

Hippocrates

400 BC

The father of medicine and the most influential person in medicine until 1700 AD. He believed disease was caused by the environment and wrote over 70 books about the symptoms and treatment of disease.

He promoted the four humours theory, beliefs based upon a natural theory of disease.



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Herophilus

280 BC

The first anatomist. He discovered it was the brain and not the heart that controls the movement of the limbs.

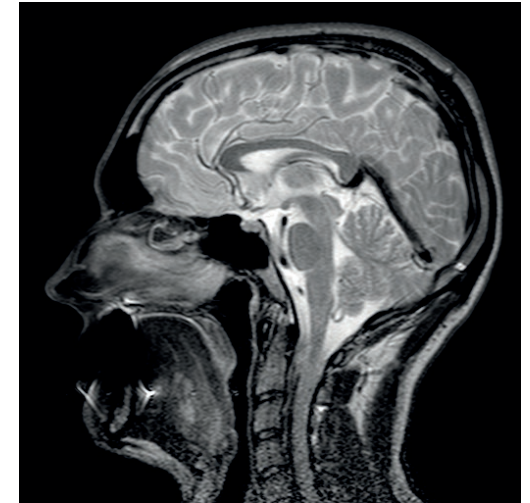


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Erasistratus

280 BC

A Greek anatomist and physician. He discovered that blood moves through veins in the body.



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Thucydides

395 BC

Realised that epilepsy was not caused by Gods and that prayers were not directly effective in beating disease and illness.

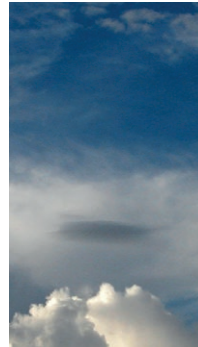
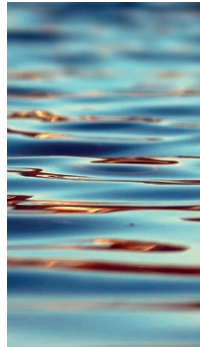


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Anaximander

600 BC

Decreed that all matter was made from 'elements' –
Fire, Earth, Water and Air.



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Galen

162 AD

The foundation of medical treatment
for over 1500 years, after he proved
the brain was the most important part
of the body.

Extended Hippocrates' theory of
the four humours to claim that the
humours were in opposition to
each other.



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Johannes Gutenberg

1455

Invented the printing press.
This development allowed
for the reproduction and
distribution of literature
and writings away from the
influence of the Church.
Theories and knowledge
could be reproduced more
easily and quickly.



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Andreas Vesalius

1540

His ground-breaking
work 'Fabric of the Body'
disproved most of Galen
and Hippocrates' work
and encouraged others
to question the accepted
version of medical events.



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Ambrose Paré

1570

He developed ligatures to stop bleeding during surgery and reduce infection after surgery.



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William Harvey

1620

Discovered that blood flows around the body from the heart by arteries and returns through veins.

Made it clear that the heart is a pump and blood recirculates.



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Anthony Von Leeuwenhoek

1668

Created a superior microscope that magnified up to 200 times.



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Lady Montague

1721

She brought inoculation from Turkey over to Europe.

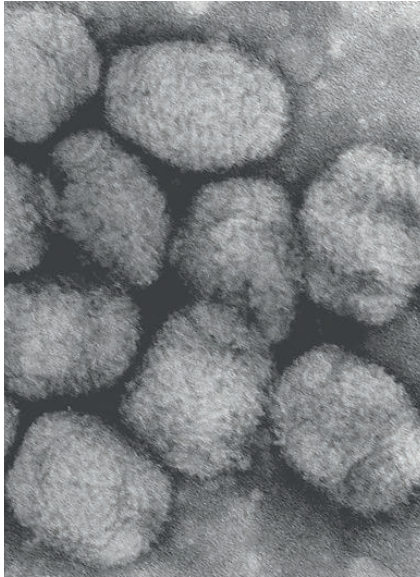


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Edward Jenner

1796

He discovered a vaccination for smallpox after using the cowpox virus to treat a patient for smallpox. After publishing his findings in 1798, there was a slow uptake of his vaccinations; however, in 1805 Napoleon had the French Army vaccinated and in 1852 the vaccination became compulsory in Great Britain.

