

Journey of Pediatrics

The journey of paediatrics starts from Vedas time. All ancient works has proven that the concept of paediatrics was there. But because of lack of documentation in our country, we can not prove it. That's why we consider paediatrics as a young faculty medical branch.

In ancient India -6th century Kshyapa rishi and his student Jeevaka has done pioneering work on children care and childhood diseases.

The first manuscript on the management of children were written in their book of Kasha yap samhita. Writings of these book are still useful in modern concepts of child health.¹

After Kashia and Jeevaka in 800-400 B.C. Sushruta has done written many aspects of child rearing such as infant feeding, viral fever, liver diseases etc. He is called as INDIAN HIPPOCRATE.^{2,3}



In 300 B.C. **Charka** was the great contributor in Ayurveda. He has written CHARAKSAMHITA. He was the first physician to demonstrate the concept of digestion, immunity, anatomy and genetics.^{2,3}

In 460 B.C.-370 B.C. an ancient Greek physician **HIPPOCRATE** has worked extensively in the field of medicine. Regarding pediatrics, clubbing of fingers in a patient with Eisenmengers syndrome, first time described



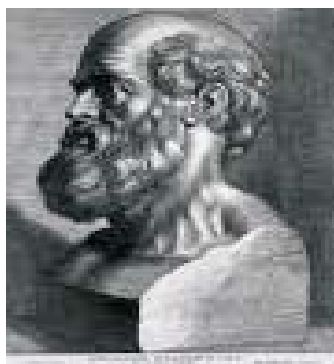
Author's Affiliations: M.D. (Paediatrics), Professor and Head, Dept. of Paediatrics, Padmashree Dr. Vikhe Patil Memorial Medical College, Ahmednagar (Maharashtra).

Reprints Request: Dr. Sunil Mhaske, M.D. (Paediatrics)
Professor and Head, Dept. of Paediatrics, Padmashree Dr. Vikhe Patil Memorial Medical College, Ahmednagar (Maharashtra), MO-9371588309

E-mail: sunilmhaske@rocketmail.com.

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by Hippocrates, so this clubbing is also known as "Hippocratic fingers. Hippocrates and his followers were first to describe many diseases and medical conditions in children like cyanotic heart disease. Hippocrates was also the first physician to describe Hippocratic face. He had devoted a great part of his life to treatise to children and made significant observations found in children.⁴



Galen (A.D.129-217) from Bergama, now a days called as Turkey, was a prenyscien, who studied paediatrics extensively and wrote on care of infant and child.⁵



Muhammad bin Zakariya razi-(Rhazes/Rasis)- He was among the first to distinguish one contagious disease from another, particularly, smallpox and measles.

He was the chief physician of Rey and Baghdad hospitals. Razi invented what today is known as rubbing alcohol. He is also called as the father of pediatrics.⁶



Soraneus (Second century A.D.) from Greece, He wrote the first known manuscript devoted to pediatrics. He described fingernail test for breast milk quality- if the droplet clings to the nail, it contains sufficient fat, if not, it is watery.⁷

First printed book on pediatrics was written by Italian writer Bagllerder - "Little Book on diseases in children."¹⁴⁷²

First English book on pediatrics written by-Thomas phaer -"Book of children",in A.D.-1545.

Hieronymus wrote the first important printed book about children in 1583.

Abraham Jacobi - (May 6, 1830 - July 10, 1919)-He was the pioneer of pediatrics in America. He received M.D. degree in 1851 and started job in New York Medical College, as a professor of childhood diseases. From 1867 to 1870, he was chair of the medical department of the City University of New York. He taught at Columbia University from 1870 to 1902. He later moved to Mount Sinai Hospital, where he established the first Department of Pediatrics at a general hospital. He was a pioneer of pediatrics, opening the first children's clinic in the United States.⁸



Historically the first pediatric hospital in the world

Hospital Necker - Enfants Malades
(*Necker Hospital - Hospital for sick children*)

Is a French teaching hospital, located in Paris, France.



First pediatric hospital in London

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children: A medical institution specializing in the care of children. It was founded in London in 1852 as the Hospital for Sick Children, making it the first hospital providing in-patient beds specifically for children in the English-speaking world.



One of the largest and oldest children's hospitals in the world

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia: This has been ranked as the best children's hospital in the United States. A Philadelphia physician, Dr. Francis West Lewis, inspired by a visit to the new Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children in London (founded

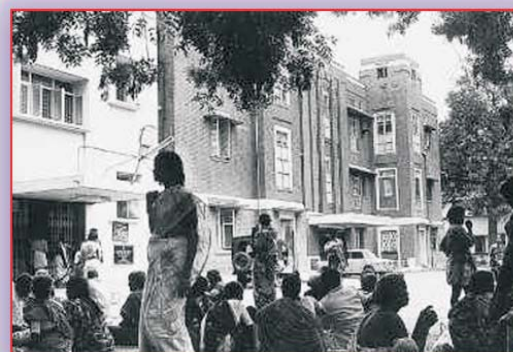
1852), along with Drs. T. Hewson Bache and R.A.F. Penrose to found the first children's hospital in North America.



First children's hospital in India

Pediatrics made a beginning in Mumbai in 1928, when **Dr George Coelho**, rightly called the Father of Indian Pediatrics, became the Superintendent of the BJ Hospital for Children -the first children's hospital in India. He remained the head of the department of Pediatrics till 1953. In 1929, Bai Jerbai Wadia Hospital for Children became a separate independent children's hospital.

Dr George Coelho started independent research and services in 1928. The postgraduate course for diploma in child health was started at **BJ Hospital and Bai Jerbai Wadia hospital** for children in 1944 and the University of Bombay in 1946. Many of the senior pediatricians of today in the country worked at the BJ Hospital for children under the leadership of Dr George Coelho. He edited the Indian Journal of Child Health from 1952 to 1959.



In India, prior to 1948, there was no pediatric department as such and the children were treated by general physicians. In 1948, the first pediatric department of Tamil Nadu was created in the Government General Hospital, Madras by **Dr.S.T.Achar**. He was appointed as Professor of Pediatrics of Madras Medical College. Initially this hospital has only 28 beds. Since 1949 department started attracting a number of medical graduates. They joined the Pediatric Department as voluntary postgraduates in order to get training in Pediatrics – first of its kind in our country.⁹



DR.K.C. CHAUDHARI - From Calcutta, has established a private institute of child health in Calcutta. Then he became the first director of same institute. He founded the first independent pediatrics journal -THE INDIAN JOURNAL OF PAEDIATRICS, in Calcutta in 1933. He also founded INDIAN PAEDIATRICS SOCIETY in 1946.¹⁰



The Association of Pediatrics of India started in 1950 in Bombay by Dr. George Coelho. Dr. Chaudhuri on the other hand started -The Indian Pediatric Society.

A joint committee was set up to formulate proposals to achieve merging of these two associations. The members of the committee were Dr. S.K. Bose, Dr. H. Chandra, Dr SP Ghosal, Dr. S.S. Manchanda, Dr. B.D. Patel, Dr. P. Tirumala Rao, Dr. Shantilal C. Seth, Dr. P.N. Taneja, Dr. P.M. Udani and Dr. J.K.G. Webb. The committee held its first meeting at Hyderabad in March 1962. Dr Sisir K Bose was elected its Convener. The committee laid down the principles on which the new body to be called the "Indian Academy of Pediatrics" would be constituted. The Secretaries of the two existing bodies, Dr. S.P. Ghosal and Dr. B.D. Patel were called upon to draw detailed proposals regarding the constitution of the proposed "Indian Academy of Pediatrics".

The joint committee held its second meeting on the eve of the joint Hyderabad conference of the two bodies in 1963. .

The Indian Pediatric Society and the Association of Pediatricians of India then jointly decided to form the Indian Academy of Pediatrics as the single representative body of Pediatricians of India and the first National Conference of the Indian Academy of Pediatrics was held in Pune in 1964. The official journal of the IAP - Indian Pediatrics, incorporated the Indian Journal of Child Health and the Journal of the Indian Pediatric Society; commenced publication in January 1964 from Calcutta. The central office of the Indian Academy of Pediatrics was established in Mumbai.¹¹

Indian Academy of Pediatrics

The Indian Academy of Pediatrics was established in 1962, in Patna, Bihar, with less

than 100 pediatricians as its members. It has State, District, and City level branch.

The IAP is the unique association of pediatricians in India. The association has been able to maintain unity among its members.

One of the major activities undertaken by the IAP since its inception has been to organize Continuing Medical Education (CME) programs by holding conferences, symposia, lectures and other meets all over the country.

IAP head office is in Mumbai while Delhi is the seat of its official publication - Indian Pediatrics, an indexed journal. A more recent journal - Practical Pediatrics - is published from Chennai.¹¹

Emergency paediatrics



Save lives in golden hours

This very important sentence regarding emergencies in any age group. The children are always in top priorities in emergencies. Unfortunately there is no separate treating department or teaching curriculum in pediatrics. Since ancient time the pediatric emergencies are changing or sometimes added like-home deliveries, tetanus, asphyxia, drowning, accidental poisoning, roadside accidents, infectious diseases, suicides, burns etc. Since now a days because of C.M.E.s, Workshops, informative Journals most of the pediatricians are updated with knowledge of EMERGENCY PAEDIATRICS. But as such it is the new specialty Medical Council of India, should give emphasis on such subject to undergraduates as well as postgraduate

student. EMERGENCY PAEDIATRICS is the emerging branch of medical field not only in India but all over the world.¹²

Pediatrics as a separate teaching subject

1948-First chair of pediatrics.

1955-Medical education conference recommended reconstructing pediatric sub.

1956-Recommended pediatrics as a separate subject.

1966-M.C.I. accepted pediatric as a separate teaching subject.

1976-M.C.I.-all universities-separate teaching subject.

1993-Paediatrics as separate teaching subject started.

Dr. Raghunandan V. Sanzgiri, along with Dr. Coelho, started the DCH course at the CPS

(1944) and later MD in Paediatrics at the University of Bombay. To generate and keep up the interest in Paediatrics, he started the programme of rotating clinical meetings in various hospitals in 1946 and these are being held to this day. He was the main force behind the 'Indian Journal of Child Health'. In 1963.

Harish Chandra organised the national conference which helped in the amalgamation of the two independent associations of Pediatricians mentioned above. He started the MD degree course at the Somalia University at 'Institute of Pediatrics', Niloufer Hospital, Hyderabad which was followed by postgraduate courses in Pediatric Surgery (1977).¹¹

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