

Medieval Health and Physiology

Medieval History · Answer Key · 8 Questions

1. Which medical theory, inherited from Ancient Greece, dominated medieval understanding of human health by suggesting the body was composed of four distinct fluids?

- A) The Germ Theory
- B) The Humoral Theory**
- C) The Miasma Theory
- D) The Circulatory Theory

2. What was the primary function of a 'physician's urine wheel' used during medieval medical diagnoses?

- A) To measure the temperature of the patient
- B) To determine the age of the patient
- C) To analyze the color and consistency of urine**
- D) To test for the presence of heavy metals

3. Which surgical practice was frequently performed by medieval barbers as a method to balance the humors or treat inflammation?

- A) Bloodletting**
- B) Appendectomy
- C) Cataract removal
- D) Tooth extraction

4. During the Black Death, some physicians wore a distinct mask filled with aromatic substances to protect against what they believed caused the disease?

- A) Spirits
- B) Bad air or miasma**
- C) Star alignment
- D) Dietary imbalance

5. In medieval medical manuscripts, what was the 'Zodiac Man' primarily used to illustrate?

- A) The stages of human fetal development
- B) The ideal exercise routine for knights
- C) The influence of astrological signs on specific body parts**
- D) The anatomical structure of the skeletal system

6. Which common grain, when infected with the ergot fungus, caused outbreaks of 'St. Anthony's Fire' in medieval Europe?

- A) Wheat
- B) Barley
- C) Rye**
- D) Oats

7. What medieval medical procedure involved the use of a trephine to create a hole in a patient's skull?

- A) Trepanation**
- B) Lobotomy
- C) Craniectomy
- D) Phlebotomy

8. Before the widespread use of anesthesia, what substance was commonly used in 'soporific sponges' to induce sleep or dull pain during medieval surgeries?

- A) Alcohol and honey
- B) Opium and mandrake**
- C) Salt and vinegar
- D) Willow bark extract