African American Graduates of Jefferson Medical College: The First Hundred Years

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Beginning...The story of early African-American physicians began in 18th-century Philadelphia with James Derham who is recognized as the first black allopathic (regular, non-sectarian) medical doctor. The first medical school in the U.S., which admitted African Americans was Rush Medical College in Chicago that awarded, in 1847, David J. Peck his degree.

Dr. Frank H. Christian, Jefferson's first African American ward graduate, 15 years after the Civil War and nearly 10 years in the field of medicine.