# **Medicine stands still: Ancient and Islamic**

## **KEY WORDS**

- **Medicine:** The science or practice of the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease or a drug or other preparation for the treatment or prevention of disease.
- **The four humours:** The belief that the body has four liquids (humours) which must be in balance to keep the body healthy.
- **Symptom:** A physical or mental sign that something is wrong with the body or mind. **Caliph:** The name given to the leader of Sunni Islam.
- **Diagnosis:** When a doctor identifies the illness which a patient has.
- Symptom: A physical or mental sign that something is wrong with the body or mind.
- Secular: Something which is not connected to religion.
- **Baghdad:** A city, which is now the capital of Iraq which was the largest city in the Islamic Empire during the Middle Ages.
- **Physician:** A person who cures moral or spiritual ills; a healer, or a person qualified to practise medicine, especially one who specializes in diagnosis and medical treatment.
- **Encyclopedia:** A book or set of books giving information on many subjects or on many aspects of one subject and typically arranged alphabetically.

## **KEY INDIVIDUALS**

- **Hippocrates:** Ancient Greek physician who created the theory of the four humours. Known as the father of Medicine
- **Galen:**Physician in ancient Rome who developed Hippocrates' theories further (e.g. The Theory of Opposites) and wrote more than 350 books about medicine. His teachings were promoted by the Church because they fitted with Christian ideology.
- Al Razi (Rhazes) and Ibn Sina (Avicenna): Al-Razi and Ibn Sina (also known as Avicenna) wrote huge medical encyclopaedias which contained the work of ancient writers along with their own knowledge.

Al-Zahrawi (Abulcasis): 'Father of modern surgery'. Wrote Al Tasrif. Invented 26 new surgical tools and techniques including ligature use.



Source Type	
Author	1
Date	
Purpose	

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## Factors Question (16 marks + 4 SPaG)

<u>Factors:</u> War, Communication, Individual Genius, Religion, Government, Chance, Science and Technology

1) Was the preservation of the writings of the ancient Greeks and Romans the most important contribution that Islam made to medical progress?

2) Was religion the main factor in the development of ancient and Islamic medicine?

## Significance Question (8 <u>marks)</u>

 1) Explain the significance of the work Hippocrates on the development of surgery.
2) Explain the significance of Islamic medicine on the development of medicine. Source C: A medieval drawing of Galen dissecting a pig in the second century AD.

## Source Usefulness Question (8 marks) 1) How useful is Source C to a historian studying Galen's ideas about medicine and

surgery?

## **Comparison Question**

- Compare the work of Hippocrates and Galen. In what ways are they similar?
- Compare the work of Galen and Abulcasis. In what ways are they similar?



## GCSE History – Britain: Health and the People c1000- Present Day



### **KEY WORDS**

**Apothecaries:** People who mixed herbal remedies and had good knowledge of the healing powers of plants.

**Astrology:** The study of the alignment of the planets and stars, used for diagnosing illness. Many people believed the Black Death was caused by a bad alignment of the planets. **Barber surgeon:** Barbers worked with sharp knives and, as well as cutting hair, they often

performed surgical procedures. Barbers would do surgery and not physicians.

**The Black Death:** An outbreak of the bubonic plague, spread by fleas on rats. Usually fatal within 3-5 days.

**The four humours:** The theory that ill health is caused by an imbalance of the four humours in the body. These are blood, phlegm (what is coughed up or sneezed out of the nose), black bile (excrement) and yellow bile (pus or vomit).

Mass: Roman Catholic service where bread and wine is given.

Miasma: Smells from decaying matter that were believed to cause disease.

**Phlebotomy or bloodletting:** A common treatment for imbalance of the humours. This was done by cutting a vein, using leeches or cupping (piercing the skin with a knife).

**Purging:** Inducing people to vomit or giving them a laxative to clear out their digestive system; used to balance out the humours.

**Regimen Sanitatis:** A set of instructions by physicians to help a patient maintain good health. This would have included bathing, not over-eating and taking moderate exercise.

**Supernatural cures:** Religious cures such as healing prayers, paying for a mass, fasting and going on pilgrimages.

**Urine charts:** Physicians would examine people's urine, checking colour, thickness, smell (and even taste) to diagnose illness.

**Trephination/Trepanning:** Cutting a hole in the skull to release evil spirits/pressure. **Amputation:** Cutting off a limb.

