



CAPE COD HEALTHCARE

Expert physicians. Quality hospitals. Superior care.

A Century of Care: The History of Cape Cod Hospital

- August 22, 1919** Hospital Incorporated
- April 1920** Hospital site is found: the summer residence of Dr. E. F. Gleason for a price of \$35,000, with a down payment of \$3,000.
- July 26, 1920** Major fund drive kicked off
- October 4, 1920** Opening day for Cape Cod Hospital. First patient is accepted. Three story wood-frame building has 14 beds and two cribs, with quarters for the nurses on the third floor.
- 1920** There was no “Emergency Room” in the new hospital, only an “Accident Room.”
- July 6, 1923** Board votes to construct Charles L. Ayling Wing
- August 5, 1924** Charles L. Ayling Wing opens, bringing total number of beds in the hospital to 45.
- 1925** Ethel Barton, a recent graduate of the Rhode Island School of Nursing joins the staff and begins a 46-year career that included nursing and teaching.
- 1934** Ayling Wing is expanded to 65 beds.
- 1935** 196 admissions, 23 births, 120 operations and 343 outpatients
- 1947** Cape Cod Hospital opens its Nursing School for training Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) (It was closed in 1971)
- July 1950** Main hospital building with gold, domed cupola opens. The Ayling Wing is retained and remodeled and the original hospital building,



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the summer home of Dr. Gleason, was torn down. Normal capacity is 105 beds and 26 bassinets, with room for an additional 15 beds. The hospital now has three operating rooms, three labor rooms, a complete outpatient department, four x-ray machines, a pharmacy and a modern kitchen.

- November 1951** 50,000th patient is admitted to Cape Cod Hospital
- 1952** 3,586 patients are admitted. The hospital serves 11,158 outpatients; 168 people on the paid personnel staff
- 1955** Cape Cod Hospital sets a new one-day record of 135 patients
- 1957** There are 22 medical staff members at Cape Cod Hospital. There are no specialists and all physicians perform multiple functions including delivering babies, surgery and primary care.
- 1958** The hospital tallies 4,140 admissions, with 22,487 outpatients served.
- 1960** Planning for a \$1.6M South Wing addition begins; a grant of \$350,000 is received under the Hill-Burton Act.
- November 1960** Hospital neighbor John F. Kennedy is elected 35th President of the United States, which has a huge impact on Cape Cod as world-wide attention focused on Hyannis.
- October 1961** Ground is broken for South Wing addition.
- 1962** With the construction of the South Wing, an ICU is started. The beginning of a formal cardiology program begins with portable monitors and defibrillators.
- May 1963** South Wing addition opens with four floors. A kitchen and cafeteria are on the ground floor, with patient beds on the second and third floors including eight intensive care unit beds. The Maternity Department is on the fourth floor.



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- 1968** The first CCU is established in the area now referred to as Ayling III. Heart monitors are installed and nurses trained. Physicians are available 24/7 for cardiac issues.
- January 1971** Nursing dorm and school is dedicated as “The Barton House” in honor of Ethel Barton who retired after 45 years of service.
- 1971** Whitcomb Pavilion is purchased.
- February 1976** Ground breaking is held for a new addition which will house a new CCU, ICU, Emergency Room, Operating Room, North Medical and North Surgical units. The First Lady, Betty Ford, laid the cornerstone.
- April 1978** New addition opens.
- May 1979** Groundbreaking is held for a Radiation Therapy Center, which opens in August 1979.
- 1980** Birthing rooms are renovated, an OB/Gyn Unit opened, as is a CCU/ICU Fluoroscopy Unit, a CT Scanning Unit.
- 1981** The pharmacy is expanded and relocated to ground floor of Ayling.
- 1982** Pathology opens in reconstructed warehouse area behind the 1950 building; treatment planning simulator added to Radiation Therapy.
- 1987** Total renovations are made to the main laboratory, the Foundation Office Building and Ambulatory Procedures Area.
- 1988** Cape Psych Center is completed on the upper level of the Whitcomb Pavilion.
- 1991** Cape Cod Hospital leads in the GUSTO Research Project, using thrombolytic agents in the care of heart attack patients.



