Carl Koller

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Carl Koller
1857-1944
Carl Koller

- Born December 3, 1857 in Sušice, Austria (temporary the Czech republic) died March 21, 1944 in New York.
- But his family roots are in towns Teplice-Sobědruhy and Bílina (temporary Czech republic).
- Father: Juda Leopold Koller (businessman), son of Wolf Koller (son of Isak Koller) and Sarah Thal
- from Teplice-Sobědruhy

- Mother: Wilhelmine, daughter of Carl Rosenbaum, from Bílina

- Godfathers: Leopold Weil, Daniel Fürth (both of them from Sušice, Daniel Fürth is known by world-known production of safety matches)
Carl Koller

Sisters of Carl Koller:

Mathilde Schiller, nee Koller
Julie Gruner, nee Koller
Clara Geiringer, nee Koller
Minna Karger, nee Koller
Luisa Hartmann, nee Koller
The original genealogy of Koller family:
Descendants of Isak KOLLER

- **Generation 1:**

1. **ISAK / KOLLER** was born in Teplice-Sobedruhy, Czech Rep.. He died in Teplice-Sobedruhy, Czech Rep.. He married **ROSALIA "ROSEL"** in Teplice-Sobedruhy, Czech Rep.. She was born in Teplice-Sobedruhy?, Czech Rep.. She died in Teplice-Sobedruhy?, Czech Rep..

   Isak KOLLER and Rosalia "Rosel" had the following children:

2. i. **MAGDALENA2 KOLLER** was born in Teplice-Sobedruhy, Czech Rep.. She died after 1833 in Teplice-Sobedruhy, Czech Rep..

3. ii. **RACHEL KOLLER** was born in Teplice-Sobedruhy, Czech Rep..

4. iii. **WOLF KOLLER** was born about 1782 in Teplice-Sobedruhy, Czech Rep.. He married **SARAH THAL** on 15 Feb 1816 in Teplice-Sobedruhy, Czech Rep., daughter of Aron THAL and Katharina. She was born about 1794.

   **SARAH KOLLER** was born on 09 Dec 1788 in Teplice-Sobedruhy.

   - v. **MICHALI KOLLER** was born on 12 May 1793 in Teplice-Sobedruhy.
The original genealogy of Koller family: Descendants of Isak KOLLER

- **Generation 2:**

  **WOLF2 KOLLER** (Isak/) was born about 1782 in Teplice-Sobedruhy, Czech Rep., He
  married **SARAH THAL** on 15 Feb 1816 in Teplice-Sobedruhy, Czech Rep., daughter of
  Aron THAL and Katharina. She was born about 1794.
  Wolf KOLLER and Sarah THAL had the following children:

- **6. i. JUDA LEOPOLD3 KOLLER** was born on 05 Jan 1819 in Teplice-Sobedruhy, Czech Rep., He died on 28 Feb 1908 in Vienna, Austria. He married **WILHELMINA ROSENBAUM.** She was born in Bilina, N. Bohemia

- **ii. KAROLINE KOLLER** was born on 15 Feb 1822 in Teplice-Sobedruhy

- **iii. GABRIEL KOLLER** was born on 25 Dec 1824 in Teplice-Sobedruhy
Teplice- Sobědruhy
Teplice-Sobědruhy
Sušice
Sušice (2012)
	house, where C. Koller was born
Leopold Koller moved to Vienna in 1862 when his young wife died and his only son Carl was a small child. Carl grew up in a family with his stepmother.

It is known that Carl Koller repeatedly visited Teplice where his relatives lived.

Carl Koller for a year studied jurisprudence and then in 1876 finally turned to the study of medicine at the University of Vienna.
Vídeň, Rasumofskýgasse 4
Carl Koller and cocaine

- Koller introduced cocaine as a local anaesthetic for eye surgery. Prior to this discovery, he had tested solutions such as chloral hydrate and morphine as anaesthetics in the eyes of laboratory animals without success.

- As a young man Koller was engaged in a piece of embryological research, too. His research on the mesoderm in chicken embryos fascinated his teacher Stricker.

