

Y9 AUT1 Knowledge Organiser – Topic One: Medieval Medicine 1250-1500



Medieval Britain

Medieval Britain is the period between **1250-1500** also known as the 13th-16th century or the Middle Ages.

Key events

1123 Britain's first hospital, St Bartholomew's was set up in London

1350 Average life expectancy is 35 years of age

1348-49 The Black Death kills 1/3 of England's population

1388 Parliament passes the first law requiring streets and rivers to be kept clean by the people

Key Concepts

The Medieval Church –The official religion of medieval Britain was Roman Catholic. Daily life and power was dominated by the Church, they controlled education and many people feared God.

The Four Humours. First suggested by Greek doctor Hippocrates. **Black Bile, Yellow Bile, Blood and Phlegm.** These humours linked to elements and seasons. Hippocrates believed that if these humours became unbalanced you would get ill. To get better, you needed to balance them. Galen, a Greek doctor working in Rome continued the theory and added his own ideas. His '**Theory of Opposites**' to heal illness suggested using hot to cure cold.

Medieval Power The emphasis in Medieval Britain was on authority. The King had total power, but the Church had considerable control. People followed authority and would not question the views of King/Church as it would mean risking their lives.

Tier Three Key Words

Superstition	A belief, not based on knowledge, but on the supernatural. For example witchcraft or astrology
Purging	To rid the body of an 'excess' like blood or vomit
Leeching	The use of leeches for bloodletting
Cupping	Using glass cups to draw blood to the surface
Fasting	To avoid eating or drinking
Pilgrimage	A journey to a religious shrine and relics to show your love of God and to cure an illness
Mass	Public worship in the Roman Catholic Church
Astrology	Study of the planets and their effect on humans
Miasma	Bad air which was blamed for spreading disease
Apothecary	A medieval pharmacist or chemist
Wise Woman	A female healer, who used folk medicine and herbal remedies to cure illnesses.
Vademecum	A medieval medical book carried by doctors
Urine Chart	Used to examine urine to define an illness
Physician	A male medically trained doctor
Barber Surgeon	Untrained surgeon, who practiced basic surgery
Dissection	To cut open a human and examine the insides
Epidemic	A widespread outbreak of a disease
Trepanning	Cutting a hole in the skull
Amulet	A charm that bought protection from disease
Black Death	A term to describe the bubonic plague
Monastery	A building where monks live, eat and pray



Y9 AUT 2 Knowledge Organiser – Topic Two: The Medical Renaissance in England, 1500-1700

Renaissance England

The Renaissance was the period between 1500-1700 in England. Art and Science were growing in importance.

Key events

1543 – Vesalius published *The Fabric of the Human Body*. It showed how the human body worked.

1565 – the first dissection was carried out in Cambridge

1628 Harvey published his book *An Anatomical Account of the Motion of the Heart and Blood* which showed blood moving around the body

1645 – The first meeting of the Royal Society

1665 The Great Plague in London. 75,000 died

Key Concepts

The King – Despite some scientific developments, people still believed that the King could cure diseases such as **scrofula** (a skin disease). Being touched by the King was as close as you could get to being touched by God.

Renaissance – this was a time of change (re-birth) when people became interested in all things Greek and Roman. Printing was developed so that books could be published (e.g. Galen, Vesalius). People realised the Greeks had loved enquiry – asking questions and challenging old ideas. They started to do the same – e.g. challenging Galen's theories

Evidence – rather than believing & accepting old ideas (e.g. The Four Humours) without question, scientists and doctors were more willing to experiment (e.g. dissecting bodies) to make scientific discoveries. People started to look to evidence over tradition.

Tier Three Key Words

Continuity	Things or ideas that stayed the same over time
London Treacle	A medicine that was solve to cure the Plague. It contained herbs, spices, honey and opium
Autopsy	Dissecting a body after someone has died to establish cause of death
Diagnosing	Finding out what disease someone has by e.g. taking their pulse and observing the patient
Royal Society	A group of people interested in science who met weekly. They had a laboratory with microscopes. King Charles II was a patron.
Anatomy	The study of the human body and how it works
Physiology	The workings of the body
Microscope	A new invention that allowed things to be magnified
Thermometer	A new invention that allowed someone's temperature to be taken
Mortality Bill	A document in each parish which recorded who had died and what had killed them.
Pesthouse	A hospital for people suffering from infectious diseases, e.g the Plague.
Printing	The process of creating a book. This was developed during the Renaissance



Y9 SPR1 Knowledge Organiser – Topic Three: Medicine in 18th and 19th century Britain

18th and 19th century Britain

This was a time of breakthroughs in medicine in England. There were many scientific discoveries but also many Public Health problems.

