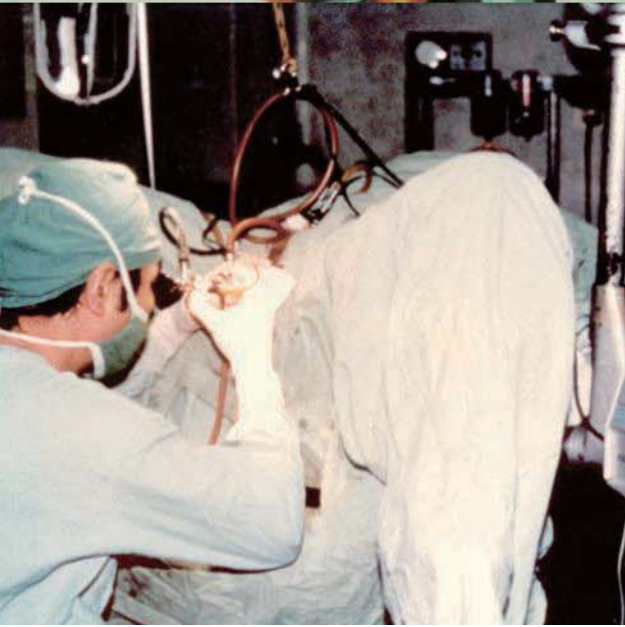




- 1958 ▶ Taiwan Veterans General Hospital was founded(Fig 1), and in 1988 renamed Taipei Veterans General Hospital.
- 1959 ▶ The hospital was appointed as teaching hospital for National Defense Medical Center.
- 1960 ▶ CVS accomplished the first successful case of open heart surgery under direct visualization in Taiwan(Fig 2).
 - The first Cobalt-60 and Se-137 radiation apparatuses in Taiwan were put into service(Fig 3).
- 1961 ▶ Penetrating keratoplasty was first operated on in Taiwan with success.
- 1964 ▶ Medical Research Department(Fig 4), as the first hospital-affiliated one in Taiwan, was established.
- 1967 ▶ Hemodialysis therapy was administrated for the first time in Taiwan in the patient with acute renal failure.
- 1970 ▶ The hospital established the first cancer registration and tracking system in Taiwan.
 - The hospital established the first nuclear medicine center in Taiwan
- 1972 ▶ Nuclear Medicine Center published a globally innovative method for diagnosis of liver diseases—intravenous injection of radioactive Indium-113m for perfusion scintigraphy.
- 1974 ▶ The first case of jejunoileal short-gut bypass surgery in Taiwan was performed with success. Three years later, the operated-on patient reduced his weight from 265kg to 93kg.
 - Center for Traditional Medicine pioneered to inaugurate acupuncture outpatient services.
- 1975 ▶ Obs & Gyn established the first Gynecological Cancer Prevention Task Force in Taiwan.
 - National Yang-Ming College of Medicine was inaugurated by the hands of Veterans General Hospital.
 - Psychiatry began the first Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Clinics in the country.
- 1976 ▶ The first argon laser in Taiwan was put into use.
 - Ophthalmology completed the first surgery of cataract extraction combined with an intraocular lens implantation in Taiwan.



- 1977 ►
 - Huei Chung Relief Foundation was founded to service impoverished patients.
 - The hospital was designated as teaching hospital for National Yang-Ming College of Medicine.
- 1978 ►
 - The invention of bowel irrigation to treat uremia became a milestone for dialysis therapy in developing countries.
 - Computer Center was established(Fig 5).
 - The first CT (computerized tomography) in Taiwan was put into service.
 - The hospital began its 10-year medical care aiding to Saudi Arabia.
- 1979 ►
 - The first ocular ultrasound machine in Taiwan was set into use for examination.
- 1980 ►
 - Family Medicine Department established the first Group Practice Center of Taiwan in Suhu Village, Yunlin County.
- 1981 ►
 - The first semen bank in South East Asia was established.
 - The first prenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome in Taiwan was made with amniotic fluid cell culture.
 - The first entirely computerized admission system in Taiwan was established.
 - Gastroenterology Division pioneered to undergo hepatitis B vaccine trial in neonates(Fig 6). Based on our results, the government started to implement the nation-wide vaccination project against HBV in 1974.
- 1982 ►
 - Taichung Branch was founded, and became independent as Taichung Veterans General Hospital in 1988.
 - Center for Traditional Medicine designed the disposable acupuncture needles and won Silver Medal Award in World Invention Display held in Brussels.
 - Taiwan's first case of ligament reconstruction and tendon interposition for treatment of carpometacarpal osteoarthritis in thumb was accomplished by Hand Surgery Division.
- 1983 ►
 - Cardiology Division successfully completed the first percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA) in Taiwan.
 - Urology Division invented a computer monitored resectoscopy for transurethral resection of prostate and took out international patent(Fig 7).
 - Chest Department set up the first sleep medicine laboratory in Taiwan for polysomnography examinations.
- 1984 ►
 - CAPD was introduced into Taiwan, providing a new option for treatment of chronic uremia.
 - Oncologists successfully completed allogenic bone marrow transplantation.
 - Neurosurgery succeeded in using the Caspar plate for anterior cervical fixation and inter-body bone fusion to treat cervical cord injury, which was the first in South East Asia.



