

Pierre fauchard – father of dentistry

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Father of dentistry

Pierre fauchard



Pierre Fauchard (1678 – March 22, 1761) was a French physician, credited as being the "father of modern dentistry".[1] He is widely known for writing the first complete scientific description of dentistry, *Le Chirurgien Dentiste* ("The Surgeon Dentist"), published in 1728.[1] The book described basic oral anatomy and function, signs and symptoms of oral pathology, operative methods for removing decay and restoring teeth, periodontal disease (pyorrhea), orthodontics, replacement of missing teeth, and tooth transplantation

Life as young dentist



ONCE FAUCHARD LEFT THE NAVY, HE SHORTLY SETTLED DOWN IN ANGERS, WHERE HE PRACTICED MEDICINE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ANGERS HOSPITAL. IN ANGERS, HE STARTED MUCH OF THE REVOLUTIONARY MEDICAL WORK WE KNOW TODAY, AND HE WAS THE PIONEER OF SCIENTIFIC ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY. FAUCHARD OFTEN DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS A "CHIRURGIEN DENTISTE" (SURGICAL DENTIST), A TERM VERY RARE AT THE TIME AS DENTISTS IN THE 17TH CENTURY GENERALLY EXTRACTED DECAYED TEETH RATHER THAN TREATING THEM

From Angers to Paris and his revolutionary book



DURING 1716 TO 1718, FAUCHARD GAINED GREAT PRESTIGE. DURING THAT TIME HE SPENT LONG PERIODS AWAY FROM HOME STUDYING AND SHARING HIS MEDICAL PRACTICE WITH OTHER SURGEONS ACROSS FRANCE.

IN 1718, FAUCHARD MOVED TO PARIS. DURING HIS STAY IN THAT CITY, PIERRE REALIZED THAT MANY MEDICAL LIBRARIES LACKED GOOD TEXTBOOKS ON DENTISTRY AND THAT AN ENCYCLOPEDIA TEACHING BOOK OF ORAL SURGERY WAS NEEDED, SO HE MADE THE DECISION TO WRITE A PROFESSIONAL DENTIST'S TREATISE BASED ON HIS MEDICAL EXPERIENCE.

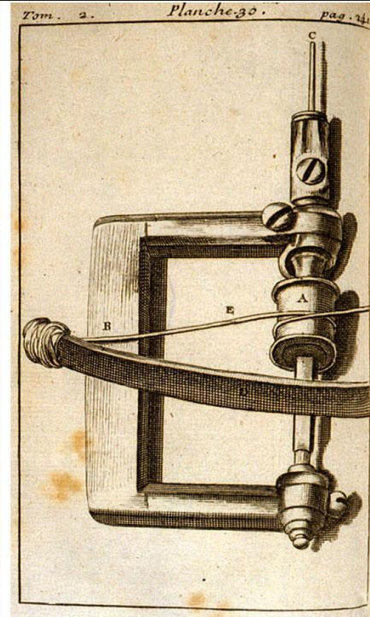
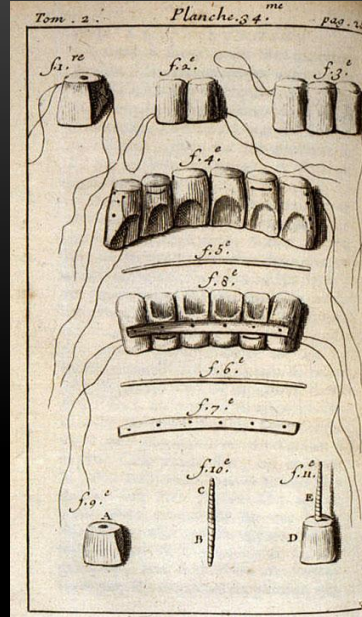
FOR MANY MONTHS FAUCHARD GATHERED AS MANY MEDICAL RESEARCH BOOKS AS HE COULD, INTERVIEWED THE MANY DENTISTS HE HAD MET, AND REVIEWED HIS PERSONAL DIARIES DURING HIS YEARS AT ANGERS TO WRITE HIS MANUAL. FINALLY IN 1723, AT THE AGE OF 45, HE COMPLETED THE FIRST 600-PAGE MANUSCRIPT FOR "LE CHIRURGIEN DENTISTE" (ROUGHLY TRANSLATED AS "THE SURGICAL DENTIST"). FAUCHARD SOUGHT FURTHER FEEDBACK FROM HIS PEERS OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS, AND THE MANUSCRIPT HAD GROWN TO 783 PAGES BY THE TIME IT WAS PUBLISHED IN 1728 IN TWO VOLUMES.[1] THE BOOK WAS WELL RECEIVED IN THE EUROPEAN MEDICAL COMMUNITY.[1] A GERMAN TRANSLATION WAS ALREADY AVAILABLE IN 1733, AN ENLARGED EDITION IN FRENCH WAS PUBLISHED IN 1746, YET AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION HAD TO AWAIT 200 MORE YEARS TO 1946

