

| | Ideas about disease | Treatments | Individuals | Factors | Rate of change |
|-------------------------------|---|--|--|---|---|
| <i>Prehistoric</i> | Spirits cause disease. | Treated simple surface wounds. Spirits used for other illnesses. Trepining. | | Lifestyle as hunter gathers, later as farmers | Very slow – over 100, 000’s of years. Speeded up a little when people became farmers. |
| <i>Egyptians</i> | Gods cause disease Disease caused by blockage of the channels in the body | Good treatment of external injuries Drugs used. Doctors examine patients. Simple surgery. Purging e.g. blood-letting use Individuals kept clean but no public health. Praying to Gods. Wearing amulets. | | Isolation led to stability but then no new influences so there was stagnation. Writing – kept medical records. Religion – led to mummifying but dissection was banned. Religion also made them keep clean. | Some change at first then little change. |
| <i>Greeks</i> | Asclepios and Temple medicine Theory of the Four Humours | Attending an Asclepeion. Purging. Clinical method of observati< Healthy lifestyle and diet. Individuals kept clean, no public health. Simple surgery | Hippocrates | Greek philosophy – the Four elements. Religion – dissection was banned and there was little knowledge of anatomy or physiology. | Little progress in knowledge of the body, but much in ideas. The Four Humours was big step forward as it was the first explicit natural explanation. |
| <i>Romans</i> | Gods – Asclepios No new theories – ideas about the four humours accepted. Prefer prevention rather than cure. | Public health developed. Surgery developed. Galen's use of Opposites. | Galen – develops knowledge of anatomy and physiology | They copied the Greeks. The needs of the Army Engineering and building skills important. | No development in ideas but important practical advances in public health and surgery. |
| <i>The Middle Ages</i> | Magic and spirits Punishment from God Four Humours Astrology Bad air and smells | Prayer, charms. Development of hospitals. Purging very important. Not much progress in surgery or public health. Islamic development of drugs and hospitals. | Galen Ibn Sina Ibn al-Nafis | Fall of Rome Impact of Christian Church and monasteries was good and bad. Galen’s influence Islamic religion. | Slow development under Anglo – Saxons. Islam preserved the Ancient knowledge, but Galen’s ideas prevented much progress. Overall regression since Roman times. |