

**Medicine in Britain, c.1250-present – Bare Bones**

**Medieval Medicine, c.1250-1500**

**Ideas about the causes of disease**

- God sent disease: punishing sins
- Four humours: out of balance
- Miasma : bad air breathed in

**Treatment/prevention**

- Herbal remedies made from plants
- Bleeding and purging
- Praying, pilgrimages

**Key People, Events, Influences**

- Galen & Hippocrates
- Physicians, barber-surgeons, wise women, apothecaries
- Hospitals (travellers/pilgrims) monks, nuns
- Black Death, 1348
- The Church

**Renaissance Medicine 1500-1700**

**Ideas about the causes of disease**

- Miasma/God/Four Humours
- **Vesalius**: improved understanding of the human body (anatomy), proving some of Galen's ideas wrong.
- **Harvey**: discovered how blood circulated around the body, proving Galen wrong.

**Treatment/prevention**

- Little change
- **Sydenham**: new ideas about diagnosing disease and treating patients
- **Physicians** used more medical books (printing press) and did dissections

**Key People, Events, Influences**

- Vesalius, Harvey, Sydenham
- The Royal Society, printing press.
- Great Plague, 1665.
- Hospitals for sick people
- Scientific approach

**C18th & C19th Medicine, 1700-1900**

**Ideas about the causes of disease**

- Miasma
- **Germ theory**: Pasteur discovered microbes/germs caused disease. Koch identified specific germs for TB and cholera. John Snow discovered cause of cholera.

**Treatment/prevention**

- **Vaccination** (smallpox-Jenner, rabies-Pasteur). Compulsory vaccinations, 1852.
- **Hospital care**: Nightingale improved training of nurses, better hospitals.
- **Surgery**: anaesthetics (Simpson), antiseptics (Lister)

**Key People, Events, Influences**

- Jenner, Pasteur, Koch, Simpson, Lister, Snow, Nightingale.
- Government intervention- Public Health Act, 1848, 1875.
- Scientific improvements e.g. microscopes

**Modern Medicine, 1900-Present**

**Ideas about the causes of disease**

- Discovery of DNA: led to knowledge that specific genes pass on illnesses e.g. Cystic fibrosis
- Lifestyle factors e.g. poor diet, smoking
- Better diagnosis e.g. CT scans

**Treatment/prevention**

- **The NHS, 1948**: free health care for all. Range of healthcare e.g. GPs, ambulances, operations e.g. keyhole surgery, vaccinations.
- Lifestyle campaigns e.g. stop smoking.
- Penicillin (antibiotics), magic bullets.

**Key People, Events, Influences**

- Fleming, Florey, Chain, Ehrlich.
- Government intervention-e.g. NHS, laws banning smoking, vaccination campaigns

**Historic Environment: The Western Front (WWI, 1914-1918)**

**The Western Front: Battles**

- **Second Battle of Ypres, 1915**: first use of gas
- **The Somme, 1916**: extremely high casualties
- **Third Battle of Ypres, 1917**: bad weather, waterlogged, drownings
- **Arras, 1917**: use of underground tunnels for shelter
- **Cambrai, 1917**: 1<sup>st</sup> large-scale use of tanks

**Trenches, Weapons& Injuries**

- **Trenches**: zig-zag, crowded
- **No-Man's Land**: waterlogged and craters
- **Weapons**: artillery shells (shrapnel) gas, rifles, machine guns (bullets)
- **Injuries**: trench foot, trench fever, gas attacks, shell shock, shrapnel and bullet wounds

**Medical help & advances**

- **Evacuation route**: Stretcher-bearers, Regimental Aid Post, Dressing Stations, Casualty Clearing Stations, Base Hospitals
- **Medical staff**: RAMC, FANY
- **Medical advances**: mobile x-ray units, blood depots, Thomas splint, Carrel-Dakin method, plastic surgery

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