History

Year 10 Knowledge Organisers – Part 1

MEDIEVAL MEDICINE

Knowledge organiser

Topic 1

The church and religious beliefs had great influence over medicine during the Middle Ages. This lead to a continuation of ideas about cause, prevention and treatment of disease and illness.

Key Dates

EVENTS IN THE MIDDLE AGES

400 BC: Hippocrates develops his Theory of the Four Humours, and creates the Hippocratic Oath.

130-210 AD: Galen develops Hippocrates ideas and creates his Theory of Opposites.

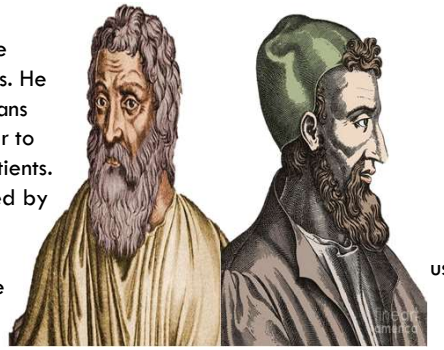
1250: Our course begins at this point, focussing on the later medieval period.

1348: The Black Death sweeps through Europe and enters Britain. It killed around 60% of the population.

ANCIENT MEDICAL IDEAS

HIPPOCRATES

Hippocrates developed the Theory of the Four Humours. He also stated that all physicians should swear an oath never to intentionally harm their patients. These ideas were supported by the Church in the Medieval period, as they followed similar ideas to those in the Bible.



GALEN

Galen built on the ideas of Hippocrates, but instead developed the Theory of Opposites. This became a method of treating disease. He said that whichever humour is out of balance, to use the opposite to rebalance them. This also fit in with the ideas of the Bible.

IDEAS ABOUT THE CAUSE OF DISEASE

FOUR HUMOURS

The theory of the Four Humours said that the body was made up of four elements – blood, phlegm, black bile and yellow bile – which must be balanced in the body. If these humours were not balanced, then you would become sick.

ASTROLOGY

The alignment of the stars and planets also had influence over diseases. Physicians would use the star charts, when a patient was born, and when they fill to diagnose them. The church began to support this idea after the Black Death, as they argued that God himself would control the position of the stars and planets.

RELIGION

The lack of education meant that most people had to learn from the church. The church taught them that disease was a punishment from God for this who had committed a sin, or a test of faith from the Devil. Because people were taught that God controlled every aspect of the world, it was easy to believe that he sent illness too.

MIASMA

A miasma is a bad smell containing harmful fumes. Both Hippocrates and Galen had written about Miasma, which they said came from rotting bodies, swamps and sewage.

TREATMENT OF DISEASE

FOUR HUMOURS

Galen's Theory of Opposites is used to treat an imbalance in the humours. Cold/phlegm = have hot or spicy food. Also, physicians encouraged the use of leeches and cupping to remove the bad blood and purging using herbs to draw out yellow bile.

HERBAL REMEDIES

Wise women have homemade remedies that did work for example honey for infections or mint for the stomach.

RELIGIOUS

People would pray for God to cure them of their illnesses. If God was the one causing it then only he could cure it. An example of this is the Flagellants during the Black Death in 1348

SURGERY

Barber surgeons used trepanning to remove demons from skulls, basic antiseptic like wine, experienced in times but high chance of death due to the dirty tools. They had limited anatomical knowledge.

THE BLACK DEATH 1348

Causes of the Black Death were thought to be supernatural – either as a result of alignment of the planets or as a punishment for God – or a cause of miasma.

Treatments included prayer, strong smelling herbs and herbal remedies. To begin with, physicians tried purging but this made the patients worse.

Prevention was better than treatment: once you caught the Black Death, it was very likely that you would die. People tried to avoid catching it by avoiding the infected.

Town authorities and other local governments tried quarantining people but there was no widespread attempt to control the spread. The government did not feel it was their place to get involved.

PREVENTION OF DISEASE

RELIGION

Most people thought ONLY God could prevent disease, so they focussed on prayer, fasting, pilgrimages to religious sites or shrines. During the Black Death, flagellants publicly whipped themselves to avoid getting sick by punishing their sins.

LIFESTYLE

Hygiene and diet advice was provided by physicians in a set of instructions called the Regimen Sanitatis. Keeping clean by bathing was important. What you ate was believed to affect the humours in the body. Eating too much was discouraged, and many people would regularly purge themselves to avoid digestive problems.

