

**400 B.C.**

Greek physician Hippocrates prescribes the bark and leaves of the willow tree (rich in a substance called salicin) to relieve pain and fever.



**1899**

Bayer registers the trade name "aspirin" on February 1, 1899 — it soon becomes the number one drug worldwide.



**1915**

Now manufactured in tablet form (the first drug to be processed this way), aspirin becomes available without a prescription.

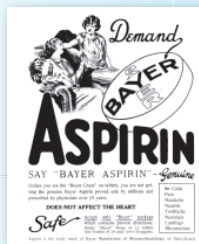


**1918**

Bayer's advertising campaign, "Made on the Banks of the Hudson," highlights its manufacturing location in upstate New York. The "Bayer Cross" remains on Bayer Aspirin and continues to be the company's logo today.

**1920s**

In the 1920s, aspirin is recommended as a treatment for pain symptoms as well as symptoms related to rheumatism, lower back pain and neuralgia. Ironically, at this point in time, aspirin is promoted as to "not affect the heart."



**1948**

Dr. Lawrence Craven, a California practitioner, notices that the 400 men to whom he prescribed aspirin had not suffered any heart attacks. He preaches "an aspirin a day" could dramatically reduce risk of heart attack.



**1961**

Towards the 1960s, Bayer concentrates on addressing the issue of "fast pain relief." Bayer suggests a "Bayer Break" for headaches due to high humidity and intense heat because of its fast and gentle relief.

**1971**

British pharmacologist John R. Vane discovers aspirin's basic mechanism of action for which he received the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1982.

**1997**

**Aspirin turns 100!**



**1998**

The FDA expands the labeling of aspirin to include: preventing a recurrent stroke or TIA (mini-stroke) in both men and women, using aspirin in lower doses to reduce the risk of recurrent heart attack and stroke; using aspirin during a suspected heart attack.

**1988**

FDA proposes use of aspirin for preventing recurrent stroke or TIA (mini-stroke) in men. FDA proposes use of aspirin to prevent heart attacks in patients who have had a previous heart attack or unstable angina.



**2005**

Women's Health Study, the longest, largest study ever conducted with aspirin, looks at stroke and heart attack prevention in women. Most recent reviews of this study show that aspirin reduces mortality risk by 23 percent.



**2001**

The Primary Prevention Project adds to the evidence that low-dose aspirin is effective in the prevention of cardiovascular events.



**2007**

New AHA Women's Guidelines recommend that aspirin be considered for all women 65+ and those at elevated cardiovascular risk under 65.



**TODAY AND BEYOND**

Aspirin continues to be one of the most studied drugs in the world. Scientists continue to study the role of aspirin in diseases such as cancer, cognitive/neurological diseases (Alzheimer's) and deep vein thrombosis. Who knows what the next breakthrough for this wonder drug will be.