

GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION
HISTORY A (SCHOOLS HISTORY PROJECT)
Paper 2 (Medicine Through Time)

1935/21

Candidates answer on the Answer Booklet

OCR Supplied Materials:

- 8 page Answer Booklet

Other Materials Required:

None

Thursday 11 June 2009
Afternoon

Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name clearly in capital letters, your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided on the Answer Booklet.
- Read each question carefully and make sure that you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Study the Background Information and the sources carefully. You are advised to spend at least ten minutes doing this.
- Answer **all** the questions.
- Write your answers, in black ink, in the Answer Booklet.
- Write the numbers of the questions you have answered in the box on the front of the Answer Booklet.
- Do **not** write in the bar codes.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **50**.
- This document consists of **10** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

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Study the Background Information and the sources carefully. You are advised to spend at least ten minutes doing this.

In answering the questions, you will need to use your knowledge of the topic to interpret and evaluate the sources. When you are asked to use specific sources you must do so, but you may also use any of the other sources if they are relevant.

Answer ALL the questions.

1 Study Source A.

What can we learn about surgery in 1800 from this source? Use the source to explain your answer. [6]

2 Study Sources B and C.

How far do these sources prove that the standard of operations improved during the nineteenth century? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. [9]

3 Study Source D.

Are you surprised by what this source says? Use the source and your knowledge to explain your answer. [8]

4 Study Source E.

How useful is this source to an historian studying the development of surgery in the nineteenth century? Use the source and your knowledge to explain your answer. [8]

5 Study Source F.

Does Fleming's account mean that antiseptics did not work? Use the source and your knowledge to explain your answer. [9]

6 Study all the sources.

'In the period 1790–1918 patients had a good chance of surviving surgery.'

How far do the sources on this paper support this view? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. Remember to identify the sources you use. [10]

MEDICINE IN THE NINETEENTH AND TWENTIETH CENTURIES: SURGERY**SURVIVING SURGERY****Background Information**

The nineteenth century saw major developments in surgery. These developments were aimed at solving the many problems which had prevented successful surgery in the eighteenth century. There was a huge increase in the number of operations in the second half of the nineteenth century.

But did the patients' chances of surviving surgery really increase?

SOURCE A

The lack of a complete painkiller ruled out long or complicated surgery. Most operations, therefore, were concerned with external wounds and growths, or the amputation of limbs. The lack of simple hygiene precautions in the care of wounds resulted in a death rate of 90% in some London hospitals. There was also a high risk of the patient later bleeding to death when the wound began to fester and the blood vessels were weakened.

A description of surgery in 1800, from a book on the history of medicine published in 1976.

SOURCE D

The chloroform was applied using a normal inhaler and the patient became unconscious in a minute or so. The surgeon proceeded with the operation, which was successful. He noticed that the child did not look a good colour. The patient seemed to come round, but a few minutes later he stopped breathing and there was no heartbeat. Steps were taken to restore breathing. Brandy and ether were given. Electric shock was used and afterwards oxygen was given. These steps, however, had no effect. The child died.

An extract from a Worcester newspaper in 1893. It is describing the report given at an inquest into the death of a boy aged one year and 10 months. The boy died during a knee operation.

SOURCE E

Period	Number of amputations	Percentage of patients who died
1864–66	35	45.7
1867–70	40	15.0

The results of amputations carried out at Glasgow Infirmary. The figures come from Joseph Lister's personal records. From 1867 carbolic acid was used as an antiseptic at the Infirmary.

SOURCE F

I remember that I was told to make sure that I used antiseptics to dress wounds. So I used carbolic acid, boric acid and peroxide of hydrogen. I could see for myself that these antiseptics did not kill all microbes, but I was told that the results were better than if no antiseptics had been used at all. At that time I was in no position to argue.

Alexander Fleming, recalling the time when he treated wounded soldiers in the First World War (1914–18).

SOURCE G

The period between 1846 and 1870 has been called the 'dark period' of surgery. The removal of pain made surgeons overconfident and they performed many operations they would not have attempted before anaesthetics. As a result, many patients died from infections that developed after the operation. Lister's use of carbolic acid meant the number of deaths dropped dramatically. When he died in 1912 ten times as many operations were being performed than in 1867. The combination of anaesthetics and antiseptics meant that surgery was now much safer.

From a book on the history of medicine, published in 1996.

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