Thanks to the efforts of some very determined women, the first training field of ophthalmology. In 1969, she founded the first full-time retinal specialist and a pioneer in the field.

By 1957, Alice McPherson, MD, became the world's first state medical organization to include a women's section. Texas claims the honor of having the first state medical organization to include a women's section.

Violet Keiller, MD's father was the first anatomy professor at Galveston's John Sealy Hospital. Dr. Bonnet, MD, the first female resident of Texas, arriving in Galveston in 1910.

Black nurse tending the sick at a contagion ward, we can't wait for things to happen. We must make them happen.

Women in Texas Medicine

In the early days, women choosing a career in medicine had to overcome many of the same difficulties as men, but had the additional obstacle of gender bias. Most paid little attention to this prejudice and found strength in themselves and a desire to improve the world by tending to the sick and injured. These women had a passion for healing.

Many of these women have been “first” in some way. Some were native Texans, some from other countries, but the contributions made by all of these women make them true women pioneers in Texas medicine.