Cauterisation: Burning a wound shut, often with a hot iron.

Gongfermer: A person who was hired to empty cesspits.

**Infirmary:** An area in a monastery where monks would care for the sick.

**Leprosy:** A disease which can cause damage to the skin and limbs.

Bubo: A swelling in the armpit or groin.

**Epidemic:** A widespread outbreak of one disease.

Pneumonic: Something which affects the lungs.

#### **Factors Question**

Factors: War, Communication, Individual Genius, Religion, Government, Chance, Science and Technology

1) Was the wealth of the monastery the main factor in keeping monks healthy in Medieval England?

# Medicine stands still: Medieval

## KEY INDIVIDUALS

**De Chauliac:** Wrote Great Surgery. Criticised Theodoric of Lucca's ideas about pus. Ideas were influential.

Frugardi: Wrote The Practice of Surgery. Argued against trepanning.

**Theodoric of Lucca:** Disagreed with Galen's ideas about pus. Argued that it was not needed for a wound to heal. Used wine as an early antiseptic. Ideas not influential (due to criticising Galen and de Chauliac's book).

John of Arderne: Wrote Practica. Army surgeon during Hundred Years War. Used opium as an early anaesthetic. Created Guild of Surgeons, 1348.

**Mondino:** Wrote Anathomia (about anatomy) after a public dissection in Bologna. **Roger Bacon:** Was an English Franciscan friar, philosopher, scientist and scholar of the 13th century who suggested that doctors should do their own research instead of accepting what Galen had said, church leaders put him in prison for heresy.

Source Type Author Date Purpose

Source B: A medieval woodcut (c. 1480) showing two men performing flagellants on themselves during the Black Death.

## Significance Question (8 marks)

1) Explain the significance of the work of John Arderne on the development of medicine.

2) Explain the significance of the Black Death on Public Health.

## Comparison Question (8 marks)

 Compare public health in a Medieval town with public health in a Medieval Monastery. In what ways are they different?



## Source Usefulness Question (8 marks)

1) How useful is Source B to a historian studying how people tried to treat or prevent themselves for getting the plague during the Black Death?

![](_page_3_Figure_0.jpeg)

## GCSE History – Britain: Health and the People c1000- Present Day

# The beginning of Change: Renaissance

### **KEY WORDS**

Monastery: A closed religious community where monks live. Field Surgeon: A surgeon who works on the battlefield. Anatomy: The knowledge of the body and how it works.

**Dissection:** Cutting up the body in order to find out or explain how it works.

**Anaesthetics:** Something which makes a patient unconscious or causes insensitivity to pain. **Antiseptics:** Something which destroys germs.

**Investigative dissection:** Dissecting the body in order to make new discoveries, rather than to just prove Galen right.

**Realism:** A style of art, popular in the Renaissance, which tried to make art close to real life. **Ligature:** A thread which is used to tie a blood vessel closed.

**Cauterisation:** Burning a wound in order to close it and stop blood loss. In the Renaissance this was done with a hot iron.

#### Prosthetic limb: A fake limb.

**Exile:** When a person is banned from a town or country.

Mercury: A metal which is poisonous to humans, often causing insanity and death.

Syphilis: A sexually transmitted disease which can cause painful rashes and sores.

**The scientific method:** A way of making discoveries where someone has an idea, tests it, and then comes to a conclusion based on the results, rather than personal opinion.

Blood letting: Removing blood from the body to balance the four humours.

**Epidemic:** A widespread outbreak of one disease.

**Pomander:** A ball, sometimes worn around the neck, which contained sweet smelling herbs. **Miasma:** The belief that bad smell<u>s cause disease.</u>

**Bills of Mortality:** Documents which show how many people died from which causes within a certain time period.

**Leeches:** A bloodsucking worm which was used to balance the four humours. **Quarantine:** When people are isolated to make sure they can't spread diseases.

## Factors Question (16 marks + 4 SPaG)

<u>Factors:</u> War, Communication, Individual Genius, Religion, Government, Chance, Science and Technology

1) Has the role of communication been the main factor in the development of medicine in Britain during the Renaissance period?

## KEY INDIVIDUALS

**Galen:** Physician in ancient Rome who developed Hippocrates' theories further (e.g. The Theory of Opposites) and wrote more than 350 books about medicine . Many of his ideas were disproved during the Renaissance.

