Cancer "cures" collection

Pam Coll 10

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2017

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Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Medical Historical Library, Harvey Cushing / John Hay Whitney Medical Library
Yale University
333 Cedar St.
New Haven, CT 06520-8014
historical.library@yale.edu
http://historical.medicine.yale.edu/

**CALL NUMBER:** Pam Coll 10

**TITLE:** Cancer “cures” collection

**DATES:** 1900–1954

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1 box

**LANGUAGE:** In English.

**SUMMARY:** Collection consists of pamphlets and books by individuals, private cancer hospitals, and other organizations promoting non-surgical cures for cancer. The American Medical Association claimed that any such cures were fakes. The promoters in turn criticized the AMA as the “medical trust.” Most of the pamphlets contain patient testimonials. Approximate dates for items are based on the date of the most recent testimonials.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/med.pam.0010

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/med.pam.0010.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

**Immediate Source of Acquisition**


**Conditions Governing Access**

Materials are available for research. Yale does not own copyright.
Related Materials

There are additional advertisements for cancer cures in the William Helfand Collection of Medical Ephemera (Pam Coll 8), Album 2. See also Harry M. Hoxsey, *How Dr. Hoxsey wins and loses* (Wichita, Kansas, 1956). Hoxsey was a notorious promotor of a cancer cure. The pamphlet is about court cases against him.

Arrangement

Single series arranged by last name of individual or corporate name.
### Collection Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</table>
| b. 1, f. 1 | American Medical Association, *Cancer Cure Fakes*  
The subtitle is “Eight Concerns Against Which the United States Post-Office Has Issued Fraud Orders.” Chapters on various supposed non-surgical cures. The AMA claimed any “cure” by medication alone was quackery. | ca. 1909 |
| b. 1, f. 2 | Norman Baker, Muscatine, Iowa  
Two issues of *TNT Magazine* published by Norman Baker. TNT stood for “The Naked Truth”. Issues contain articles on the validity of Baker’s cancer treatments, on the corrupt “medical trust,” and other polemics. | 1927–1930 |
| b. 1, f. 3 | Baker Hospital/ Norman Baker, Eureka Springs, Arkansas  
Pamphlet on Baker Hospital titled *Where Sick Folks Get Well: Without Operation, Radium, or X-ray*, published by Norman Baker, Inc. The hospital was “owned and operated by Norman Baker.” Baker did not have a medical degree. | 1939 |
| b. 1, f. 4 | Cherokee Sanitarium/ Dr. R. C. Seaman, Cherokee, Iowa  
Pamphlet by R. C. Seaman, *Liquid Escharotic with Combinations for the Proper Treatment of Cancers, Tumors, Ulcers, Lupus and Abnormal Growths Without Chloroform or Ether*. Cover title is *Cancer Can Be Cured*. | ca. 1914 |
| b. 1, f. 5 | Indianapolis Cancer Hospital/ Dr. Chas. C. Root and Dr. Chas. A. McNeill  
Pamphlet about the hospital with cover title, *Information and Evidence*. | ca. 1925 |
| b. 1, f. 6 | The Industrial Clinic/ George Franklin Smith, Bicknell, Indiana  
*A Successful Cure for Cancer* by George Franklin Smith, Ph.D., M.D. | ca. 1934 |
| b. 1, f. 7 | Krebiozen Research Foundation, Chicago  
*Report on Krebiozen, an Agent for the Treatment of Cancer*. The pamphlet discusses research on Krebiozen from 1951 to 1954. The Medical Historical Library has a large Krebiozen collection. | 1954 |
| b. 1, f. 8 | Dr. L. T. Leach/ Park View Sanatorium, Indianapolis  
L. T. Leach, M.D., *Facts About Cancer*. Leon T. Leach had received a patent for Cancerol in 1905. Leach is criticized in the AMA pamphlet in Folder 1. | 1905 |
| b. 1, f. 9 | The Mason Cancer Institute, New York  
Abbot Myron Mason Chemical Co., *Cancers, Tumors and the Malignant Blood Disorders and their Successful Cure by the Vitalia System of Treatment*, 18th revised edition. Cover page title is “The Scientific Cure of...Cancer, Tumors, Scrofula and all Malignant Blood Disorders by the Mason Cancer Institute.” | ca. 1900 |
| b. 1, f. 10 | The Dr. Nichols Sanatorium/ Perry Nichols  
*The Value of Escharotics, Medicines Which Will Destroy any Living or Fungus Tissue in the Treatment of Cancer, Lupus, Sarcoma, and Any Other Form of Malignancy*. Perry Nichols, B.S., M.D., was formerly Professor of Malignant Diseases in the Lincoln Medical College, Lincoln, Nebraska. Later versions of this book can be found through the online catalog of Yale University.  
Soft leather-bound book with cover in relief illustrating the Sanatorium. | 1928 |
| b. 1, f. 11 | H. C. Southworth, M.D., Binghamton, N.Y.  
H. C. Southworth, *What Others Say... A Permanent Cure*. | ca. 1916 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>b. 1, f. 12</th>
<th>William Hoare Tomlinson, London</th>
<th>1932</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 13</td>
<td>Williams Sanatorium/ Dr. Boyd T. Williams, Minneapolis</td>
<td>1931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boyd T. Williams, <em>The Williams Treatment for Cancer</em>. A tipped-in page notes that the Sanatorium had moved to Hudson, Wisconsin.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects
Cancer
Cancer -- Hospitals
Cancer -- Treatment
Krebiozen
Quacks and quackery

Genres / Formats
Advertisements -- Medicine
Pamphlets

Preferred Titles
Cancer cure fakes
Cancer profiteers : suppression of truth
Facts about cancer
Liquid escharotic with combinations for the proper treatment of cancers, tumors, ulcers, lupus and abnormal growths without chloroform or ether
Successful cure for cancer
TNT Magazine
Value of escharotics

Names
Baker, Norman, 1882-1958
Helfand, William H.
Leach, Leon T.
Mason, Abbott Myron
McNeill, Charles A.
Nichols, Perry, 1863-1925
Root, Charles C.
Seaman, R. C., 1878-
Smith, G. F. (George Franklin)
Southworth, H. C.
Tomlinson, William Hoare
Williams, Boyd T.

Corporate Bodies
Abbott Myron Mason Chemical Co
American Medical Association
Baker Hospital (Eureka Springs, Ark.)
Cherokee Sanitarium (Cherokee, Iowa)

Dr. Nichols Sanatorium (Savannah, Mo.)
Indianapolis Cancer Hospital
Industrial Clinic (New York, N.Y.)
Krebiozen Research Foundation (Chicago, Ill.)
Mason Cancer Institute (New York, N.Y.)
Park View Sanatorium (Indianapolis, Ind.)
Williams Sanatorium, Inc. (Minneapolis, Minn.)