

Scheme of Learning: Changes in Health and Medicine in Britain c500 to the present day

Topic Sequence:

1	2	3	4	5	6
Causes of Disease	Prevention of Disease	Treatment of disease	Medical Knowledge	Public Health	Patient care

Topic Overview:

This first topic on medicine will look at causes of, and beliefs about the causes of, disease across four key periods. Students will be learning how and why the causes of disease changed over time, exploring issues such as famine, rapid urbanisation and the growth in lifestyle diseases. Ultimately, students need to be able to explain what the key changes were in each period as the largest question in the exam will ask them to “outline” the developments over time. Students big enquiry for this topic is “Has poverty always been the root cause of illness and disease through time?”

Lesson Sequence:

This unit, like all the others, is taught chronologically. We will begin by reviewing the medieval causes of disease by looking at the conditions within medieval towns and villages. Students will learn about the lack of sanitation, poor food preservation and the close proximity of animals to living spaces. We will learn about the types of disease poorer peasants were exposed to as a result of the poor conditions and begin to understand that a lack of medical knowledge made many of these problems worse. Following this, we will go into depth into the contemporary beliefs about causes of disease.

After this, we move onto the Early Modern period. We will evaluate how the causes of disease largely continued into this period by examining the Great Plague of the 1600s. We will link this back to medical knowledge and how little it had advanced between the two periods by learning about plague doctors and how they tried to prevent illness.

Penultimately, we will review the causes of disease in the industrial period. During this period a rapid growth in industry and urbanisation led to dramatic problems in the health of the nation. For example, we will learn about the poor housing conditions in cities which resulted in the spread of diseases like cholera and typhoid. We will also explore the impact of factories on respiratory illnesses.

Finally, we will examine modern causes of disease. Students will learn about two main outbreaks- Spanish Flu and HIV/AIDS. We will learn about how improvements in travel mean diseases can spread more easily. Students also learn about how lifestyle can lead to diseases such as liver disease or diabetes.

Sequence of Lessons:

1	Medieval Causes
2	Contemporary medieval causes
3	Early modern causes
4	Industrial causes
5	20 th century causes
6	Revision/Assessment
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Topic Resources:

Knowledge Map:	Module Knowledge Map: Medicine	Any other Resources:	
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Assessment:

Knowledge:	10 question knowledge test
Application of Knowledge:	Students will do a practice question 3 worth 5 marks and focusing on description

Supportive Reading:

Any supported reading listed here	BBC Bitesize