PURIFYING THE AIR

People purified the air by carrying sweet herbs (such as lavender) or a bunch of flowers. There was some action from local government, who tried to tackle the miasma by keeping towns clean. For example, they tried to make sure no rotting animals were left lying around.

CARE AND HOSPITALS

PHYSICIANS

Trained by church at university, no anatomical knowledge as dissection was banned. Took observations and diagnosed. They were trained at university where they read the works of Hippocrates and Galen.

APOTHECARIES

These were chemists who made herbal remedies. They often learned these from their families as they were passed down from person to person. They never had any formal training unlike the physicians.

WISE WOMEN

These were local women with medical skills such as midwifery and making remedies. They were the first port of call for the poorer people as they could not afford physicians or the treatments at apothecaries.

HOSPITALS

The first hospital called St Bartholomew's opened in 1123 and over 500 hospitals by 1400. they offered 'care not cure' and thought God would treat them. They turned away any with diseases.

RENAISSANCE MEDICINE

Knowledge organiser

Topic 2

Renaissance means 're-birth', it was a period when old ideas were questioned and new ideas were discovered. However, this led to very little change

Key Dates

EVENTS IN THE RENAISSANCE

1476: The Printing Press is first introduced in England, meaning things can be printed in a much faster way.

1500: The start of the Renaissance period.

1543: Vesalius writes his book 'On the Fabric of the Human Body' and revolutionises dissection and the human anatomy.

1628: William Harvey discovers the heart acts as a pump and circulates blood around the body through veins and arteries.

1660: The Royal Society receives the Royal Charter from King Charles II, showing an interest in science and technology.

1665: The Great Plague hits London, causing 68,596 people in London alone.

1676: Thomas Sydenham published 'Observationes Medicae', which shows all the diseases and their treatments, including Scarlett Fever

WHY WERE NEW IDEAS SHARED MORE EASILY?

PRINTING PRESS

The printing press enabled medical information to spread further and more quickly and contributed to the eventual decline of the influence of the church. New physicians were able to publish books that criticised Galen.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY

Founded in London in 1660 to discuss new ideas in astronomy, medicine and science. Made it possible for scientists and physicians to study one another's works.

PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND CARE

CONTINUITY

- ❑ Bloodletting, purging and sweating
- ❑ Herbal remedies
- ❑ The practise of Regimen Sanitates
- ❑ The removal of bad air
- ❑ Treatment of the sick by apothecaries and surgeons for those who could not afford a physician
- ❑ Women cared for the sick who did not go to hospitals

CHANGE

- ❑ People started to believe in transference
- ❑ People began to look for chemical cures for disease rather than relying on herbs and bloodletting
- ❑ Ideas that the weather conditions were the cause of disease became more popular and so people would relocate to avoid a disease
- ❑ Hospitals began to treat people with wounds and curable diseases such as fevers
- ❑ Hospitals that specialised in one particular disease were now in this period. These became known as pest houses.

THE GREAT PLAGUE 1665

- ❑ Causes of the Great Plague were thought to be supernatural, either to do with the planets as a punishment from God – or Miasma.
- ❑ Most people now recognised that the plague was spread from person to person, and so there was an effort to enforce quarantine. People would be locked into their homes for 6 weeks with a red cross painted on their door.
- ❑ Prevention methods included creating a strong smell to ward off the bad smells, this could be done using a pomander or strong perfumes.
- ❑ The local government in London took a lot more action than in previous outbreaks. They closed down theatres, banned large funerals and weddings, and collected dead bodies at the end of each day.

ANDREAS VESALIUS

- ✓ Studied anatomy, became a professor of surgery and anatomy at Padua. He was allowed to do dissections.
- ✓ Did his own dissections and wrote books on his observations using accurate diagrams.
- ✓ He pointed out Galens mistakes. Vesalius said there were no holed in the septum of the heart and they the jaw bone is made of two bones.
- ✓ He encouraged doctors to dissect and look for themselves.

THOMAS SYDENHAM

- ✓ He was nicknamed the English Hippocrates because he believed in careful observation of the human body.
- ✓ He moved ideas away from Galen, as he encouraged doctors to look for themselves.
- ✓ He wrote a book called 'Observationes Medicae' where he wrote down all the diseases, their symptoms and treatments.
- ✓ He discovered new diseases doing this such as Scarlett Fever.