"The surgical dentist"



THE BOOK CONSISTED OF 38 CHAPTERS IN VOLUME 1 AND 26 CHAPTERS IN VOLUME 2. BOTH VOLUMES CONTAINED 42 PLATES DEPICTING SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS AND APPLIANCES. MANY OF THE IDEAS INTRODUCED IN THE BOOK WERE TOTALLY NEW TO DENTISTRY.[2] PIERRE FAUCHARD ENGRAVED IN HIS BOOKS MANY OF HIS INVENTIONS OF INSTRUMENTS MADE FOR ORAL SURGERY, SUCH AS THE OBTURATOR AND THE NOW FAMOUS DENTIST'S DRILL. THE DRILL FAUCHARD DEVELOPED WAS MANUAL AND POWERED BY A CATGUT TWISTED AROUND A CYLINDER. HE ALSO SUGGESTED IN HIS BOOK THAT OIL OF CLOVES AND CINNAMON BE USED FOR PULPITIS.[2]

FAUCHARD RECOMMENDED THAT HUMAN URINE BE USED IN THE TREATMENT OF EARLY STAGES OF CARIES.[2] A CHEMICAL COMPOUND THAT HE WAS NOT ABLE TO IDENTIFY IN URINE AT THE TIME WAS AMMONIA, WHICH WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE "BENEFICIAL RESULT" OF URINE. ALTHOUGH URINE HAD BEEN USED FOR THIS PURPOSE SINCE THE ANCIENT TIMES TO MIDDLE AGES, THE TREATMENT MET WITH .RESISTANCE BY MANY PHYSICIANS AND PATIENTS



OBSERVATIONS FAUCHARD SUGGESTED THAT THE GERMAN TOOTH WORM THEORY WAS MISTAKEN IN ITS EXPLANATION OF DENTAL DECAY. HIS THROUGH THE MICROSCOPE SHOWED THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE OF WORMS.[2]

HE ALSO SAID THE CAUSE OF DENTAL CARIES WAS SUGAR, AND PEOPLE SHOULD LIMIT IT FROM THEIR DIET.[2]

HE DISPROVED THEORIES OF SPONTANEOUS TOOTH GENERATION, ARGUING THAT THE FIRST TEETH, WHICH ARE CALLED MILK TEETH, SEPARATE THEMSELVES FROM THEIR ROOTS. SOME DENTISTS AT FAUCHARD'S TIME BELIEVED THEY DIDN'T HAVE ROOTS.[2]

HE INTRODUCED DENTAL FILLINGS AS TREATMENT FOR DENTAL CAVITIES, AND HE SUGGESTED AMALGAMS LIKE LEAD, TIN AND SOMETIMES GOLD. HE ALSO SAID THAT TEETH SHOULD BE CLEANED PERIODICALLY BY A DENTIST.[2]

HE SAID THAT BRACES SHOULD BE USED TO CORRECT THE POSITION OF TEETH, AND THAT CHILDREN'S TEETH COULD BE MOVED MORE EASILY AND QUICKLY THAN ADULTS', A RESULT OF THE SIZE OF THE TEETH ROOTS, ACCORDING TO FAUCHARD.[2]

HE WAS AHEAD OF HIS TIME IN MEDICAL PRACTICE AND HE DESCRIBED THE WAY THE PATIENT SHOULD BE GREETED BY THE DOCTOR AND THE POSITION IN WHICH THE PATIENT SHOULD SIT.[2]

HE RECOMMENDED THAT THE DENTIST SHOULD STAND BEHIND THE PATIENT TO HELP THEM RELAX, AND HE INTRODUCED THE CONCEPT OF DENTIST'S CHAIR LIGHT.[2]

