

Columbia University Health Sciences Library, Archives & Special Collections

Babies Hospital Patient Records

BABIES HOSPITAL (NEW YORK, N.Y.)

Patient records, 1889-1929.

5 cubic feet (8 volumes and 3 record cartons)

HISTORICAL NOTE: Babies Hospital was founded in 1887 by five women to provide “medical and surgical aid and nursing for sick babies.” It was the first hospital in the country solely devoted to the care of children under the age of three and became one of the leading US centers of the emerging medical specialty of pediatrics. During this period its medical directors were L. Emmett Holt (1888-1924) and Herbert B. Wilcox, Sr. (1924-1930).

Babies Hospital affiliated with Presbyterian Hospital in 1925. It moved from its original location at Lexington Avenue and East 55th Street in 1929 to occupy its own building on the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center campus in the Washington Heights neighborhood of Manhattan. In 1943, it merged with Presbyterian but retained its name. It was later called Babies and Children’s Hospital and since 2003 has been known as Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital of New York. It also serves as the department of pediatrics of the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.

ORGANIZATION: By case number in rough chronological order, with separate case number series for outpatients and private patients.

SCOPE AND CONTENT: An incomplete set of medical records of children seen at Babies Hospital, 1889-1929. Content varies over time but usually includes patient name, age, sex, address; medical history; description of complaint; diagnosis; treatment; and result. Later records may include temperature charts, and laboratory and radiology reports. From 1929, Babies Hospital’s patient records were interfiled with those of Presbyterian Hospital.

ACCESS: Because the papers include Confidential Health Information (CHI) as defined by Columbia University policies governing data security and privacy, access is allowed only under the terms of Archives and Special Collections’ [Access Policy to Records Containing Confidential Health Information](#).

Boxes 1-3 are stored off-site and will take 1-2 days to retrieve. Researchers must call in advance to use the collection.

PROVENANCE: Gift of the New York-Presbyterian Hospital, Dept. of Health Information Management, 2000 (acc. no. 2000.08.24).

SUBJECTS

Babies Hospital (New York, N.Y.)

Children – Diseases.

Children – Medical care.

Children – Hospitals – New York (State) – New York.

Pediatrics – Practice – United States.

Babies and Children's Hospital (New York, N.Y.)

Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital of New York.

Processed by Henry Blanco; finding aid written by Stephen Novak, 2006.

**Babies Hospital
Patient Records, 1889-1929**

Original Vol. No.	Case Nos.	Dates
Vol. 1	1-249	Aug. 1889 – Nov. 1890
Vol. 2	250-500	Nov. 1890 – Dec. 1891
Vol. 5	1001-1390	Dec. 1893 – Feb. 1895
Vol. 8	1801-2029	March – Nov. 1896
Vol. 10	2201-2500	April 1897 – Feb. 1898
Vol. 12	2801-3100	Nov. 1898 – Nov. 1899
Vol. 14	3400-3649	Aug. 1900 – March 1901
Vol. 17	4000-4200	Jan. 1901 – Nov. 1902

Box	Case Nos.	Dates
1	467-8775	May 1907 – May 1914
2	26230-28661	June 1925 – Nov. 1926
3	[Outpatient Department] Private Patients	2-58962 PP2-PP866 Jan. 1917 – June 1929 Jan. 1901 – Mar. 1925