

History of National Jewish Health

Science Transforming Life®



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National Jewish Health



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Frances Wisebart Jacobs

- Born Frances Wisebart on March 29th, 1843 in Harrodsburg, Kentucky
- Francis was a schoolteacher in Cincinnati, Ohio until she married Abraham Jacobs on February 18th, 1863.



- They traveled by wagon to Denver in 1870 where her husband and her brother opened businesses in Denver and Central City

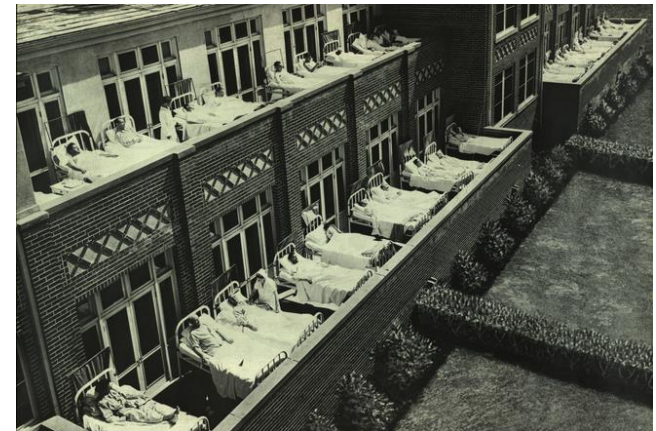
Frances Wisebart Jacobs

- Frances was involved in charitable activities in Denver and was nationally recognized as the “Mother of Charities”.
 - Quote from Rocky Mountain News, August 27, 1988 “ I know that whenever women lead in good work, men will follow
- Accomplishments
 - Organized and was president of the Hebrew Ladies’ Benevolent Society
 - Helped found the non-sectarian Denver Ladies’ Relief Society
 - Founded the first Free Kindergarten in Denver
 - Founded the Charitable Organization Society
 - One of 16 “Pioneers” of Colorado (and the only women) honored with a stained glass portrait in the Colorado State Capitol (1900)
 - Inducted into National Women’s Hall of Fame in 1994



TB in Colorado

- By 1880, Denver had earned the nickname of the “World’s Sanitorium”
- By 1900, “one-third of Colorado’s population were residents of the state because of tuberculosis”
- Sanatorium Movement – Sunshine, low humidity, high altitude all considered restorative for TB patients
- Colorado had several sanitoriums:
 - Swedish National,
 - Evangelical Lutheran,
 - St. Anthony,
 - Jewish Consumptive Relief Society



Frances Wisebart Jacobs

- Frances was known to provide care to the poorest patients who often congregated in less desirable areas of town
- She found support from the Jewish Community to plan, fund, and build a nonsectarian TB hospital
- Hospital completed in 1893, one year after her death from pneumonia, but because of a national recession remained empty



Frances Wisebart Jacobs

- Rabbi William S. Friedman and Louis Anfenger convinced the B'nai B'rith Organization to fund the hospital which opened in 1899
- Alberta Hensen, a young Swedish woman from Minnesota was the first patient admitted on December 10th, 1889



“None May Enter Who Can Pay, None Can Pay Who Enter”

B'Nai B'Rith Building

- By 1921, the death rate from TB in the US was 99/100,000 but there were only 58,000 beds in TB hospitals and sanitoriums.
- Around that time NJH admitted 213 patients per year in its 185 beds (avg. length of stay was 7 months). Plus 117 outpatients for a total of 330 patients
- By 1925, NJH had treated 4511 patients of which 2200 were Russian Immigrants
- That year, construction began on the B'nai B'rith building and finished in 1926 adding 100 beds for a total of 285



A Focus on Children

- In 1907, the Denver Sheltering Home was founded to house children "orphaned" by tuberculosis
- Hofheimer Preventorium
 - Opened in 1920 with the aim of helping healthy children remain healthy
 - Also treated children with non-infectious forms of TB
 - Closed in 1942 having cared for 730 children in its 22 years of existence
- 1932, an in-house school was started
- 1939, a long-term residential treatment program for asthmatic children began



The Name Has Changed...

- 1893: Frances Jacobs Hospital for Consumptives
- 1899: The National Jewish Hospital for Consumptives
- 1925: National Jewish Hospital at Denver
- 1965: National Jewish Hospital and Research Center
- 1978: National Jewish Hospital/National Asthma Center
- 1985: National Jewish Center for Immunology and Respiratory Medicine
- 1997: National Jewish Medical and Research Center
- 2008: National Jewish Health

- 1919 – National Jewish established a research department to find a cure for TB – Directed by Harry J. Corper, MD
- Dr. Corper developed a potatoe agar to grow *M. tuberculosis* and researched host immunity and microbial pathogenesis
- Dr. Gardner Middlebrook, MD succeeded Dr. Corper in 1951 and described how some patients “inactivate” INH, how dosages should be determined individually, and liquid culture systems (BACTEC 460)



Mycobacterial Clinical Service

- Adult Day Unit (ADU) – Admits approximately 500 patients per year with mycobacterial and respiratory infections
- Outpatient Clinics – Over 4500 encounters annually and increasing
- Reference Laboratories:
 - Mycobacterial Reference Laboratory (Max Salfinger)
 - Molecular Diagnostic Laboratory (Sara Dirscherl)
 - Pharmacokinetics Laboratory (Max Salfinger)
- Expanding to Respiratory Institute at Mt. Sinai in NYC

Mycobacterial Education

- Denver TB Course
 - Began in 1963 and celebrated its 50th year in 2013
 - Has trained over 5000 individuals
- National Jewish NTM Course
 - For providers (October 18-19, 2017)
 - For patients (October 20, 2017)
- Rotating Fellowship – Host a pulmonary or infectious diseases fellow each month (stipend of \$2300)
- Lowerre Fellowship – Endowed fellowship to recruit and train physicians in mycobacterial infections

Past and Present Faculty

- Harry Corper
- Gardner Middlebrook
- Mayer Goren
- Maurice Cohn
- Paul Davidson
- Thomas Moulding
- Werner Schaefer
- Kenneth McClatchy
- Marian Goble
- Patrick Brennan
- Pattisapu Gangadharam
- Leonid Heifets
- Jim Cook
- Scott Worthen
- Chuck Peloquin
- Carlos Perez-Velez
- Preveen Ramamoorthy
- Chris Czaja
- Ken Lichtenstein, MD
- Michael Iseman, MD
- **Gwen Huitt, MD, Ms**
- **Charles Daley, MD**
- **Ed Chan, MD**
- **Wendi Drummond, DO, MPH**
- **Shannon Kasperbauer, MD**
- **Max Salfinger, MD**
- **Nick Walters, MD, MPH**
- **Michael Strong, PhD**
- **Rebecca Davidson, PhD**