- 1985 ▶
 - Fluid-gas exchange (FGE) was successfully used for treatment of macular hole complicated with retinal detachment.
 - Detachable balloon was first introduced to Taiwan for treatment of carotid cavernous fistula.
 - Reproductive Endocrinology Division midwived the first IVF (in vitro fertilization) baby of Taiwan(Fig 8).
 - The first extracorporeal shock wave lithotripter in Asia was installed(Fig 9).
 -
- 1986 ▶
 - Clinical Toxicology Division established the first Poison Control Center in Taiwan.
 - The first AIDS case in Taiwan was identified with successful isolation of HIV.
 - Nursing Department pioneered in Taiwan to change pediatric nurses' uniform from plain white to colored one.
- 1987 ▶
 - Cardiology Division completed the first case of radiofrequency catheter ablation (RFCA) for arrhythmia in Asia.
 - Radiology Department took the lead in the world to complete embolization through supra-orbital approach for a recurrent carotid-cavernous sinus fistula.
 - CVS completed the first cardiac transplantation sanctioned by DOH in Taiwan(Fig 10).
 - Neurosurgery set up the first epilepsy monitoring center, and completed the first adult epilepsy surgery in Taiwan.
- 1988 ▶
 - Orthopedics Department presented an innovative design that was new in Taiwan using cemented angle plate for treatment of intertrochanteric fracture.
 - Reconstructive & Plastic Surgery started to conduct transsexual surgery for idiopathic transsexualism patient.
 - ENT surgeons accomplished the first case of Utah-design, multi-channel cochlear implantation in Asia.
- 1989 ▶
 - CVS conducted the first case of cardiovascular laser therapy in Taiwan.
- 1990 ▶
 - Emergency Department launched the air-rescue transport system.
 - Kaohsiung branch was founded, and became independent as Kaohsiung Veterans General Hospital in 1993.
 - General Surgery Division completed the first partial liver transplant in Taiwan.
- 1991 ▶
 - Cardiology Division installed the first dual chamber pacemaker (DDDR) in Taiwan.
 - The first single lung transplant in Asia was performed.
 - Pediatric Neurosurgery performed the first selective dorsal rhizotomy in Taiwan for treatment of spastic cerebral palsy in a child with lower limb stiffness.
 - A child with inherited metabolic disease was treated with bone marrow transplant, the first case of this kind in Taiwan.



- 1992 ▶
 - The first laparoscopic nephrectomy in Asia was accomplished.
 - National PET/Cyclotron Center(Fig 11) was founded as the second after Japan in Asia.
 - VGH Management Information System was awarded as "Outstanding Information Applications and Products."
- 1993 ▶
 - Neurosurgery Department was the first one in South East Asia to introduce gamma-knife(Fig 12) to conduct intracranial cobalt-60 radio-surgery.
 - The first case of allogeneic bone marrow transplantation from non-relative in Taiwan was successfully performed.
 - Otorhinolaryngology Department pioneered in the world in laryngeal surgery under flexible videofiberscopic monitoring(Fig 13).
 - The first tobacco abstention clinics in Taiwan was opened.
- 1994 ▶
 - The first allogeneic peripheral blood stem cell transplantation in Taiwan was performed.
 - Cardiology Division pioneered in Taiwan to perform the stent deployment to cure coronary artery disease.
- 1995 ▶
 - The aseptic wards for radiation injury and bone marrow transplantation were opened.
 - The world's first unique molecular weight house-dust-mite (Dermatophagoides Farinar) allergen was identified. Three years later, in 1998, its amino acid sequence was defined.
- 1996 ▶
 - Neurosurgery Department made the first discovery in the world from animal tests that injured central or spinal cord nerve can be repaired.
 - CVS Division completed the first HeartMate LVAD (left ventricle assist device) implant surgery in South East Asia.
 - Telemedicine consultation system was established to reach Kinmen Hospital.
 - Our Network Neuro-image Application System was awarded as "Outstanding Information Applications and Products" of the year.
 - Ophthalmology Department introduced Taiwan's first Excimer laser machine for treatment of myopia.
- 1997 ▶
 - Nephrology Division published the first trial in the world using far infrared rays to improve blood flow and free flow in hemodialysis patients with arteriovenous fistula.
 - A new channel of toxication consultation service in Taiwan via automatic fax back system was built up.
 - The first lapa roscopic urethral reconstruction in Asia was accomplished.
 - Hospice Palliative Care Unit was launched(Fig 14).
 - Sr-89 chloride was introduced into Taiwan for palliative treatment of metastatic bone pain of terminal cancer patients.
 - Osteoarticular autografts from medial meniscus of the knee were introduced in Taiwan for therapy of chondral defect.
 - Chest Department developed the first rapid diagnostic method in Taiwan for detection of pulmonary tuberculosis.



