Medicine in the Middle Ages

**TASK:** You need to make flash cards from these questions and answers or a mind map or any other way you find it easy to revise and retain knowledge. You must revise this knowledge for 10-15 minutes each day and it will go into your long-term memory. You will be tested on this two weeks from when you receive the HW. If you have completed the task accurately you should be getting between 14-17 correct.

1. What 2 ideas were used to explain the causes of disease in this period?
   a. Supernatural.
   b. Theories based on ideas from Ancient Greece and Rome.
2. What were the Four Humours?
   a. Blood
   b. Black Bile
   c. Yellow Bile
   d. Phlegm.
3. What season and earth elements were the Four Humours associated with?
   a. Blood – Spring – Air
   b. Black Bile – Autumn – Earth
   c. Yellow Bile – Summer – Fire
   d. Phlegm – Winter - Water
4. How was the theory of opposites used to treat you if you were ill?
   a. If you were Hot – you could be given something to cool you down or vice versa.
   b. If you were sweating (Wet) you would be given something to make you dry.
5. Which factor had the biggest influence on medical treatments in this period?
   a. The church.
6. How did the church’s influence over medicine help?
   a. They taught that people should follow Jesus’ example and care for the sick.
7. Name 4 ways that the church’s influence over medicine hindered progress.
   a. People believed that God was making them ill if he was displeased with them or testing their faith.
   b. Monasteries housed most books, so only ideas approved by the church were taught.
   c. Galen’s ideas were wrong but they fitted the churches beliefs so they were supported.
   d. The church discouraged dissection and did not approve of people challenging ideas or authority.
8. List 5 people who treated the sick in this period.
   a. Physicians.
   b. Barber surgeons.
   c. Monks and Nuns.
   d. Housewife Physicians.
   e. Apothecaries.
9. What 4 things would Physicians do to treat patients in this period?
   a. Observed patients symptoms and checked their pulse and skin colour.
   b. Checked the colour, smell and taste of the urine and used urine charts.
   c. Consulted zodiac charts to decide the best time to bleed a patient.
   d. Sometimes sent patients to a barber surgeon or apothecary.
10. What treatments were used in this period?
    a. Medicine and ointments made from plants, herbs, spices and minerals.
    b. Prayer / Pilgrimages.
    c. Lucky charms / powdered unicorn horn.
    d. Bleeding / Purging / use of theory of opposites.
11. When did the Black Death reach Britain?
    a. 1348
12. Approximately what fraction of the population did the Black Death kill?
    a. 1/3
13. What was the Black Death?
    a. Bubonic Plague.
14. How did the Black Death spread?
    a. When a flea infected with the plague bacteria bites a human the disease enters their blood.
15. Name 3 ways people in the Middle Ages thought the Black Death was spread.
    a. Religion: God sent the plague as a punishment for peoples sins.
    b. Astrology: The position of Mars, Jupiter and Saturn was unusual at this time.
    c. Miasma: Bad air and smells caused by decaying rubbish.
d. Volcanoes: Poisonous gases from European volcanoes and earthquakes carried in the air.
e. Four Humours: Imbalance.
f. Outsiders: Strangers or witches.

16. **Name 3 ways people in the Middle Ages tried to cure the Black Death.**
   a. Flagellation (Praying and whipping of yourself or others to repent of sins).
   b. Praying and fasting.
   c. Clearing rubbish in the streets.
   d. Smelling their toilets or other bad smells hoping to overcome the plague.
   e. Lighting a fire in the room, ringing bells or keeping birds flying so the air kept moving.
   f. Carrying herbs and spices to avoid breathing in bad air.
   g. Not letting unknown people enter the town or village.
   h. Balancing the humours by eating cold things.
   i. Cutting open buboes to drain the pus.
   j. Holding bread against the buboes, then burying it underground.

17. **Name 5 symptoms of the Black Death.**
   a. Buboes – swelling of the lymph glands into large lumps filled with pus.
   b. Fever and chills.
   c. Headache.
   d. Vomiting, Diarrhoea and abdominal pain.
   e. Bleeding under the skin.