



# V N Shirodkar (1899-1971)

*A maverick doctor*

Well known for inventing new surgical techniques in the field of gynaecology.

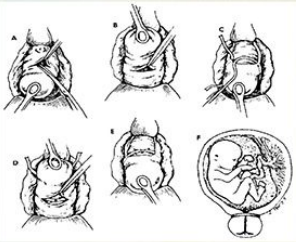
He was born in 1899 in the village Shiroda, Goa.

He was trained as a doctor at the Grant Medical College of the Bombay University and secured his MD degree in Obstetrics and Gynaecology in the year 1927.



His pursuit of higher studies in the West introduced him to surgical procedures. He became a FRCS (England) in 1931 and was appointed Honorary Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in Bombay's J.J. Group of Hospitals which was among Asia's largest hospitals.

He studied the problem of spontaneous miscarriage during the second trimester of pregnancy and found that it was due to changing nature of the cervix from a fibrous one to a dynamic muscular organ.



Proposed surgery as a solution to the problem of habitual abortion. He devised special surgical instruments and carried out related procedures that came to be recognized as 'Shirodkar Operation' globally.

He published scientific papers in journals, besides writing medical text books & established the Family Planning Association in India.



He died in Bombay on March 7, 1971. His mother died of cervical cancer. This inspired Dr. Shirodkar's son Manohar Shirodkar to spend his career studying this illness. Dr. V.N. Shirodkar Memorial Research Foundation screens underprivileged women for cervical cancer and investigates novel antiviral biological agents to treat virus diseases.