- 1999 ▶
 - The Executive Yuan granted us the annual "Service Quality Award."
 - The first whole body ultra-high field 3T MRI system in Taiwan was installed(Fig 15).
 - Pediatrics Department successfully completed transcatheter closure of atrial septal defect with Amplatzer septal occluder device.
 - The first Joint Respiratory Intensive Care Unit of Chest Medicine & Surgery in Taiwan was inaugurated.
 - Taipei VGH joined the rescue actions heartily for the people injured by 921 Earthquake.

- 2000 ▶
 - The national on-line drug identification system was launched to provide the general public with 24-hour medication consultation services.
 - Taipei City Government entrusted Taipei VGH to run Taipei Municipal Gan-Dau Hospital.
 - The VGH-Yang Ming research team had completed the genomic sequencing of the entire human chromosome #4.
 - VGH-HT Imaging Center, our first joint venture to cooperate with industry, was inaugurated and introduced the first ultrafast 1.5T magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) in Asia.
 - CVS accomplished the first case of cryoablation surgery for ventricular arrhythmia accompanied with left ventricular aneurysm in Taiwan.
 - Dermatology Department worked out a new therapy for cutaneous amyloidosis with CO₂ laser.
 - The first multi-media electronic system with a clinical database in Taiwan was set up by working with Industrial Technology Research Institute to make on-line patient transfer and teaching.

- 2001 ▶
 - Taipei VGH was entrusted by DOH to run I-lan Hospital.

- 2002 ▶
 - The first neural regeneration ward in Taiwan was established to provide holistic care for spinal cord injuries(Fig 16).
 - The first Pediatric Neuro-Resuscitation Unit in Taiwan was established.

- 2003 ▶
 - Clinical Skill Resources Center was established as the first of its kind in Taiwan(Fig 17).
 - The PET Genetic Probe Core Lab, under the National Research Program for Genomic Medicine, was inaugurated.
 - In the national anti-SARS campaign, we made the records of having admitted the greatest number of SARS patients among Taiwan hospitals without causing any intra-hospital infection or necessitating campus blockade(Fig 18).
 - Film-less operation was implemented to make us the largest hospital in the world to go entirely film-less.
 - Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Department became the first lab in Taiwan accredited by CAP (College of American Pathologists).



- 2004 ➤ • The magnetoencephalographic study of brain dynamics of motor control in normal people and Parkinsonian patients was awarded by National Science Council as being research of excellence.
- 2005 ➤ • Orthopedics Department identified type II collagen gene variants as being a stimulator of inherited osteonecrosis of the femoral head.
- 2006 ➤ • Cardiology Division established the screening of familial hypercholesterolemia with genechip(Fig 19).
 - Pharmacy Department established a new website containing multidisciplinary subjects to provide electronic pharmaceutical services and drug information service.
 - Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology was established (Fig 20)to provide integrated healthcare services for aged people.
 - Neurosurgery succeeded in performing artificial disc replacement surgery for thoracic spine and nerve root decompression surgery.
 - CVS accomplished the first thoracic aortic aneurysm (TAA) stent graft implantation in Taiwan for treatment of dissecting aortic aneurysm.
- 2007 ➤ • Vertebral growing rod technique was first applied in Taiwan for treatment of congenital scoliosis in 2 children.
 - Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology presented the circle "Creating a New Century for the Aged" and won Golden Axe Award from Council for Economic Planning and Development, the Executive Yuan.
 - Taipei VGH got the first sanction among Taiwan hospitals to do human pancreas procurement and transplant exempt from DOH review.
 - CVS applied the Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD) implantation in a 5-year-old boy, the youngest case for that procedure in Asia.
- 2008 ➤ • Pediatrics Department worked out a treatment protocol for 6-PTPS deficiency with remarkable results highly recognized by experts worldwide.
 - General Surgery Division has proved via evidenced-based study that extended lymph node dissection for gastric cancer can provide better 5-year survival than conventional surgery.
- 2009 ➤ • Fabry disease was found to be one of the major causes of idiopathic hypertrophic cardiomyopathy in the Chinese and can be treated using enzyme replacement therapy.
 - CVS retrieved an egg-sized intracardiac calculus, the first case reported in the world, from an old man with Bikini-incision mini-invasive cardiac surgery.
 - Urology Division innovated the treatment for female patients with stress urinary incontinence and urethral diverticulum by simultaneous urethral diverticulectomy and suburethral synthetic mesh sling.
 - Completion of Medical Technology Building(Fig 21) strengthened our international competitiveness in doing medical research and innovation.