WILLIAM HARVEY

- ✓ He discovered that blood circulated around the body. Instead of being made in the liver.
- ✓ He proved the heart acted as a pump, propelling blood around the body.
- ✓ Harvey's work had little impact at first, because it couldn't be used to improve medical treatments.
- ✓ Harvey inspired other scientists to carry out further experiments, building on his discoveries about blood and circulation.

IDEAS ABOUT THE CAUSE OF DISEASE

FOUR HUMOURS

Although many physicians were now challenging the Four Humours, most ordinary people still believed in it. Therefore, most physicians stuck to the idea even though they were beginning to doubt it. Patients were paying physicians to treat them, not experiment on them. '

ASTROLOGY

Though not as popular as before, people still believed that astrology influenced disease. Some blamed the 1665 plague on an unusual alignment between Saturn and Jupiter between October and November 1664.

RELIGIOUS EXPLANATIONS

Most people now recognised that God did not send diseases, although in desperate times of epidemic (the Great Plague)they still turned to religious explanations. Humanism was on the rise – this was a way of thinking that broke away from religious or supernatural explanations, and believed that humans could make up their own minds about the world.

MIASMA

Most people still believed in Miasma and that it caused disease. A miasma could be cause by rotting food, decaying corpses, excrement or any other smelly, dirty place.

INDUSTRIAL MEDICINE

Knowledge organiser

Topic 3

From 1700, the church began to lose its influence over disease and illness as there was a focus on scientific explanations. This period saw the growth of cities, which brought threatening diseases such as small pox.

Key Dates

EVENTS IN THE INDUSTRIAL PERIOD

1700: The Industrial Medicine period begins, this coincides with the industrial revolution in England.

1796: Jenner develops the Smallpox Vaccine.

1847: James Simpson discovers chloroform as an anaesthetic and tests it on women in childbirth.

1854: John Snow discovers the link between the 1854 cholera outbreak and the Broad Street Pump.

1854: Florence Nightingale treats wounded soldiers in the Crimean War.

1859: Nightingale publishes her Notes on Nurses.

1860: Florence Nightingales School for Nurses opens.

1861: Pasteur discovers Germ Theory

1866: Joseph Lister begins to use carbolic acid as an antiseptic in surgery

1875: The Second Public Health Act

1881: Pasteur develops a vaccination for anthrax

1882: Robert Koch discovers bacteria causes tuberculosis

1895: William Rontgen discovers x-rays

FIGHTING CHOLERA

- ✓ Cholera first appeared in Britain in 1831
- ✓ There were four major epidemics in the 19th century and they particularly affected the poor people living in cities.
- ✓ John Snow thought that cholera was spread by water, not by a miasma.
- ✓ During the 1854 epidemic, he mapped the cholera fatalities around Golden Square in Soho. The evidence suggested that the outbreak was connected to the Broad street pump.
- ✓ He presented his findings to the government. However, they did not take action straight away.
- ✓ By 1858, the government were ready to take action to provide clean water for the population.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Before the 1800s, the government had a laissez-faire (leave alone) attitude towards public health. They felt it was not their responsibility. In 1842, Edwin Chadwick published his Report on the Sanitary Conditions of the Labouring Classes. It shows the poor people in cities had a much lower life expectancy. Chadwick suggested that local governments should be responsible for public health.

1848 PUBLIC HEALTH

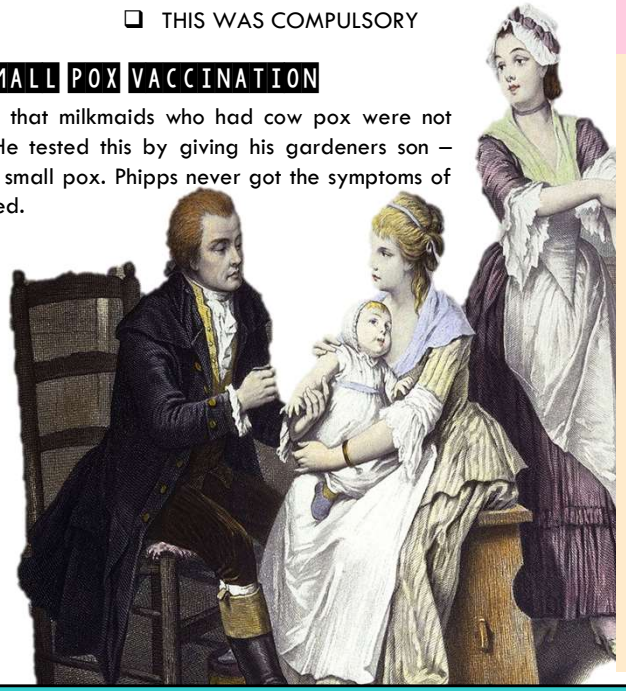
- ❑ Created as a response to Chadwick's report.
- ❑ National board of health set up
- ❑ Local councils encouraged to raise taxes to pay for new public health improvements
- ❑ Councils were allowed to appoint medical officers to oversee public health
- ❑ IT WAS NOT COMPULSORY.