- Sigmund Freud was fully aware of the pain-killing properties of cocaine, but Koller recognized its tissue-numbing capabilities, and in 1884 demonstrated its potential as a local anaesthetic to the medical community.
Carl Koller and cocaine

- Koller’s experiment came together so quickly that he was in fact unable to publicly present his research himself. His first surgical proof was Sept. 11, 1884, and the general congress of ophthalmology was to meet in Heidelberg, Germany, on Sept. 15. Because he was just starting out in his career, he could not afford the trip, and so his friend Brettauer presented it on his behalf.
Carl Koller and cocaine

- The import of Koller’s experiments was quickly taken up, not just in Germany, but around the world. Dr. Henry Noyer, the attending president of the American Ophthalmologic Society, who was at congress in Heidelberg, sent this article into New York Medical Report.

- And not just eye operations: Almost any type of surgery that might require local anesthetic was tried with cocaine.
Carl Koller and cocaine

- Koller's findings were a medical breakthrough. Prior to his discovery, performing eye surgery was difficult because the involuntary reflex motions of the eye to respond to the slightest stimuli. General anaesthesia had the limitations in ophthalmologic surgery. Later, cocaine was also used as a local anaesthetic in other medical fields such as dentistry.

- After an illegal duel with sabers in 1885 — Koller fled Vienna.
Carl Koller

- From Teplice Koller went to study at Goettingen and other seats of learning in Germany and France. He worked and did his research in ophtalmology during the years 1885-1887 in Utrecht.
- In 1887 Koller intended to settle in Brno but his friend Freud wrote him that Brno as a provincial town is a unfortunate idea.
In 1888, Karl Koller after a short stay in London moved to the United States and practiced ophtalmology in New York.
Carl Koller

- Carl Koller also invented the system of lighting used in the electric ophtalmoscope. He wrote various treaties on biology and ophtalmology, especially on astigmatism and of the origin of mesoderma.

- He received many distinctions in his career, including being honored by the American Ophthalmological Society as the first recipient of the Lucien Howe Medal in 1922. This award is given to physicians in recognition of outstanding achievements in ophthalmology. In 1929 he received the Kussmaul medal from the University of Heidelberg, Germany. In 1930 he was also honored by the Medical Association of Vienna.
Carl Koller and his family history

Statt jeder besonderen Anzeige.

Schmerzerfüllt geben die Unterzeichneten allen Verwandten, Freunden, und Bekannten Nachricht von dem Ableben ihres geliebten Vaters, Schwiegervaters, Grossvaters, Urgrossvaters und Onkels, des Herrn

Leopold Koller

welcher am 26. Februar 1908 um 1/2 Uhr nachmittags im 90. Lebensjahre saft und schmerzlos entschlafen ist.

Die Beerdigung findet Freitag den 28. d. M. um 1/4 Uhr vormittags vom Zentralfriedhof (israelitische Abt.) aus statt.

Wien, Klosterneuburg, New York, Neunhöfchen, Berlin.


Wilhelm Hartmann, Dr. Adolf Grüner, Moritz Geiringer, Oscar Karger, als Schwiegersonne.

Laura Koller geb. Blum, als Schwiegertochter.

Sämtliche Enkel, Urenkel, Neffen und Nichten.

Kranzspenden werden im Sinne des Verstorbenen dankend abgelehnt.
Carl Koller and his family history

- **Carl Koller married in 1892** with Laura Blum who survived him with a daughter, Mrs. Hortense Becker, and a son Lewis J. Koller, research worker with the General Electric Co., Schenectady, N.Y.

- **Carl Koller died in 1944** in New York and is buried in Kensico Cemetery, Valhalla, New York.

- **Lewis J. Koller lived during years 1901 – 1975.** His wife was Almeda, nee Holtzapple. Their daughter Isabel Mae Koller was born in 1953 and died in 1953.
Carl Koller and his family history
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Thanks to Dr. Lhoták (Municipal museum of Sušice) for consultations.