



History

GCSE

Modern Medicine



1900 Blood groups discovered	1906-1911 The Liberal Reforms	1928 Fleming discovered penicillin	1942 The Beveridge Report	1948 NHS set up	1967 First heart transplant	1981 AIDS first identified as a disease
1939 – 1945 World War Two						
1895 X-rays discovered by Wilhelm Roentgen	1914 – 1918 World War One	1938 – 1944 Florey and Chain develop penicillin for mass production	1953 Discovery of DNA	1979 Smallpox officially eradicated	2020 Coronavirus pandemic	

Key Knowledge

- Alexander Fleming worked on developing penicillin - the first antibiotic
- World War One and its horrific injuries led to developments in plastic surgery, skin grafts and reconstruction.
- The National Health Service was set up in 1948, offering free healthcare to all.
- Alternative medicine, including herbal remedies, acupuncture, aromatherapy and reflexology, offer a different approach to pills and drugs.
- X-ray technology was developed in the early 20th century to allow doctors to easily see inside patients.
- Many new surgical procedures have been developed, including transplants, heart pacemakers, hip replacements and test tube babies. Keyhole surgery is now common.
- There are debates about whether science and technology is taking us too far and there is a risk we could end up 'playing God', with experiments in cloning and sterilisation taking place.
- The Liberal Government of 1906 – 14 passed a series of laws to improve the health and well-being of the people, including introducing National Insurance (1911) and banning back to back houses (1909).
- Nowadays we have new concerns – obesity, unhealthy lifestyles, smoking, alcohol and the risk that 'super-bugs' will develop which can't be killed by antibiotics.
- Many diseases have been wiped out altogether in Britain, but research continues in the battle against diseases such as cancer and new threats appear such as Coronavirus.

Key People

Alexander Fleming Discovered penicillin in 1928. Shared Nobel Prize with Florey & Chain in 1945
Howard Florey and Ernest Chain Developed penicillin with their team of scientists
Harold Gillies Developed plastic surgery techniques working on facial reconstruction following WWI injuries
Aneurin Bevan Minister for Health responsible for introducing NHS in 1948
David Lloyd George Welsh politician – introduced a 'war on poverty' budget as Chancellor 1906 - 1914

Key Vocabulary

antibiotic	A medicine which inhibits the growth or destroys micro-organisms
Welfare State	The idea that the government looks after people from birth to death
'Nanny State'	A term used by those who think the government is too controlling and people should be allowed to do as they want
Alternative Medicine	Therapies without scientific research which some people claim work, such as aromatherapy or acupuncture
Pharmaceutical	To do with making and selling medicines
Thalidomide	A drug developed in the 1960s which caused birth defects and which resulted in greater controls in the pharmaceutical industry
Pandemic	A disease which has outbreaks over a large area (multiple countries)
Epidemic	A disease which affects a large number of people
Eradicated	Completely destroyed