Knowledge Organiser: Knowledge Organiser: Renaissance Medicine (c1500-c1700)

People who fell ill during the Renaissance period
were likely to believe the same things about the
cause of their illness as their medieval ancestors.
Very little really changed in the practice of medicine
during this period. However, new ideas were slowly
breaking down old beliefs and rethinking the way the
world worked.

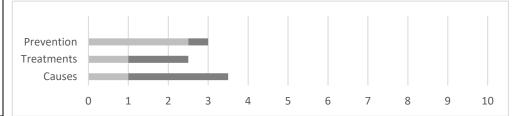
during this period. However, new ideas were slowly breaking down old beliefs and rethinking the way the world worked.					
Summarise your learning					
Causes	 An imbalance of the humours – e.g. King Charles II had blood removed and was purged Miasma Thomas Sydenham believed that different diseases had different causes 				
Diagnosis	 More direct observations and examinations of patients (Sydenham recorded symptoms in detail) Less use of urine/astrology charts 				
Prevention	Superstitious/religious methods: • Living a good Christian life - prayer, going to church Logical methods:				
Treatments	Superstitious/religious methods: Prayer and fasting Superstition – e.g. a magpie's beak around your neck to cure toothache Logical methods: Blood-letting and purging Traditional herbal remedies New herbal remedies from other countries such as				

Peruvian tree

Chronology: what happened on these dates?						
1440	1440 Johannes Gutenberg creates the world's first printing press.					
1536	The dissolution of the monasteries in England dramatically changed the availability of hospital care.					
1543	Vesalius published <i>On the Fabric of the Human Body</i> .					
1662	The Royal Society received its royal charter from Charles II, who had taken a keen interest in science.					
1665	Outbreak of the Great Plague, which peaked in September when 7,000 deaths from the disease were recorded in one week.					

	Who were these people?					
Thomas Sydenham	Sydenham refused to rely on medical books when diagnosing a patient's illness. Instead, he made a point of closely observing the symptoms and treating the disease causing them.					
Andreas Vesalius	Vesalius noted that Galen had made some errors in his original theory on the human body. He put this down to the fact that Galen dissected animals instead of people. In all Vesalius found 300 mistakes in Galen's original work on anatomy – e.g. the human lower jaw was in one part, not two. Vesalius also encouraged other doctors to base their work on dissection.					
William Harvey	Harvey suggested that blood circulated around the body instead of being made in the liver, as taught by Galen. His theory was that blood must pass from arteries to veins through tiny passages that were invisible to the naked eye. Harvey proved that the heart acted as a pump.					
Royal Society	Its aim was to promote and carry out experiments to further the understanding of science. They also heavily promoted the sharing of scientific knowledge and encouraged argument over new theories.					

Change	and Continuity
Change	Continuity
 Church had less control Fewer people believed in supernatural causes The Printing Press Diagnosis The Royal Society Greater government action – quarantine 	 Theory of Four Humours Miasma Superstition Prayer and fasting



Vocabulary: define these words				
Renaissance	A French word that means rebirth. New ideas were beginning to influence medicine.			
Dissection	The process of cutting apart or separating tissue.			
Secular	Not religious or in any way connected with spiritual beliefs.			
Alchemy	This was an early form of chemistry. Alchemists tried to turn one material into another: mostly, they were trying to discover a way of making gold.			
Printing Press	A machine for printing text or pictures. It had movable letters so that many copies of the same text could be printed.			
Royal Charter	A document from the monarch, granting a right or power to a particular person or group. A Royal Charter shows that the monarch is supportive of a particular project.			
New World	North and South America. Europeans were only aware of their existence from 1492.			
Journeyman	An experienced member of a profession who was not yet experienced enough to have his own business. Journeymen usually worked for a master until they had enough expertise to start their own business.			
Pneuma	Means 'breath of life'. Galen thought it was both the air that you breathe and your life force, or soul.			
Dissolution	Henry VIII split from the Catholic Church in 1533 and created the Church of England. In 1536, he disbanded certain religious institutions, such as monasteries and convents, and confiscated their land.			
Quack Doctor	Somebody who did not have any medical qualifications, but who sold their services as a doctor or apothecary.			
latrochemistry	The science of looking for chemical cures.			
Transference	The theory that disease could be transferred to something else.			
Humanism	A renewed love of learning and scholarship.			