

Medicine in Britain 1250-Present KO1: The Medieval Period

Fumigate	Burning herbs to make a room/house smell nice.	Bubonic Plague	Spread by fleas on rats. Caused buboes to appear on victims.
Flagellants	A group that whipped themselves in an attempt to end the Black Death.	Buboes	Swellings in the arms pits, groin and neck. Symptom of the Black Death.
Pestilence	A significant disease.	Pneumonic Plague	A more contagious version of the Black Death. Spread by coughing.
Apothecaries	Mixed herbal remedies for the sick.	Barber surgeons	Cut hair, pulled teeth and performed minor 'external' surgeries.
Privy	Toilet.	Hippocrates	Greek doctor. Created the Theory of the Four Humours.
Pomander	A container carrying herbs and flowers. Used to ward off smells.	Galen	Roman doctor and anatomist. Created the Theory of Opposites.
Four Humours	Hippocratic Theory. Health relied on balance of 4 liquids: blood, yellow bile, black bile and phlegm.	Theory of Opposites	A theory that stated that too much of a particular humour should be treated by its opposite – so blood (heat) with something cool, phlegm (cold & wet), with something dry and warm.
Miasmas	Clouds of colourless, odourless gas that caused illness.	Supernatural	A set of beliefs that placed the cause of disease as coming from 'God', spirits or the Devil.
Purging	Removing black bile via the use of laxatives.	Rational	An approach to medicine that was based on observing connections between nature and illness.
Vomiting	Making someone sick to remove yellow or black bile.	Physicians	University trained doctors.
Blood letting	Removing blood – cutting a vein, leeches or cupping were the 3 methods.	Black Death	1348-50. Killed 1/3 of the population.