**Vesalius:** The most famous anatomist of this period: disproved many of Galen's ideas and encouraged doctors to base their work on dissection rather than believing old books. **Pare:** Battlefield surgeon who ran out of boiling oil so moved away from cauterization of wounds.

**Harvey:** Responsible for discovering the theory of circulation of blood around the body. **Paracelsus:** Swiss scientist who rejected the Theory of the Four Humours and saw disease as something separate from the body, which needed to be attacked.

**Sydenham:** Known as 'The English Hippocrates'. Sydenham refused to rely on medical books when diagnosing a patient's illness and made a point of closely observing their symptoms and treating the disease causing them. Sydenham laid the foundation for a more scientific approach to medicine from the 18th century onwards.

![](_page_4_Picture_27.jpeg)

**Comparison** 

**Question (8 marks)** 

1) Compare Medieval

autonomy with

anatomy. In what

ways were they

Renaissance

different?

Source Usefulness Question (8 marks) 1) How useful is Source A to a historian studying the impact of Versailles on Medicine?

**Source A:** The front cover of Vesalius' book 'The Fabric of the Human Body' published in 1543. It was published with high quality illustrations. Medical students used his book to teach them about the anatomy of the human body.

## Significance Question (8 marks) 1) Explain the significance of the work of William Harvey for the development of

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surgery.

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# A revolution in medicine: 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> Century

#### **KEY WORDS**

Philanthropist: Someone who tries to improve the quality of life of other people. **Dispensary:** A place which prepares and gives out medicines and remedies. Physician: A doctor who trained at university. Inoculation: Protecting someone from a disease by giving them a weakened version. **Cowpox:** A disease, similar but less lethal than smallpox, which can be transmitted by cows. Laissez-faire: This French term means 'leave be'. It is used to describe governments who do not get involved in the day-to-day lives of their population. Typhus: A disease spread by lice on clothing.

Miasma: The belief that bad smells cause disease.

Immune system: The network of cells in the body which resists bacteria and disease. Act: A law.

Germ theory: The correct theory that germs cause disease, rather than being the product of it. Cholera: An infectious and often fatal bacterial disease typically contracted from infected water

Spontaneous generation: The belief that germs are the result of disease and decay, rather than the cause of them.

Quarantine: A state or period of isolation (designed to limit the spread of infection).

Surgery's 'black period': This was a period between the 1850s and 1870s where the number of people dying from surgery increased because surgeons were attempting more complex operations which carried a higher risk of infection and blood loss.

Aseptic surgery: Surgery where microbes are prevented from getting into a wound in the first place, as opposed to being killed off with an antiseptic.

**Cess pit:** A pit for storing sewage or waste.

Microbes: A microbe is any living organism that is too small to see without a microscope. Microbes include bacteria.

Pasteurisation: The process of heating liquids, such as milk, to kill off germs.

Factors Question (16 marks + 4 SPaG) Factors: War, Communication, Individual Genius, **Religion, Government, Chance, Science and** Technology

1) Was luck the main factor in the development of vaccines between 1880 and 1900?

## Comparison **Question (8** marks) 1) Compare the work of Pasteur and

are they different?

# **Source Usefulness**

Question 1) How useful is Source C to a historian studying the spread of disease in the 19<sup>th</sup> century?

![](_page_6_Picture_19.jpeg)

FATHER THAMES INTRODUCING HIS OFFSPRING TO THE FAIR CITY OF LONDON.

![](_page_6_Picture_21.jpeg)

### **KEY INDIVIDUALS**

Jenner: 'The father of immunology'; Edward Jenner discovered the smallpox vaccination in 1796. Simpson: Best known for discovering the effects of chloroform, he became the first person to be knighted for their services to medicine following the positive impact that regular use of anaesthetics had on surgery.

Lister: Joseph Lister used carbolic acid in surgery for the first time in 1865. His discovery was slow to catch on. It was not until the 1890s that new antiseptic methods were introduced to improve surgery on a widespread scale.

**Chadwick:** Edwin Chadwick published a Report on the Sanitary Conditions of the Labouring Classes in 1842; this was an important stepping stone in convincing the government to take action on Public Health.

Snow: In 1854, John Snow discovered the significance of the Broad Street pump in causing cholera. Snow's work, in combination with 'The Great Stink' of 1858 meant that the government took action and invested in new sewage systems.

Nightingale: Although not aware of Germ Theory, Nightingale is famous for revolutionising hygiene standards in hospitals during the Crimean War. In 1859, Notes on Nursing was published, allowing many other nurses to benefit.

Pasteur: In 1861, Louis Pasteur published Germ Theory. This proved that microbes in the air caused decay in substances such as wine and vinegar and changed people's conception of disease. Koch: Following Pasteur's discovery, Robert Koch, a German scientist, began to look for specific microbes which caused disease. He identified lots of these, including the microbe that caused

Bazalgette: An engineering expert that planned and built the first sewers which could cope with London's waste.

Source C: An 1858 Punch cartoon depicting the Thames, as a source of terrible diseases for Londoners.

![](_page_6_Picture_31.jpeg)

Source Type

Author

marks 1) Explain the significance of Lister's work for the development of

![](_page_7_Figure_0.jpeg)

## GCSE History – Britain: Health and the People c1000- Present Day

## KEY WORDS

**Hereditary diseases:** Hereditary diseases are caused by genetic factors. This means that they can be passed on from parents to their children. Examples include Cystic Fibrosis and Huntingdon's disease.

DNA: Short for Deoxyribonucleic acid. DNA carries genetic information from one living thing to another. DNA information determines characteristics like hair and eye colour.Genome: The complete set of DNA containing all the information needed to build a particular organism. In humans, this is more than three billion DNA pairs.

Mastectomy: Surgery during which a person has one or both of their breasts removed. MRSA: A strain of drug resistant bacteria that is particularly resistant to antibiotics. NHS: The Nation Health Service, set up in 1948, meant everybody had free health care for the first time. The development of democracy and WWII put pressure on the government to create it.

**Anaesthetic:** Drugs given to produce unconsciousness or limit pain before and during surgery.

**Dialysis:** A blood purifying treatment for people suffering from kidney failure.

### Factors Question (16 marks + 4 SPaG)

**Factors:** War, Communication, Individual Genius, Religion, Government, Chance, Science and Technology

1) Has science been the main factor in the development of penicillin?

2)Has war been the main factor leading to the

improvements in surgery?

3)Have governments been the main factor in the

development of public health?

Source Type Author Date

Purpose

![](_page_8_Picture_15.jpeg)

Source Usefulness Question (8 marks) 1) How useful is Source A to a historian studying the Beveridge Report and the NHS?

# Modern medicine: 20th Century

## **KEY INDIVIDUALS**

**Bevan:** Aneurin Bevan was the Minister of Health who was responsible for setting up the NHS in 1948. **Beveridge:** Sir William Beveridge was the civil servant who published The Beveridge Report in 1942. It recommended setting up a National Health Service, free to everyone and paid for through taxes. Over 600,000 copies were sold – people queued outside shops to buy a copy!

Crick and Watson: James Watson (an American biologist) and Francis Crick (an English physicist) discovered the structure of DNA in 1953. This was crucial in allowing scientists to identify the different causes of hereditary disease. Later, in 1990, James Watson led the Human Genome Project. Fleming: Alexander Fleming was a British doctor who, in 1928, accidentally identified penicillin. He did not publish his findings, but was awarded the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1945 for this discovery. Florey and Chain: Howard Florey and Ernst Chain were the first scientists to extract penicillin and prove that it was effective at fighting infection in the human body. The first human patient was given penicillin in 1941; a policeman who had been scratched by a thorn and developed septicaemia. Landsteiner: In 1901, Karl Landsteiner discovered blood groups, which meant that successful blood transfusions were possible for the first time. When they'd attempted this before, blood had simply clotted.

**Lloyd George:** David Lloyd George was the Prime Minister who carried out the social reforms in the 1900's.

**Mendel:** Gregor Mendel was a German scientist who theorised that genes come in pairs, with one being inherited from each parent. This was known as the fundamental laws of inheritance, and although he could not prove his theory because microscopes were not powerful enough, he was crucial in paving the way for Crick and Watson.

## <u>Comparison Question (8</u> <u>marks)</u>

- Compare the work of Edward Jenner with the work of Florey and Chain. In what ways was their work similar?
- 2) Compare Pasteur and Fleming In what ways are they similar?

## Significance Question (8 marks)

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- 1) Explain the significance of Liberal social reforms for the prevention of disease.
- 2) Explain the significance of Crick and Watson's discovery of DNA?

![](_page_8_Picture_29.jpeg)

Evening standard December 1949. It's called

"The Right Turn".

![](_page_9_Figure_0.jpeg)