpital Necker, Hôpital St Antoine and Hôpital Dieu, Paris, France. Noted thrombophlebitis in himself as confirmation of his own gastric cancer. Also described carpopedal spasm in hypocalcaemic tetany.
Turner, Henry Hubert (1892–1970), endocrinologist and Professor of Medicine, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK, USA.
Vater, Abraham (1648–1751), Professor of Anatomy, Wittenberg, Germany.
Vinson, Porter Paisley (1890–1959), physician, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN, USA.
Virchow, Rudolf Ludwig Karl (1821–1902), Professor of Pathology in Würzburg and later Berlin, Germany.
Volkman, Richard von (1830–1889), Professor of Surgery, Halle, Germany.
von Hippel, Eugen (1867–1939), Professor of Ophthalmology, Göttingen, Germany.
von Recklinghausen, Friederich Daniel (1833–1910), Professor of Pathology, successively at Königsberg, Germany; Würzburg, Germany; and Strasbourg, France. He also described neurofibromatosis.
Waller, Augustus (1816–1870), a general practitioner in London, UK, for 10 years before working as a physiologist in Bonn, Germany, Paris, France, and Birmingham, UK.
Warren, J. Robin (b. 1937), pathologist, Royal Perth Hospital, Australia; see Marshall.
Warthin, Aldred Scott (1866–1931), Professor of Pathology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA.
Wegener, Friederich (1907–1990), German pathologist.
Weil, Adolf (1848–1916), Professor of Medicine, Berlin, Germany.
Weiss, Soma (1898–1942), Professor of Medicine, Harvard University, Boston, MA, USA.
Wharton, Thomas (1614–1673), physician, St Thomas’s Hospital, London, UK.
Whipple, Allen Oldfather (1881–1963), Professor of Surgery, Columbia University, New York, USA. He described both the triad of diagnostic features of an insulinoma and the operation for carcinoma of the head of the pancreas.
Willis, Thomas (1621–1675), physician and anatomist, first in Oxford and then in London, UK.
Wils, Max (1867–1918), Professor of Surgery, first in Basle, Switzerland, and then in Heidelberg, Germany.
Wilson, Samuel A. Kinnier (1877–1937), neurologist, Hospital for Nervous Diseases, London, UK.
Winslow, Jacob (1669–1760), Danish; became Professor of Anatomy and Surgery in Paris, France.
Wirsung, Johann Georg (1589–1643), Professor of Anatomy, University of Padua, Italy, where he was murdered.
Wolff, Kaspar Friedrich (1733–1794), born in Berlin, Germany; Professor of Anatomy, St Petersburg, Russia.
Zadik, Frank Raphael (1914–1995), orthopaedic surgeon, Leigh and Wigan, UK.
Ziehl, Franz Heinrich Paul (1825–1898), neurologist, Lübeck, Germany.
Zollinger, Robert Milton (1903–1992), Professor of Surgery, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA.
Zuckerkanl, Emil (1849–1910), Professor of Anatomy in Graz, and later Vienna, Austria. The organ he described is important in the regulation of blood pressure in early fetal life, but regresses in the third trimester. It is composed of cells of neural crest origin and its remnant typically lies near the aortic bifurcation or inferior mesenteric artery.