The Edwin Smith Surgical Papyrus

The National Library of Medicine is proud to announce its next online Turning the Pages project featuring the Edwin Smith Surgical Papyrus, the oldest surviving surgical text: http://archive.nlm.nih.gov/proj/ttp/flash/smith/smith.html.

The Smith Papyrus was written in Egyptian hieratic script around the seventeenth century BCE but probably based on material from a thousand years earlier. This collaborative online representation features an important new translation by James P. Allen, formerly of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and high-resolution scans lent by the scroll’s owner, the New York Academy of Medicine. Curatorial text was written by Michael North of the National Library of Medicine.