

# The History and Science of Medicine

From ancient herbs and prayers to robots and vaccines—  
discover how medicine evolved from simple remedies to  
advanced science over thousands of years.



# Prehistoric Medicine

Before 3000 BCE, early humans relied on nature and spiritual healing to treat illness and injury.



## Natural Remedies

Garlic, chamomile, willow bark, and honey to prevent infections and heal wounds.



## Spiritual Healing

Shamans performed rituals and chanted to drive out evil spirits believed to cause sickness.



## Trepanation

Drilling holes in skulls to release spirits—some patients actually survived this procedure.



## Bone Treatment

Splints made from wood or reeds showed early humans' problem-solving abilities.



# Ancient Egyptian Medicine

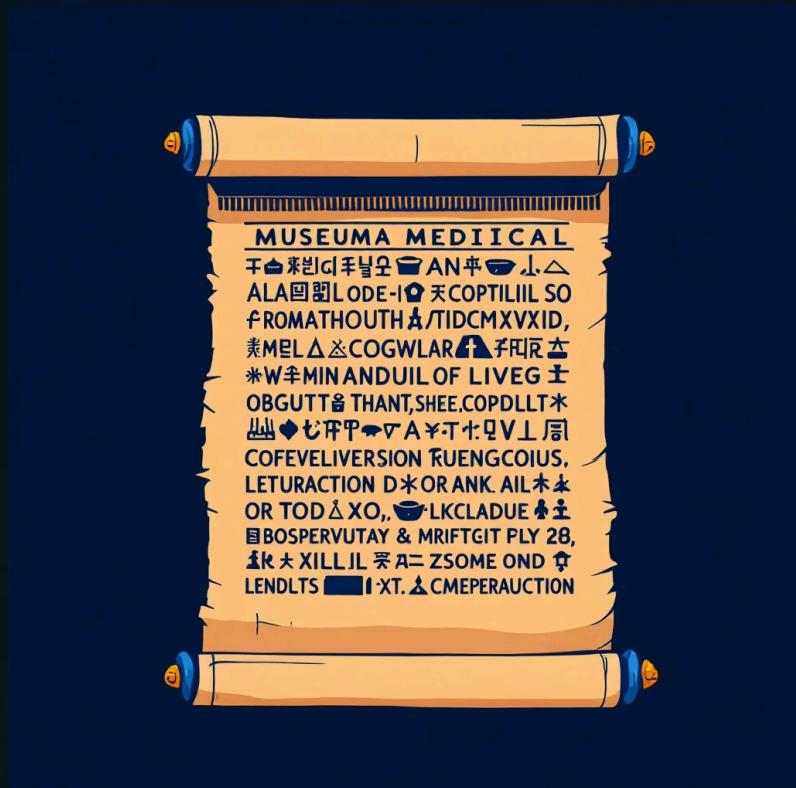
Egyptian doctors believed illness came from spirits or bodily imbalance. They combined practical treatments with spiritual beliefs.

## Treatments Used

- Herbs: garlic, juniper, mint
- Honey, castor oil, animal parts
- Ointments from crushed herbs mixed with oils
- Splints for broken bones

## Famous Physician

Imhotep is considered one of the first physicians in history. Egyptians performed surgeries and used techniques similar to modern orthopedics.



# Ancient Medicine Across Civilizations



## Mesopotamia

Combined magic and practical treatments. Created first diagnostic manuals listing symptoms and treatments.



## India (Ayurveda)

Sushruta, "Father of Surgery," described 100+ surgical instruments. Focused on balancing body, mind, and spirit.



## China (TCM)

Balanced yin and yang through acupuncture, herbs, and cupping. Zhang Zhongjing and Hua Tuo pioneered treatments.

# Hippocrates: The Father of Medicine

"Illness has natural causes, not magical ones. Observe patients carefully, use reason, and do no harm."

01

## Revolutionary Ideas

Rejected belief that gods caused disease; studied the human body scientifically.

02

## Medical Texts

Wrote the Hippocratic Corpus describing diseases, symptoms, and treatments.

03

## The Hippocratic Oath

Created ethical guidelines for doctors—still taken by physicians today.

04

## Treatment Methods

Used herbs, rest, massage, and diet based on observation and reason.



# Renaissance Medicine: The Birth of Modern Science

The Renaissance (1400–1600 CE) transformed medicine through observation, experiment, and human anatomy study.

1

## Human Dissections

Universities allowed dissections for the first time, revealing how the body truly works.

2

## Detailed Anatomy

Leonardo da Vinci drew precise anatomical illustrations helping scientists understand the body.

3

## Early Microscopes

Zacharias Janssen's invention (1500s) enabled viewing tiny tissues, leading to cell biology.