- 2010 ►
 - Orthopedic minimally invasive group was established to develop minimally invasive surgery, ranked highest in the world
 - The first to introduce 5-ALA as a fluorescent guided resection in taiwan.
 - Successfully completed the fist boron neutron capture and the treatment of recurrent head and neck cancer case in Southeast Asia and Taiwan.
 - Domestic first transcatheter aortic valve implantation success rate of 100%,which was the best performance in Asia.

- 2011 ►
 - Set up a "rare disease treatment study center " to provide rare disease patients with a full range of medical care quality(Fig 22) .
 - Lead in other major medical centers, taking use of da Vinci robotic arms open "chest",to lung cancer tumor resection.
 - Organized by the Ministry of Economic Affairs awarded the "Taiwan hundred excellent brand" selection activities healthcare category awards, won this award for the corporate brand which required to meet the "respectable", "trustworthy" and "popular" three elements.
 - As the goal of accelerating electronic medical records, inventing "the record-cum-surgery image capture integrated system", effectively enhance information management and medical quality management performance of surgical operations.
 - Under Gamma Knife medical team efforts over the past 20 years, our Gamma Knife treatment have been treated patients more than 5000 cases, and published more than 55 clinical studies in international medical journals, has led the Gamma Knife Center to become internationally recognized leading treatment center.
 - The completion of the first case of "auxiliary partial orthotopic liver transplantation," renewed the history of Taiwan's liver transplant.
 - In response to the coming of aging society in Taiwan, set up a "dementia research center" in order to help patients achieve the purpose of early diagnosis and therapy.
 - The new hospital hyperbaric oxygen therapy cabin of Siyuan Building enabled to provide patients with a comfortable therapeutic environment(Fig 23) .

- 2012 ►
 - The establishment of endoscopy diagnosis and treatment center integrated original dispersed subjects of the check endoscopy, colonoscopy, bronchoscopy and esophagoscopy, etc., to improve the quality of endoscopy treatment services(Fig 24) .
 - Our hospital has worked on the technology of stem cell and cancer stem cell isolation and culture , and established "resveratrol" to enhance the efficacy of radiation therapy in order to improve the cure rate of malignant Clinical Oncology, and won the U.S. patent approval.
 - Geriatrics and Gerontology Center which long-term has devoted to the elderly Gerontology Research and Development, was elected as the outstanding achievements of Asia's first "world excellenct center of elderly research "(Fig 25) .



- 2012
- Completion of the first case of complex congenital heart disease heart valves and vascular transplant.
 - Found 22th type gene that cause type cerebellar atrophy, and highlighted the importance of the potassium channel KCND3 pathogenesis , provided a new direction of cerebellar atrophy treatment.
- 2013
- With Chang Gung Memorial Hospital, Far Eastern Memorial Hospital formed the "North Joint Organ Donation Network" to implement zoning organ allocation system in Taiwan.
 - Combined with chest department, psychiatry department of, Neurological institute , otolaryngology department and stomatology department , to set up a "Sleep Medicine Center" to help patients to identify the causes of sleep disorders, and reduce drug dependence.(Fig 26&27) .
 - Our rehabilitation and technical aids center established the teaching cooperation with Niigata university of health and welfare in Japan to enhance the sophisticated technical expertise further so as to improve the standard of medical aids(Fig 28) .
 - Awarded cosmetic medical quality dual certification to provide safe and high quality cosmetic health care for people(Fig 29) .
 - Completed the first domino triple living donor liver transplant in Taiwan(Fig 30) .