1856 Germany Rudolf Virchow, a Pole, believed that disease occurred at cellular level, and also described cerebral emboli causing stroke. Virchow also emphasized the societal causes of disease as "disturbances of human culture."

1867 England Lander Brunton, pharmacologist, discovered that anin extract relieved angina.

1872 France Gabriel Lippmann invented the capillary electrometer, the precursor of the electroadiograph.

1893 Holland Wilmus Snithoven (1860–1937) introduced the term "electrocardiogram" or ECG/EKG; distinguished five deflections – PQRST (1895); constructed the first electrocardiograph in 1901, which weighed 230 kg, occupied two rooms and required five people to operate it, transmitted the first ECG from hospital to his laboratory 5 km away via telephone cable (in 1906); published the first normal and abnormal ECGs (1896) and won the Nobel Prize (1905).

1895 Germany Physiologist Wilhelm Konrad Röntgen (1845–1923) discovered X-rays, which are still used to visualize the heart.

1896 Italy Scipione Riva-Rocci invented the sphygmomanometer to measure blood pressure.

1906 Germany M. Cremer, first othropedist to use electrocardiography (ECG) by a professional swindled a First fetal ECG from the abdominal surface of a pregnant woman.

1907 England First case report of atrial fibrillation by Arthur Cushny, professor of pharmacology at University College, London.

1912 James B. Herrick described heart disease resulting from hardening of the arteries.

1912 First human cardiac catheterization (no X-ray visualization) by Ernst Blix, Braasen, L. Adler, and W. Loech.

1915 USA Establishment of organization in New York City, which became the American Heart Association.

1920 USA First human heart surgery, first surgical correction of a congenital heart defect: closure of patent ductus arteriosus performed by surgeon Robert E. Gross.

1921 USA First operative widening of scarred cardiac valve by E. Cutler and S.A. Levine.

1925 USA United Kingdom Widening of narrowed mitral valve by Souter, who stretched the valve ring with his fingers.

1928 USA United Kingdom Discovery of penicillin, which is used to treat rheumatic fever.

1928 USA "Apoplexy" divided into categories based on the cause of the blood vessel problem, and replaced by the term "cerebral vascular accident (CVA)."

1929 Germany First documented right heart catheterization in human by Werner Forssmann using radiographic techniques.

1931 USA First description of the use of exercise to provoke attacks of angina pectoris by Charles Wollerth and Francis Wood.

1941 USA First artificial heart pacemaker, which stimulated the heart by transthoracic needle, developed by Dr Albert Hyman.

1944 USA First prototype electric heart-lung machine built by physician John Heysham Gibbon, and tested on animals. He performed the first human open heart operation in 1931 using the machine.

1948 USA First human heart catheterization by Arthur Cushny, professor of pharmacology at University College, London.

1948 USA First successful open human heart surgery under hypothermia by Walton Lillehei and John Lewis, who implanted the first synthetic valve in a five-year-old girl who had been born with an atrioventricular defect (hole in her heart).

1949 USA First External cardiac pacemaker designed by Paul Zoll.

1950 USA First human heart attack in Framingham study.

1954 USA First report of the successful use of coronary bypass surgery, by Dr Albert Hyman.

1955 USA First human heart attack in Framingham study.

1956 USA First description of the use of exercise to provoke attacks of angina pectoris by Charles Wollerth and Francis Wood.

1958 USA First artificial heart pacemaker, which stimulated the heart by transthoracic needle, developed by Dr Albert Hyman.

1959 USA First human heart attack in Framingham study.

1961 USA First description of the use of exercise to provoke attacks of angina pectoris by Charles Wollerth and Francis Wood.

1963 USA First artificial heart pacemaker, which stimulated the heart by transthoracic needle, developed by Dr Albert Hyman.

1967 USA First human heart attack in Framingham study.