

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Dr. Richard Payne

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers® 1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Payne, Richard, M.D.
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Richard Payne,
Dates:	September 10, 2001
Bulk Dates:	2001
Physical Description:	5 Betacame SP videocassettes (2:21:35).
Abstract:	Neurologist Dr. Richard Payne (1951 - 2019) was an expert on pain management and palliative care. Payne has worked tirelessly to educate the medical community about the issues and breakthroughs in pain management, co-chairing the expert panel of the Agency for Health Care Policy panel that established clinical guidelines for pain management in cancer patients. Payne serves as Chief of the Pain & Palliative Care Service at Memorial Sloan - Kettering Cancer Center in New York. Payne was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on September 10, 2001, in New York, New York. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2001_055
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

The eighth child of a family of thirteen, Dr. Richard Payne was born on August 24th, 1951, in Elizabeth, New Jersey. Payne's earliest memories are of a household brimming with family and neighborhood activity. Payne attended the local elementary and junior high schools, which were integrated and provided a nourishing and supportive atmosphere. In high school, his interests focused on math and science and after graduating he enrolled in Yale University. After receiving his B.S. from Yale in biophysics and biochemistry, Payne obtained his M.D. at Harvard Medical School.

Payne is one of the foremost experts on pain management and palliative care in the country. He describes palliative care as "total care of patients with cancer." He has worked tirelessly to educate the medical community about the issues and breakthroughs in pain management, co-chairing the expert panel of the Agency for Health Care Policy panel that established clinical guidelines for pain management in cancer patients. Payne was also a member of the Institute of Medicine Committee that evaluated end-of-life care in the United States. Payne has also been involved in programs working to close the disparities in health care access to minorities and poor populations worldwide.

Payne serves as Attending Neurologist and Chief of the Pain & Palliative Care Service at Memorial Sloan - Kettering Cancer Center in New York, New York, in addition to holding the Anne Burnett Tandy Chair in Neurology at the same center. Payne has a wife, Terri, and the couple have two children. They reside in New York.

Payne passed away on January 3, 2019.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Dr. Richard Payne was conducted by Julieanna L. Richardson on September 10, 2001, in New York, New York, and was recorded on 5 Betacame SP videocassettes. Neurologist Dr. Richard Payne (1951 - 2019) was an expert on pain management and palliative care. Payne has worked tirelessly to educate the medical community about the issues and breakthroughs in pain management, co-chairing the expert panel of the Agency for Health Care Policy panel that established clinical guidelines for pain management in cancer patients. Payne serves as Chief of the Pain & Palliative Care Service at Memorial Sloan - Kettering Cancer Center in New York.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Persons:

Payne, Richard, M.D.

Richardson, Julieanna L. (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Payne, Richard, M.D.--Interviews

Neurologists--United States--Interviews

Palliative treatment--United States

African American physicians--New York (State)--Interviews

Elizabeth (N.J.)--Social life and customs

Yale University

Book and Snake Society

Harvard Medical School

Anesthesiology--United States

Neurology--United States

Pain--Therapy

Social classes--Health aspects--United States

Minorities--Medical care--United States

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

Occupations:

Neurologist

HistoryMakers® Category:

MedicalMakers

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

Preferred Citation

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Richard Payne, September 10, 2001. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Richard Payne, Section A2001_055_001_001, TRT: 0:28:12 ?

Neurologist Richard Payne begins by recalling his family background and sharing memories of his family life growing up in Elizabeth, New Jersey. He also describes his childhood personality and discusses the racial demographics of Elizabeth. After naming some teachers who influenced him, Payne explains how attending a summer biochemistry program for gifted teens sparked his interest in the sciences.

Neurologists--United States--Interviews.
Palliative treatment--United States.
African American physicians--New York (State)--Interviews.
Elizabeth (N.J.)--Social life and customs.
Yale University.
Yale University--Students--Societies, etc.
Harvard Medical School.
Anesthesiology--United States.
Neurology--United States.
Pain--Therapy.
Social classes--Health aspects--United States.
Minorities--Medical care--United States.

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Richard Payne, Section A2001_055_001_002, TRT: 0:30:10 ?

Neurologist Richard Payne discusses his early interest in science and describes his childhood personality and aspiration to become a doctor. Payne describes his high school years and talks about his relationship with an influential friend.

Payne then details his time at Yale University, from his first impressions upon arriving in 1969 to his academic focus, the social climate, and his relationship with other black pre-med students. He also talks about being accepted into a secret society on campus.

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Richard Payne, Section A2001_055_001_003, TRT: 0:31:13
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Neurologist Richard Payne talks about his senior year at Yale University, including the inner workings of the Book and Snake Society and meeting his wife. He then explains his motivations for applying to different medical schools and talks about why he chose Harvard Medical School. Payne describes experiences during medical school, residency and over the course of his career, discussing his decision to specialize in neurology and his eventual focus on the science of pain. Payne also discusses the relationship between anesthesiology and neurology.

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Richard Payne, Section A2001_055_001_004, TRT: 0:30:14
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Neurologist Richard Payne discusses various factors of his research in the neurology of pain, including the experience of pain, advances in cancer research and palliative care over the course of his career, and his ideas about the relationship of health to race and class. Payne also discusses his career with Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and explains the center's influence on medical research.

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Richard Payne, Section A2001_055_001_005, TRT: 0:21:46
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Neurologist Richard Payne discusses the mechanisms of pain and different treatments he uses. Payne then discusses the future of medicine, remembers influential doctors from his childhood, and considers his legacy. Finally, Payne narrates his personal photographs as they are recorded on videotape.