1875 PUBLIC HEALTH

- ❑ Created because of cholera and germ theory
- ❑ Provide clean water
- ❑ Dispose of sewage safely – not in the river!
- ❑ Build public toilets
- ❑ Employ a public health officer to monitor disease
- ❑ THIS WAS COMPULSORY

EDWARD JENNER'S SMALL POX VACCINATION

Jenner was a country doctor. He heard that milkmaids who had cow pox were not getting smallpox and so investigated. He tested this by giving his gardeners son – James Phipps – cow pox, and then later small pox. Phipps never got the symptoms of small pox and so Jenner realised it worked.



REACTIONS TO THE VACCINE

- ✓ Jenner could not scientifically explain how his vaccination works, especially as Germ Theory was still 100 years from being created.
- ✓ Inoculators were afraid of loosing money so did not want to use the new vaccinations
- ✓ Many were worried about the side effects – they worried about giving themselves a disease that comes from cows.
- ✓ Some members of the church believed that vaccinations were not natural.

IDEAS ABOUT THE CAUSE OF DISEASE

SPONTANEOUS GENERATION

This was a new theory that developed in the early 1700s, which said that microbes were created by decaying matter (e.g. rotting animals or food).It seemed logical because scientists were able to see microbes. In actual fact microbes are the cause of decay, not created by it.

THE GERM THEORY

In 1861, Louis Pasteur came up with the Germ Theory and proved that bacteria in the air caused decay (rotting), this proved Spontaneous Generation wrong. At first, Germ Theory was not believed and many rejected the theory. In the 1870s, the Germ Theory was developed by Robert Koch, who's experiments (growing and dying bacteria) proved that specific bacteria caused disease. This was a huge breakthrough, and became the basis for identifying bacterial disease we use today. The Germ Theory took over 30 years to be accepted.

SURGERY AND HOSPITALS

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE	Trained as a nurse, helped in Crimean war in 1854. She made changes to the cleanliness of the ward making the death rate fall from 40% to 2%. In 1860 she set up a school for nurses.
JAMES SIMPSON	The development of anaesthetics such as chloroform, which was discovered by Simpson in 1847, greatly improved the success rate of surgery. This however led to the Black Period in Surgery.
JOSEPH LISTER	He developed the first antiseptics using carbolic acid, which he discovered after reading Germ Theory and looking at its use in sewers in Carlisle. This reduced infection and ended the black period in surgery.

MODERN MEDICINE
Knowledge organiser
Topic 4

The twentieth century saw great changes in diagnosis, treatment and prevention as a result of advancing science and technology. After accepting its responsibility for public health, the government adopted a major role in providing medical care.

Key Dates

EVENTS IN THE MODERN PERIOD

1901: Karl Landsteiner discovers blood groups.

1906: first magic bullet is created by Paul Ehrlich (Salvarsan 606)

1906-14: Liberal Government pass series of laws focused on individual health.

1928: Alexander Fleming accidentally discovered penicillin bacteria.

1932: second magic bullet created by Gerhard Domagk (prontosil)

1938: Florey and Chain develop penicillin research into a working drug.

1941: US companies mass produce penicillin

1942: Beveridge Report is written producing a blueprint for the welfare state.

1948: The National Health Service is founded

1953: DNA discovered by Crick and Watson

1986: the Human Genome Project to map DNA begins

2007: Smoking ban introduced in public places in the UK

2010: First human face transplant successfully carried out in Spain.

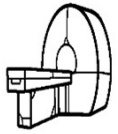
DIAGNOSING DISEASE

The biggest change in the 20th century was that treatment was now based on medical testing, using science and technology.

BLOOD TESTS
From the 1930s, used to test for conditions such as anaemia or deficiencies.

X-RAYS
From 1890 they were used to spot broken bones and shrapnel.

