

# BINDING WOUNDS PUSHING BOUNDARIES

African Americans in Civil War Medicine



*“There were loyal women, as well as men, in those days who did not fear the shell or the shot, who cared for the sick and dying.”*

*Susie King Taylor, nurse with the 33<sup>rd</sup> United States Troops*

An exhibition developed and produced by the Exhibition Program  
at the National Library of Medicine



Many histories have been written about medical care during the American Civil War, but the participation and contributions of African Americans as nurses, surgeons and hospital workers has often been overlooked. *Binding Wounds, Pushing Boundaries: African Americans in Civil War Medicine* looks at the men and women who served as surgeons and nurses and how their service as medical providers challenged the prescribed notions of race and gender pushing the boundaries of the role of African Americans in America.

Through historical images and period documents the exhibit explores the life and experiences of surgeons Alexander T. Augusta and Anderson R. Abbott, and nurses Susie King Taylor and Ann Stokes as they provided medical care to soldiers and civilians while participating in the fight for freedom. *“Binding Wounds, Pushing Boundaries* opens the door to this rarely studied part of history and brings a voice to those that have remained silent for nearly 150 years,” says Curator Jill L. Newmark.

*Binding Wounds, Pushing Boundaries* is currently traveling around the United States. For more information, contact [nlmtravelingexhibts@nlm.nih.gov](mailto:nlmtravelingexhibts@nlm.nih.gov) or visit us on the web at: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/about/exhibition/travelingexhibitions/bindingwounds.html>

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Curated by Jill L. Newmark