YET, HE RECOMMENDED THAT ONE GARGLE TWICE A DAY WITH FRESHLY COLLECTED URINE ("..SE RINSER LA BOUCHE TOUS LES MATINS, & MÊME LE SOIR, AVANT QUE DE SE COUCHER, AVEC QUELQUES CUILLERÉES DE SON URINE TOUT NOUVELLEMENT RENDUE..." />[3]

Contribution to medicine



Dr. Pierre Fauchard

Dr. Pierre Fauchard

In 1718, Fauchard moved to Paris and in the libraries of Paris he noticed that the good text with thematic in dentistry were practically non-existent. He decided to use his experience and write one such book. He finished writing it in 1723 and he edited it until 1728 when it was published in two volumes. It was called "Le Chirurgien Dentiste" - "The surgical dentist" and, besides the text, it had 42 plates depicting surgical instruments and appliances. He wrote there that a theory that caries is caused by "tooth worm" is wrong, that people should eat less sugar because its connection with caries. He wrote about dental fillings and suggested amalgams like lead, tin and sometimes gold for their making. He even wrote about position in .which patient should sit and introduced the concept of dentist's chair light



FAUCHARD LEFT THE NAVY AND SETTLED DOWN IN ANGERS. THERE HE PRACTICED MEDICINE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ANGERS HOSPITAL. THERE HE BEGAN HIS REVOLUTIONARY MEDICAL WORK INCLUDING THE PIONEER WORK IN SCIENTIFIC ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY. HE CALLED HIMSELF A "CHIRURGIEN DENTISTE" WHICH MEANT SURGICAL DENTIST WHICH WAS A NAME, AT THAT TIME, RESERVED FOR THOSE THAT EXTRACTED DECAYED TEETH RATHER THAN TREAT THEM. EVEN WITH THE PRIMITIVE SURGICAL SURGEON. INSTRUMENTS OF THAT TIME THAT WERE VERY LIMITED, HE WAS CONSIDERED A HIGHLY SKILLED HE ALSO INVENTED HIS OWN DENTAL INSTRUMENTS AND USED TOOLS FROM OTHER TRADES LIKE TOOLS FROM WATCH MAKERS, JEWELERS AND EVEN BARBERS, IF HE THOUGHT THAT HE COULD USE THEM IN SURGERY. HE TREATED DENTAL CAVITIES WITH DENTAL FILLINGS WITH WHICH HE WAS THE FIRST IN EUROPE. HE RECOGNIZED THAT THE SUGAR AND ITS DERIVATIVE ACIDS, LIKE TARTARIC ACID, WERE TO BLAME FOR CARIES AND THAT IF NOT TREATED, CARIES CAN TURN INTO TUMORS. HE ALSO PIONEERED DENTAL PROSTHESIS, AND INVESTIGATED METHODS TO REPLACE LOST TEETH. HIS IDEAS ALSO INCLUDED HOLDING OF THE ARTIFICIAL TEETH TO THE HEALTHY ONES WITH WIRE OR THREAD AND FIRST DENTAL BRACES



Dum *lectis et scriptis volumina Dentibus affert*
Illorum in tuto sunt decor atque salus.
Invidus spernas igitur FAUCHARDE, cunctos
Dentes; nam virtus frangere novit eos.

J. Le Bel pinxit

J.B. Estlin Sculp.

LE CHIRURGIEN DENTISTE.

ou TRAITE' DES DENTS.

OU L'ON ENSEIGNE LES MOYENS
de les entretenir propres & saines, de les
embellir, d'en réparer la perte & de re-
medier à leurs maladies, à celles des Gen-
cives & aux accidens qui peuvent survenir
aux autres parties voisines des Dents.

Avec des Observations & des Reflexions sur
plusieurs cas singuliers.

*Ouvrage enrichi de quarante Planches
en taille douce.*

Par PIERRE FAUCHARDE, Chirurgien
Dentiste à Paris.

TOME PREMIER.

A PARIS,

Chez JEAN MARIETTE, rue Saint Jacques,
aux Colonnes d'Hercule.

M. DCCXXVIII.

Avec Approbations & Privilège du Roy.

One of the first physicians to denounce medical malpractice in dentistry, he alleged to a tribunal that many dentists in France did not have a degree or experience. Fauchard became a model for all dentists to come.
.He died at the age of 83 in Paris on March 22, 1761

Died: March 22, 1761, Paris

Medical specialty: Dentistry

Born: 1678, Saint-Denis-de-Gastines

Works written: Le chirurgien dentist