BIOPSY
A sample of human tissue can be used to identify diseases e.g. cancer



CT SCANS
Advanced X-rays which can be used to diagnose some cancers

ULTRASOUNDS
Using sound waves to look at children in women or kidney stones

THE FORMATION OF THE NHS

The NHS was launched by the government in 1948. Its aim was to provide medical care to everybody that was free at the point of contact, and would be paid for through a National Insurance Tax that everyone would pay. It was overseen by the Minister of Health: Aneurin Bevan, and was inspired by a 1942 report by William Beveridge. The NHS took over existing hospitals and surgeries, but the government could not afford to update them initially. Therefore, in the short term access to medical care improved but the care itself did not. The government made changes in the 1960s, including building more hospitals across the country, and introducing a GPs charter in 1966, which improved standards of care.

IDEAS ABOUT THE CAUSE OF DISEASE

GENETICS AND DNA
DNA identified by Watson and Crick in 1953 showed that some diseases could be passed down family lines. This could be a pre-disposition to specific illnesses such as heart disease or diabetes, or genetic conditions such as cerebral palsy. This allowed doctors the chance to identify what caused some diseases.

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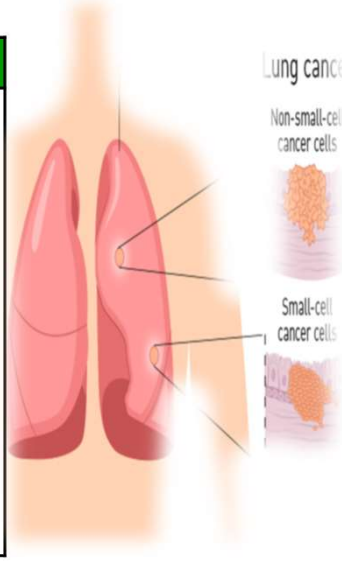
LIFESTYLE FACTORS
Work was done to identify the risk certain lifestyles had on your health. Eating habits, not enough sleep and stress were all noted as potential causes for illnesses throughout your life. This could also be linked to smoking and taking drugs causing more severe diseases.

TREATMENTS OF DISEASE

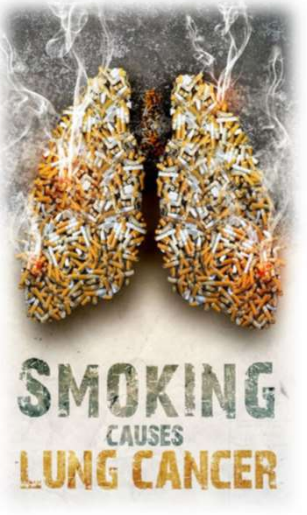
ANTIBIOTICS
An antibiotic is a treatment that kills or limits the growth of bacteria in the body. The first antibiotic was penicillin. Penicillin is different to magic bullets in that it is created using microorganisms, not chemicals. British doctor Alexander Fleming discovered Penicillin by chance in 1928. In 1940, Howard Florey and Ernst Chain found that Penicillin seemed to kill bacteria in infected mice.

CHANGE
Magic bullets were chemical cures which attacked disease causing microbes, while leaving the body unharmed. Paul Ehrlich developed the first magic bullet in 1909. He tested hundreds of arsenic compounds, and on the 606th attempt found one which cured syphilis. This became known as Salvarsan 606. in 1932, Gerhard Domagk discovered that Prontosil cured blood poisoning in mice.



FIGHTING LUNG CANCER

- ✓ Lung cancer became a much more common disease in the 1900s.
- ✓ In the 1950s, the government found a link between smoking and lung cancer.
- ✓ There is no known treatment for lung cancer other than chemotherapy and radiotherapy, so the government have focussed on prevention instead.
- ✓ The ban on tobacco advertising began with a ban on cigarette television advertising in 1965.
- ✓ Over time, the rules governing how and where cigarettes could be advertised were extended, until the government banned cigarette advertising in 2005.



WESTERN FRONT
Knowledge organiser
Topic 5

The First World War was a turning point in modern medicine. With the new weaponry being designed to produce maximum casualty rates, medicine had to keep up with the constant medical challenges they faced.

Key Dates

KEY BATTLES IN WWI

September 1914: WW1 begins.

Oct-Nov: First Battle of Ypres – The British stopped the Germans from capturing the port of Calais

Apr-May 1915: Second Battle of Ypres – A German attack using Chlorine gas for the first time.

