

# Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society

## Museum of Medical History

The Medical Museum is available for school tours starting primarily with 4th grade through high school; 3rd grade with a special interest in medicine are also welcome. There is a Grant Program, thanks to Kaiser-Permanente, to help subsidize bus transportation for Sacramento area public schools.

Medical history in the Sacramento region has a fascinating heritage dating to the mid-1800's. In a period of months, the immigration for the gold rush was responsible for a multitude of diseases including a major cholera epidemic in 1850 that killed over 1,000 people.

The Museum of Medical History of the Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society, which opened in November 2001, showcases developments in medicine with special relationship to our region, from the mid-1800's through today. The collection includes a Civil War amputation kit, the original X-Ray tube used in Sacramento (1897), numerous exhibits on pharmacology, exhibits on quackery, Chinese Medicine, radiology, and medical and surgical diagnosis. You'll also find an array of classical 19th century instruments including cups, various tools for bleeding, ether masks and medicines with mercury, arsenic, and strychnine. The donation of an Iron Lung by UCD Medical Center in 2004 complemented the exhibit on infectious diseases. There is also an extensive library containing early medical textbooks and journals.

The Museum is located at the Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society, 5380 Elvas Avenue, Sacramento, and is open Monday-Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, except for holidays. The Museum is located ½ mile north of H Street at 56th Street. (which becomes Elvas).

**For further information, please contact the  
Museum at (916) 456-3152  
or visit [www.ssvms.org/Museum.aspx](http://www.ssvms.org/Museum.aspx).**