Key events

1798 – Edward Jenner developed the first vaccine for Smallpox

1847 – James Simpson developed chloroform as an anaesthetic

1854 – John Snow's maps proved the source of cholera

1861 – Louis Pasteur's germ theory was published

1867- Lister used antiseptic to prevent infection

1875 – The Public Health Act. Local councils had to provide sewers, drainage and fresh water as well as medical officers

1882 Robert Koch identified bacteria that caused specific diseases

Key Concepts

Nursing – Nurses are responsible for the care of patients in hospital. Before 1800, hospitals were dangerous places where death was very likely. The development of nursing changed that.

Breakthrough – a scientific discovery that dramatically alters the way people understood disease – e.g. the discovery of bacteria. This then helps the problem to be solved.

Public Health – when the government takes measures to prevent diseases spreading and to help the population become healthier. The government increasingly took on this role after the development of germ theory

Tier Three Key Words

Vaccine	The injection into the body of killed or weakened organisms to give the body resistance against disease
Smallpox	A dangerous disease causing fever that was beaten by vaccination
Anaesthetic	Drugs given to make someone unconscious before or after surgery
Infection	The formation of disease causing germs
Cholera	A bacterial infection caused by drinking water
Germ Theory	The theory that germs cause disease
Antiseptic	Chemicals used to destroy bacteria and prevent infection
Medical Officer	A person appointed to look after the public health of an area
Contagion	The passing of disease from one person to another
Epidemic	A widespread outbreak of a disease
Sanitation	Providing disposal of human waste and dispensing clean water to improve public health
Workhouses	Accommodation for poor people who could not afford to pay for rent and food.
Dispensary	A place where medicines are given out
Voluntary hospital	Hospitals supported by charitable donations
Chloroform	A liquid whose vapour acts as an anaesthetic and produces unconsciousness
Industrial Revolution	A period of British history when industries (e.g. coal, steel) transformed society



Y9 SPR2 Knowledge Organiser – Topic Four: Medicine in modern Britain, 1900-Present

Modern Britain

From 1900-Present, there have been massive changes in medicine and treatment

Key events

1900 – life expectancy was still below 50 years of age

1911 – National Insurance Bill introduced – gave help if workers were sick or unemployed

1914-1918 World War One leads to developments in surgery and treatment

1928 – Fleming discovered penicillin

1938 – Florey and Chain developed use of penicillin

1948 – The NHS begins following the Beveridge report (1942)

1953 – Crick and Watson discovered the structure of DNA

Key Concepts

War – World War One and World War Two forced developments in treatment and surgery – e.g. plastic surgery and the use of antibiotics in WW2.

Technology – huge improvements in technology greatly improved the understanding and treatment of disease – e.g. X-ray, DNA, Pacemakers, dialysis and keyhole surgery

National Health Service - After WW2, the government introduced the NHS in 1948. This offered free healthcare at the point of delivery. The expansion of who could vote and the shared experience of suffering in WW2 bought about this development

Tier Three Key Words

X-Ray	Technology using particular light rays . Used in WW1 to locate bullets in the body.
Transplant	When a faulty or damaged organ (e.g. liver) is swapped with a healthy one through surgery
Radiotherapy /Chemotherapy	Treatment of a disease, such as cancer, by the use of chemicals
Superbugs	Bacteria that are not affected/destroyed by antibiotics or cleaning
Gene therapy	Medical treatment using normal genes to replace defective ones.
Dialysis	Technology that replicates the function of the kidneys
Polio	A contagious disease that can cause paralysis and death
Penicillin	The first antibiotic drug produced from the mould of penicillin to treat infections
Pacemaker	Implanted technology that regulates heartbeat
Antibiotics	A drug made from bacteria that kill other bacteria and so cure an infection or illness
Magic bullets	A chemical that kills a particular bacteria and nothing else
Electron microscope	Developed 1931. Allows doctors to see cells in fine detail.
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid, the molecule that genes are made of
Cancer	A group of related diseases. Cells divide and spread into the surrounding tissue.