July-Nov 1916: Battle of the Somme – Major attack led French and British to move German troops from Verdun.

Apr-May 1916: Battle of Arras – large scale allied attack. Very high casualties.

July-Nov 1917: Third battle of Ypres – aim to capture Passchendaele ridge near Ypres. The ground turned to mud.

Nov-Dec 1917: Battle of Cambrai – first use of a large number of tanks by the British. 40,000 British casualties

SPRING 1918: The German Spring Offensive – Large scale German attack to bring the war to an end before the Americans arrive.

11 Nov 1918: Germany surrendered and the war ended.

FANY

First Aid Nursing Yeomanry. Founded in 1907, helped the wounded as ambulance drivers and nurses. They supports the Queen Alexandra's nurses trained in Nightingale's image.

RAMC

Royal Army Medical Corps. This organisation organised and provided medical care. It consisted of all ranks from doctors to ambulance drivers and stretcher bearers.

WEAPONS OF WAR

RIFLES- Loaded from a cartridge creating rapid fire. Pointed bullets which drove deeper into the body.	**MACHINE GUNS –** Could fire 500 rounds in a minute. Pierced organs and fractured bones.
ARTILLERY- continuous bombardments which could last weeks and months. Caused ½ of all casualties.	**SHRAPNEL –** exploded mid-air. Caused maximum damage, injured arms and legs. 58% of all wounds.
MUSTARD GAS- odourless gas, worked in 12 hours. Caused blisters & could burn the skin through clothing.	**PHOSGENE GAS-** faster acting than Chlorine but with similar effects. Could kill a person within 2 hours.

INJURIES, WOUNDS AND TREATMENT

MOBILE X-RAY UNITS
6 mobile vans were used throughout the British sector of the Western Front to identify bullets and shrapnel.

BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS
Blood loss was a major problem and so transfusions were used at base hospitals. They used a syringe and tube to transfer blood from patient to donor. Sodium citrate was later added to blood so it could be stored.

THOMAS SPLINT
in 1914 men with a thigh wound had a small chance of survival. In 1915 the Thomas Splint was invented which kept the leg stable while being transported, meaning the survival rate increased to 80%

BRAIN SURGERY
injuries to the brain were almost always fatal. New techniques such as magnets to draw out shrapnel, local anaesthetic to avoid brain swelling and specialist brain hospitals were set up to cope with this injury.

PLASTIC SURGERY
Harold Giles pioneered plastic surgery in WW1. he set up Queens Hospital in Kent in 1917, using skin grafts and jaw splints, wiring and metal replacements to restructure facial injuries

GAS GANGRENE
Infections caused by Gas Gangrene and no aseptic surgery led to amputation to stop the spread of the infection. The Carrel Dakin method was introduced which sterilised a wound before closing it to remove the infection and prevent amputation.

ILLNESSES ON THE WESTERN FRONT

TRENCH FOOT
Caused by waterlogged trenches. Prevented by changing socks regularly and keeping feet dry. Rubbing whale oil into feet.

TRENCH FEVER
Caused by body lice. Prevented by disinfecting clothes with a repellent gel and setting up 'delousing stations' behind the lines.

SHELL-SHOCK
Caused by the stressful conditions of war. This was not well understood and so patients were told to rest or given shock treatment. .

THE EVACUATION ROUTE

STRETCHER BEARERS
These would advance on No Mans Land at night to collect the dead or the wounded, Each battalion had 6 stretcher bearers and it took four men to carry a stretcher.

REGIMENTAL AID POST
These gave immediate first aid. Aimed to get as many men as possible back to the fighting. Could not deal with serious injuries – these patients would move onto the next stage. These were usually located near to the frontline, in communication trenches or abandoned buildings.

FIELD AMBULANNCE & DRESSING STATION
Field ambulance was a large medical unit with medical officers and support staff. Dressing station was where emergency treatment was given to the wounded.

CASUALTY CLEARING STATION
These often dealt with critical injuries. Set up in buildings such as factories and schools. Often near a railway line. Had x-ray machines and wards with beds.

BASE HOSPITALS
Located near the coast so wounded men could be shipped back to Britain. They divided patients up into different wards according to their wounds. This allowed doctors to experiment and specialise in a specific injury.

MEDICINE & WESTERN FRONT Glossary

AMPUTATION the removal of a limb by surgery.

ANAESTHETICS A drug or drugs given to produce unconsciousness before and during surgery.