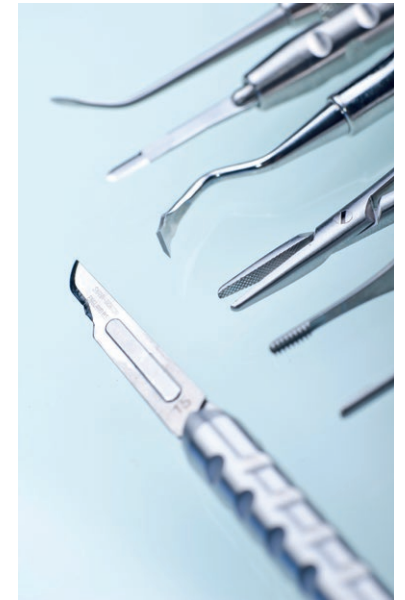


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Humphrey Davy

1799

He discovered nitrous oxide (laughing gas) as an anaesthetic in surgery.



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Edwin Chadwick

1842

He reported to the Poor Law Commission on the state of the Public's health. Chadwick highlighted the different life expectancies of people by living and working conditions.



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James Simpson

1847

Discovered chloroform as an anaesthetic. Doctors were afraid to use it as it had been responsible for numerous patient's deaths, however Queen Victoria publicly endorsed it after she used it during the childbirth of her eighth child in 1857.



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Ignaz Semmelweis

1847

Ordered his medical students to wash their hands before surgery.



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Elizabeth Blackwell

1847

The first female doctor in the United States of America.



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Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole

1854

During the Crimean War, they both contributed to improvements in hygiene and the organisation of nursing in hospitals.



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John Snow

1854

Proved the link between cholera epidemics and the location of water pumps.



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Louis Pasteur

1861

Developed germ theory whilst attempting to keep wine and beer fresh.

This germ theory changed the whole understanding of the cause and development of disease.



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Elizabeth Garrett-Anderson

1865

The first female doctor in Great Britain.



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Joseph Lister

1867

He promoted the use of carbolic spray during surgery to reduce infections. His casualties reduced from 45% to 15% following surgery.



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Robert Koch

1881

He discovered the strain of bacteria that causes anthrax and develops a new method of staining bacteria. This allowed for the causes of many diseases to be identified.



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William Röntgen

1895

He discovered X-Rays, although it would be the First World War that would bring this development to the forefront in 1914-18.



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Marie Curie

1895

She discovers the radioactive elements radium and polonium.



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Paul Ehrlich

1905

He used salvarsan 606 to treat syphilis. Also, helped develop chemotherapy and worked in haematology.



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Henry Dale

1910

He discovered histamine is produced by the body in an allergic reaction. Used today to treat allergic reactions and hay fever symptoms by millions every day.



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Frederick Banting and Charles Best

1921

They discovered insulin
as a treatment
for diabetes.



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Edgar Allen

1923

He discovered oestrogen, the
female reproductive hormone.



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Alexander Fleming

1928

He discovered that penicillin
from mould could be used as
an antibiotic to cure infection.
However, it was not yet easily
purified for use as a drug.



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Gerhardt Domagk

1932

He discovered prontosil, which
was initially used as a red dye
but became the first easily
produced antibiotic.



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Florey, Chain and Heatley

1937-45

They worked to build on Fleming's discoveries to produce penicillin as a drug. The United States Government fully fund the work to have an antibiotic to help soldiers after wounding during the Second World War.



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William Beveridge

1942

Conducted and wrote the Beveridge Report which discussed the state of the public's health. It became the blueprint for the NHS.

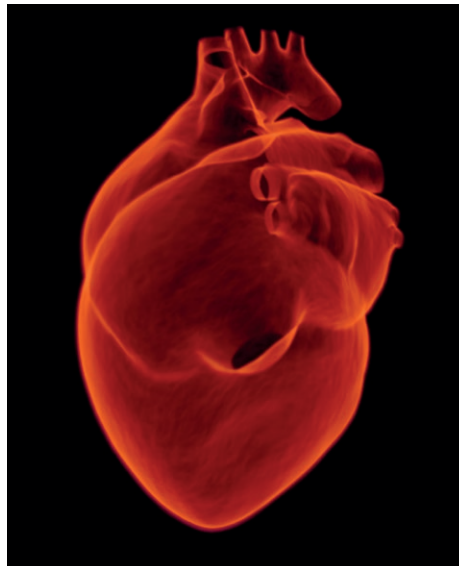


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William Bigelow

1950

Conducted the world's first open heart surgery.



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Christian Barnard

1967

Completed the world's first heart transplant. The patient lived for 18 days.



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