

EDITORIAL

Iran and Türkiye: Contribution of Two civilizations in Developing Medical Sciences through History

Today's advances in medical science have been shaped by the efforts of great scientists of the past in ancient civilizations from ancient times to the present day. Iran and Türkiye are two neighboring countries with historical backgrounds, rooted in ancient times. Iran is one of the oldest civilizations in the world, with a history that spans thousands of years, and it has consistently been referred to as either Iran or Persia. The Persian empires in ancient times (pre-Islamic era) have always been considered great world powers, and in particular, during the time of the Achaemenids (550-330BCE), they formed the largest empire in the world, stretching from the borders of China and India to whole Middle East and borders of Greece and North Africa. During the Islamic era, Persia was a significant force in the region. Iran

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Citation:

Zargaran, A., 2025. Iran and Türkiye: Contribution of Two civilizations in Developing Medical Sciences through History. *Res Hist Med*, 14(Suppl. 1), pp. S1-S2. doi: 10.30476/rhm.2025.51243.

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(Persia) always played a great role in development and progress of sciences, in particular medical sciences. The Persian civilization extends beyond the present-day borders of Iran, with its legacies observable in newly established countries in the region such as Afghanistan, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Iraq, etc., in the atmosphere of old great Persia. Great scientists like Borzouyeh (6th century), Rhazes (865-925CE), Akhawayni (?-983CE), Avicenna (980-1037CE), Jorjani (1042-1147CE), etc. are some of the most outstanding scholars belonging to this civilization. Current Türkiye is also the host of many great civilizations in the era that was called Anatolia in the past history. Hittites was one of the oldest civilizations in that era dating back to the early 2nd millennium BCE. Eastern parts of the Anatolia was mostly a part of the Persian civilization; but there were other great civilizations like Lydia (8th – 6th Centuries BCE). Later, it was the host of many of Empires Like Rome and Byzantium; and finally, the Ottoman Empire, as a Turkish Civilization, originated from this region and succeeded to establish a great Empire in Western Asia, Eastern Europe, and North of Africa. Following this long history, New Türkiye was born from this historical civilization in 1923. There are many valuable Turkish physicians like Şerafeddin Sabuncuoğlu (1385–1468) and Gevrekzâde Hasan Efendi (1727–1801) who had a great role in the progress of medical sciences. Iran (Persia) and civilizations located in Türkiye region have consistently maintained scientific and cultural relations during centuries in the history. These relations helped both civilizations to develop scientific paradigms and achievements. In the 2nd History of Medicine Meeting: Entangled Histories: Contribution of Iran and Türkiye to the Development of Medical Sciences, we endeavored to establish a scientific platform for investigating the role of these two civilizations and their cooperations on development of medical sciences through history.

Funding

None.

Conflict of Interest

None.

Received: 10 Sep 2025; Accepted: 11 Sep 2025; Online published: 7 Oct 2025
 Research on History of Medicine/ 2025 Oct; 14(Suppl. 1): S1-S2.