ANATOMY The science of understanding the structure and make-up of the body.

ANTHRAX An infectious disease mostly affecting animals but occasionally people

ANTIBIOTIC A drug made from bacteria that kill other bacteria and so cure an infection or illness.

ANTIBODIES A substance produced in the body to counter infections.

ANTISEPTICS Chemicals used to destroy bacteria and prevent infection.

APOTHECARY A pharmacist or chemist in the medieval period

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.

ASTROLOGY The study of planets and how they might influence the lives of the people.

BACTERIA A tiny living organism, too small to be seen by the naked eye, which causes disease.

BARBER SURGEON Barbers with sharp knives, so as well as giving people hair cuts, they also carried out medical procedures such as blood-letting.

BIOCHEMISTRY The study of the chemical processes that occur in living things.

BLEEDING The treatment of opening a vein or applying leeches to draw blood from the patient. Also means the loss of blood caused by damage to the vessels.

BLOOD TRANSFUSION Blood taken from a healthy person and given to another.

CHEMOTHERAPY Treatment of a disease such as cancer but the use of chemicals.

CHLOROFORM A liquid whose vapour acts as an anaesthetic.

DISSECTION The cutting up and examination of the body.

DNA Deoxyribonucleic acid, the molecule that genes are made of.

DYSENTERY very severe diarrhoea

EPIDEMIC A widespread outbreak of disease.

FOUR HUMOURS The ancient Greeks believed the body contained four humours of liquids – blood, black bile, yellow bile and phlegm.

FLAGELLENT People who whipped themselves to show God they repented their sins and wanted mercy. They hoped to avoid getting sick.

GAS GANGRENE the infection of dead tissue, causing a foul smelling gas.

GENE Part of a cell that determines how our bodies work Genes are passed from parents to children.

GENE THERAPY Medical treatment using normal genes to replace defective ones.

GERM A micro-organism that causes disease.

GERM THEROY The theory that germs cause disease.

HERBAL REMEDY A medicine made up from a mixture of plants.

IMMUNE SYSTEM The body's defence system against infections

IMMUNOTHERAPY A method of treating disease by stimulating the bodies immune system to work more effectively

INFECTION The formation of disease causing germs or micro-organisms.

INNOCULATION Putting a low dose of a disease into the body to help it fight against a more serious attack of the disease.

LEECHES Blood-sucking worms used to drain the blood from a wound.

LIGATURE A thread used to tie a blood vessel during an operation

IMMUNOTHERAPY A method of treating disease by stimulating the bodies immune system to work more effectively

MIASMA Smells from decomposing material were believed to cause disease

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

PASSIVE SMOKING The involuntary inhaling of smoke.

PENANCE A punishment inflicted on yourself to show that you are sorry for your sins.

PENICILLIN The first antibiotic drug produced from a mould to treat infections

PHYSICIAN A doctor of medicine who has trained at university

PHYSIOLOGY the study of how the body works

PLAGUE A serios infectious disease spread to humans by fleas from rats and mice.

PNEUMONIA The inflammation of the lungs due to an infection

POLIO A contagious illness that can cause paralysis and death

PUBLIC HEALTH refers to the well-being of the whole community

PUS A pale yellow or green fluid found in the body

QUARANTINED Separated from the rest of the local population because of illness.

RADIOTHERAPY Treatment of a disease, such as cancer, by the use of radium

REMEDY A drug or treatment that cures or controls the symptoms of disease.

SCARLET FEVER An infectious disease mostly affecting children

SCROFULA Tuberculosis of a gland in the neck. It was believed the touch of the king could cure you

SEPTICAEMIA blood poisoning caused by the spread of bacteria from an infected area.

SMALLPOX A dangerous disease causing fever that was a major cause of death until it was beaten by vaccination

SUPERSTITION An unreasonable belief based on ignorance and sometimes fear

SYPHILIS A sexually transmitted disease that was common from the late fifteenth century until the introduction of penicillin

TRANSFUSION The transfer of blood from one person to another

TRANSFERENCE Belief that an illness or disease could be transferred to something else.

VACCINATION The injection into the body of killed or weakened organisms to give the body resistance against the disease

VIRUS A tiny micro-organism, smaller than bacteria, responsible for infections such as colds, flu, polio and chicken pox

VOLUNTARY HOSPITALS Hospitals supported by charitable donations.

WISE WOMAN A woman believed to be skilled in magic or local customs.