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- October 1993** The expanded Lyndon Lorusso Emergency Center and ambulance tunnel opened on the north end of the hospital adjacent to Park Street.
- June 1996** Cape Cod Healthcare is formed, joining Cape Cod Hospital and Falmouth Hospital.
- 1996** The fixed Cardiac Cath Lab opened in August, after an involved 2-year process.
- 1997** Cape Cod Hospital is enrolled in the C-PORT Study for angioplasty in the acute MI patient. This study randomized patients to thrombolytic drugs or angioplasty. DPH gave approval for participation in this study at a site without cardiac surgery backup.
- 1998** The Cath Recovery unit is expanded to care for radiology patients undergoing arteriograms and angioplasties.
- Dateline NBC program airs on Dec. 6 detailing a life-and-death event at Cape Cod Hospital, after which the hospital is given permission to do emergency angioplasties, without the randomization process outlined in the C-PORT study.
- July 1999** A new Main Lobby, an APA Endoscopy Center and Pediatric Unit open. Figawi Charities raised \$1M to dedicate the new Pediatric Unit as the John F. Kennedy, Jr. Pediatric Unit. Sen. Ted Kennedy and members of the Kennedy family spoke during the formal dedication.
- 2001** Cape Cod Hospital is one of three hospital approved by the DPH for open heart surgery. A second Cath Lab is opened, increasing the capacity for the electrophysiology program.
- 2002** A five-bed Cardiac Surgery ICU opens. The first open heart case was performed in August and 48 cases were done by the end of the year.



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- November 29, 2004** Barton House is torn down to make way for the Mugar addition.
- October 30, 2006** Mugar Building was dedicated in formal ceremonies, with first patients admitted in Jan. 2007.
- June 2010** Lobby renovations are completed along with new façade.
- March 2011** Clark Cancer Center opens.
- October 2013** Construction begun on new Emergency Center
- May 2015** Emergency Center completed – formal dedication and open houses April 30, May 1 & 2
- Fall 2015** Cape Cod Hospital interventional cardiologists perform the first TAVR (Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement), a less-invasive procedure to replace the aortic valve in patients who could not tolerate open-heart surgery.
- Fall 2015** Cape Cod Healthcare's first retail pharmacies open to the public with current locations at Cape Cod Hospital and Falmouth Hospital.
- 2016** Four Cape Cod Healthcare Urgent Care centers across Cape Cod, with locations in Falmouth, Sandwich, Hyannis and Harwich.
- 2017** The Cape Cod Healthcare Heart Failure Clinic opens in Hyannis, providing outpatient care to help those with congestive heart failure avoid hospitalization.
- November 2016** Cape Cod Healthcare pioneers Hidden Scar Breast Surgery as the first hospital in the state and one of only 50 nationally to pioneer this breast cancer surgery.
- August 2017** A first in the state RN Residency and Transition Program is accredited, bringing specialized training to nurses at Cape Cod Healthcare.



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- 2017** This year brings many technological and treatment advances, including Navigational Bronchoscopy for lung mass detection, the SAVI Scout radar location system for breast lumpectomy procedures and Microwave Ablation for treatment of tumors.
- October 2018** Cape Cod Healthcare provides 3-D mammography, the latest technology, to increase the detection rate of cancer
- 2018** Cape Cod Healthcare donates \$1M to the expansion and renovation of the Cape Cod Community College's nursing facilities and program, supporting nursing students through facilities expansion, dedicated clinical training at CCHC and scholarship opportunities.
- February 2019** Cape Cod Hospital announces a partnership with Dana-Farber Cancer Center to join our medical oncology services with the Dana-Farber Cancer Care Collaborative
- September 2019** Vision 2022, a multi-year program of progress at Cape Cod Healthcare, is launched. Plans include the construction of a new addition to Cape Cod Hospital, a celebration of its 100th Anniversary and implement a system-wide Electronic Medical Records system called Epic.
- March 2020** Cape Cod Healthcare becomes a community leader, facing the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, launching testing facilities, building community partnerships and providing essential information and critical care during the global pandemic.
- November 2020** Vision 2022 moves forward with the launch of the Epic electronic medical records system, technology that will enable patients to better access care and for providers to share information more easily, improving the way we deliver exceptional care.