Machines

capillary electrometer
syphgmograph
string galvanometer
electrocardiogram machine

People and places

Willem Einthoven (1860 – 1927): The Netherlands (Leiden)
Thomas Lewis (1881 – 1945): England (London)
James Herrick (1861 – 1954): US (Chicago)

Objectives:

• To help students understand the different leads now used to take an ECG
• To help students appreciate that specific technical changes in many parts of the ECG machine were necessary in order for it to become seen as an essential element of patient care
• To help students appreciate the important work done at the UM in the creation of today’s ECG
• To show students that knowledge changes, even knowledge derived from technology, and how knowledge changes reflects social and cultural norms.
• To help students appreciate that even world-class experts can (and will) be wrong

For further reading:

