

Ancient Diseases & Medicine

Ancient Egyptian Medicine (c. 3000 BC)

Egyptian doctors trained at medical schools with detailed records and texts ("The House of Life"). However, theories based on superstition, religion but some effective experience.

Positives - Skillful surgeons e.g. cataracts (eye surgery), setting broken bones, some effective herbal cures e.g. Honey as an antiseptic for wounds. Negatives - Incantations (magic spells), prayers to the Gods. Could not treat serious injuries or diseases like cancer (but they did recognise what cancer was).



Ancient Greek Medicine (1000 BC)

HIPPOCRATES created the Theory of the 4 HUMOURS to explain the causes of disease. An imbalance of the 4 body fluids would lead to illness.

BLOOD, PHLEGM, BLACK BILE, YELLOW BILE

A more natural form of medicine better than superstition but not scientifically correct.



Ancient Roman Medicine (300 BC)

The 4 HUMOURS was still the dominant belief of doctors. Roman doctor GALEN wrote a textbook of all the treatments that could be used to rebalance the humours e.g. blood letting using leeches, rotten fish to induce vomiting. Roman surgeons learnt from following the Roman Armies into battle. Their training involved blocking out the screams of patients.



Modern Diseases & Medicine

Modern Age Pandemics

COVID-19 spread across the world in 2019.

It was the largest killer disease since Spanish Flu after World War 1 in 1918.

Over 7 Million people across the World would die and over 250,000 in the UK. In 2019 and 2020, we lived through Government imposed LOCKDOWNS; public health campaigns/ face masks, ground breaking new mRNA vaccines and online learning!



HANDS

FACE

SPACE

DISEASES through Time

Studying diseases through time and the different ways you could have died throughout history shows you how people lived across time.

You will also study the trends and changes from Ancient Egyptian lives to the modern day Covid pandemic.

Keywords:
EPIDEMIC
PANDEMIC
ANCIENT

SURGERY
INFECTION
TREATMENT
SYMPTOMS



19th Century Industrial Britain Disease & Medicine

Industrial Age/ 19th Century Pandemics (1066 AD)

The INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION of the 19th century saw the rapid rise of towns and cities. The new factory jobs attracted thousands of new workers (e.g. IRISH) and cities like Manchester grew 4x their original size. This rapid rise caused overcrowding, pollution from smog and smoke and more human waste than the old Roman Sewers could cope with. These horrible conditions created new killer epidemics & diseases like CHOLERA. London became known as "The Great Stink" by the 1840s. The Government were forced to act as 40-50,000 people were dying every time CHOLERA returned. One solution was to build new sewers and to clean the streets. Building new sewers meant ripping up huge areas of towns and cities at great cost but it created the modern hygienic towns and cities that we enjoy today.

Medieval or Middle Ages Disease & Medicine

Medieval Pandemic & The Black Death (1347-49)

Beliefs had changed little since ANCIENT TIMES. The 4 Humours, Religion & Superstition were still the main theories. MIASMA (theory that bad smell caused disease) The Black Death (BUBONIC PLAGUE) killed nearly 50% of Europe. 40-50% infected would die.

Actual causes = poor hygiene, bacteria, rats, flea bites, spread across Trade Routes & ships from Asia to Europe. SYMPTOMS= fever, chills, dizziness, vomiting, red rashes, dark LESIONS (blotches), BUBOES (swellings), death.



Early Modern or Renaissance Diseases & Medicine

Renaissance/ Early Modern Epidemics (1660s)

The BUBONIC PLAGUE returned as an EPIDEMIC to Britain in 1664. London was again the first place hit. However, after 300 years, the Government had learnt some lessons and had some ideas to deal with the problem.

Infected people were immediately QUARANTINED and Watchers & Seekers were employed to find new cases and guard against those infected. London was put into a LOCKDOWN to stop the spread and orders to close pubs and theatres helped reduce the spread. However, they still believed in prayer, weird cures and MIASMA (bad smells causing disease). Yet the spread was restricted mainly to the South East around London and most of Britain escaped as they contained the outbreak with those new ideas.

