

## Medicine topic 2a knowledge organiser: Key question: How did knowledge and treatment change by the Renaissance? (1500-1700)

### Lesson 12: How did ideas about the cause of disease and illness change by the Renaissance

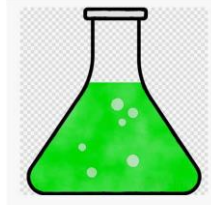
Key words for this lesson:

Secular: Not connected to religious or spiritual beliefs

Alchemy: Early chemistry trying to turn materials from one thing into another.

Continuity: Things staying the same

Some ideas stayed the same such as miasma. The everyday public continued to use the ideas of the 4 humours, however radical physicians started to challenge the older ways. Paracelsus rejected the 4 humours, Fracastoro said illness was caused by tiny seeds in the air and Van Leeuwenhoek spoke of tiny animals. Robert Hooke used a microscope to show a close up of a flea. Thomas Sydenham said illness was caused by external factors, not the 4 humours.



### Lesson 14: How were ideas of the cause of illness and disease communicated?

Key words for this lesson:

Reformation: The Protestant Church broke away from the Catholic Church

Printing press: A machine for printing text or pictures

Royal Charter: Document showing the monarch's support

The printing press meant that information could be spread more quickly and accurately. It also took control of replicating texts out of the hands of the church, which made it easier to spread new ideas that may have been critical of Galen. The Royal Society had a Royal Charter, which gave it legitimacy. Members shared their experiments and research. They had a library and translated texts to English.

### Lesson 13: How did Sydenham and Humanism help ideas about the cause of disease to change?

Key words for this lesson:

Humanism: Ideas that looked for scientific rather than religious explanation

Thomas Sydenham: Wanted to move ideas away from classical ideas

Cinchona: Sydenham used this to treat malaria

The church was losing support so there was more experimentation at this time.

Thomas Sydenham wanted to rely more on observation rather than medical books. Sydenham said to treat the cause of the disease and not the symptoms.



### Lesson 15: Treatment: Change and Continuity

Transference: Using an animal or plant to transfer your illness to

Iatrochemistry: Medical chemistry

Antimony: Chemicals used to make patients sweat or sick

More herbal remedies were made due to the discovery of the New World. Medicines now included ingredients such as tea, coffee, cinnamon and nutmeg. People tried to match the colour of the medicine to the symptoms and treated the illness with medicine from the place the illness originated from. Everyday people still continued to eat, drink and smell herbal remedies made from local plants and herbs such as mint and camomile or clover from their garden. They continued to make herbal remedies such as theriaca and blanc mangier. People also continued to sweat and balance their humours.

### Lesson 16: Was there change or continuity in the prevention of illness?

Key words for this lesson:

Bath house: A public place to have a bath  
Brothel: A place where people went to visit prostitutes.

Syphilis: Originally called the Great Pox. Sores and spots on the genitals, fever and internal abscesses. Blindness, paralysis and death followed.

Some people did not try and prevent illness as they believed their humours predetermined illness. Some avoided bath houses as they believed that was where they got syphilis from.

Preventing illness continued with the Regimen Sanitas continued to give instructions about keeping clean, as did religious prayer and cleaning the air/ home to prevent miasma. Some people started to link the weather to illness or ran away from it.