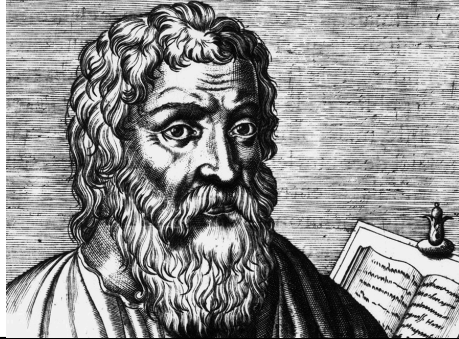



Knowledge Organiser – c1250-c1500: Medicine in medieval England

Key Term	
Malnutrition	An illness caused by lack of food.
Famine	Food shortage, usually caused by bad harvests.
Paralysis	Being unable to move either all, or part of your body as a result of illness, poison or injury.
Diagnosing	Deciding what is wrong with a patient by considering different symptoms. In medieval England physicians could also use star charts to diagnose illness.
Physician	Someone who practices medicine.
Vivisection	Criminals sentenced to death by vivisection had their bodies cut open (dissected) and examined by medical students.
Barber Surgeon	Barbers worked with sharp knives, so as well as giving haircuts they also carried out medical procedures such as bloodletting.
Dysentery	Very severe diarrhoea.
Purging	Clearing anything left in the body, usually by vomiting.
Penance	A punishment inflicted on yourself, to show you are sorry for your sins.
Quarantine	Separating the sick from the healthy to stop the spread of disease.
Bloodletting/phlebotomy	Removing blood from the body to balance the four humours.
Articella	A medieval medical book carried by doctors.
Miasma	Bad air. People believed the smell caused illness.
Materia Medica	Books that contained knowledge of the healing powers of plants and herbs.
Therlaca	Spice based mixture used to treat illness.
Blanc Mangler	Chicken and almond dish used to balance the humours.
Regimen Sanitatis	Set of instructions to maintain good health.
Stewes	A public bath that you could pay to use!

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Key Individuals	
Hippocrates	<p>Theory of the Four Humours. Ancient Greece.</p> 
Galen	<p>Compiled all significant Greek and Roman medical understanding. His books were then used during this period. Ancient Rome.</p> 
The Church	<p>Controlled medical learning and influenced thinking.</p>

Key Dates	
1123	Britain's first hospital, St Bartholomew's was setup
1215	All clergymen banned from operations that cut patients.
1348	Black death arrives in Britain. It killed around 1 million people.
1350	Average life expectancy is 35
1388	Parliament passes the first law requiring streets and rivers to be kept clean by the people.
1440	Printing Press invented.
1500	1,100 hospitals. Bury St Edmunds had 6!

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Questions to consider

- Explain both why and how the Church had an impact on medieval medicine.
- What were the four humours and their properties?
- How did the perceived causes of disease effect how they were treated?
- Who helped the sick in medieval England?
- How did people try to prevent disease?
- What impact did the Black Death have on Britain?

