

History Year 10 'Knowledge Organiser': Medicine in Industrial Britain 1700 – 1900.



Summary:

The Industrial Revolution period was the period between 1750 – 1900 also known as the 18th and 19th centuries. Although the period began with little change in ideas, by 1900, huge breakthroughs had been made in the discovery of the true cause of many diseases. Advances were made in treatment, the care of the sick, surgery and there was a new approach to prevention.

Key events:

- 1796 – 98 – Jenner develops the Smallpox vaccination.
- 1842 – Chadwick published his 'Report on the Sanitary Conditions of the Labouring classes.'
- 1847 – Simpson discovered chloroform as an anaesthetic.
- 1848 – First Public Health Act
- 1854 – John Snow's discovers the link between the 1854 cholera outbreak and the Broad Street pump.
- 1854 - Florence Nightingale treats wounded soldiers in the Crimean War.
- 1859 – Nightingale publishes her 'Notes on Nursing'.
- 1860 – The 'Florence Nightingale School for Nursing' opens.
- 1861 – Pasteur discovers the Germ Theory.
- 1866 – Lister begins using carbolic acid as antiseptic in surgery.
- 1875 – The Second Public Health Act.
- 1881 – Pasteur develops a vaccination for anthrax.
- 1882 – Koch discovered bacteria that caused tuberculosis.
- 1883 – Koch discovered the microbe that caused cholera.
- 1895 – Wilhelm Rontgen discovered x-rays.

Key individuals:

- Edward Jenner** – A country doctor who developed the smallpox vaccine following careful observation.
- Louis Pasteur** – French chemist who discovered the cause of germs which he published in the *Lancet*, the 'Germ Theory'.
- Robert Koch** – German chemist who used Pasteur's work to discover vaccinations. Identified microbes through using chemical dyes.
- Florence Nightingale** – English nurse who changed the face of nursing after serving in the Crimean War.
- James Simpson** – Used chloroform as a new and more effective anaesthetic.
- Joseph Lister** – Introduced antiseptics to fight infection and germs.
- John Snow** – Led the fight against cholera with the Broad street pump.
- Edwin Chadwick** – Government Minister involved in public health.

Key words:

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| Anaesthetics | Drugs to remove the pain, usually cause unconsciousness. |
| Anthrax | An infectious disease |
| Antibodies | Parties inside the body that fight and remove germs. |
| Antiseptics | Chemicals used to destroy bacteria and prevent infections. |
| Aseptic Surgery | Surgery where microbes are kept out of the wound in the first place – a sterile environment. |
| Bacteria | A tiny living organism only seen by a microscope which causes disease. |
| Black period in surgery. | Period when anaesthetics were used and the death rate in surgery went up as doctors attempted more complex and internal operations before the development of antiseptics. |
| Cesspit | Pit for storing sewage and waste |
| Chloroform | A liquid used as an anaesthetic. |
| Enlightenment | Idea that people should think for themselves and not be controlled by the church or authorities. |
| Germ Theory | The theory that germs cause disease by infection through the air. |
| Great Stink | The hot dry summer of 1858 caused an awful smell in London. |
| Infection | The formation of disease causing germs or bacteria. |
| Inoculation | Infecting the body with a disease in order to help it fight a more serious attack of the disease later. |
| Microbes | Living organisms that can only be seen with a microscope. |
| <i>Laissez-Faire</i> | 'Leave alone'. The British Governments attitude to public health in the nineteenth century. |
| Patent medicines | Medicine sold for profit. Not all had any medical benefit. |
| Poor Law Union | Local organisations set up to take care of the poor and unemployed. |
| Privies | Public toilets outside houses. |
| Public Health | The wellbeing of the whole population. |
| Vaccination | Injection into the body of a weak organism to give the body resistance against disease. |
| Workhouses | Accommodation for the poorest people, they had the work for food and shelter. Families were split up. |

Concept: Change and Continuity