4

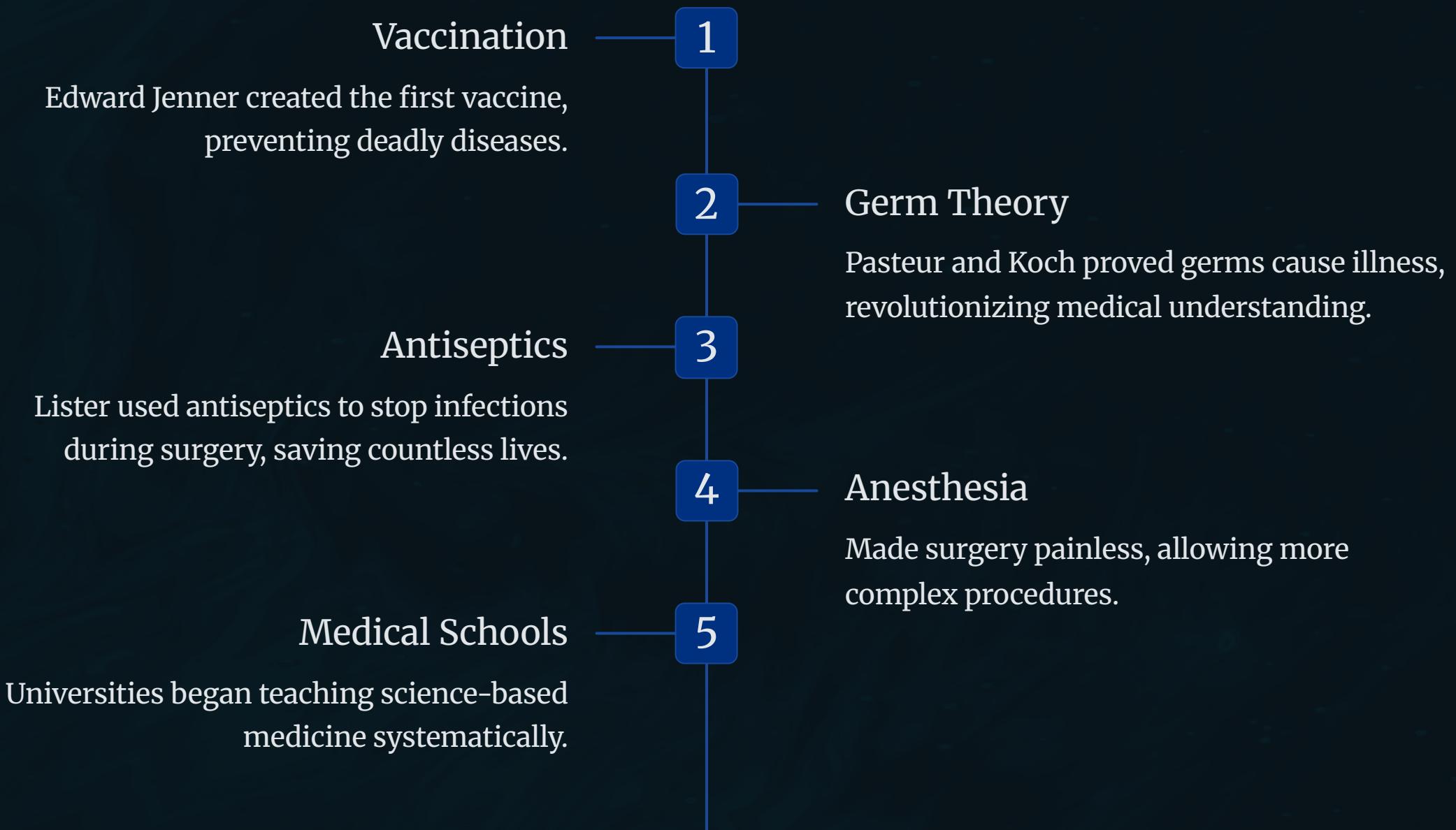
## Surgical Innovation

Ambroise Paré improved surgical tools and found safer wound treatment methods.



# 18th-19th Century: The Scientific Revolution

Medicine transformed dramatically as doctors discovered germs cause disease, not superstition.



# 21st Century Medical Pioneers

Modern doctors combine advanced technology, research, and compassion to save lives and transform healthcare worldwide.



## Surgery & Cardiology

**Dr. Atul Gawande** created surgical safety checklists. **Dr. Devi Shetty** performed thousands of heart surgeries for poor patients.



## Cancer Treatment

**Dr. Patrick Soon-Shiong** developed Abraxane for breast, lung, and pancreas cancer treatment.



## Neurology

**Dr. Ali Rezai** uses deep brain stimulation for Parkinson's. **Dr. Ben Carson** performs complex pediatric brain surgeries.



## Infectious Diseases

**Dr. Anthony Fauci** led research on HIV and COVID-19, helping the world fight epidemics.



## Transplant Medicine

**Dr. Thomas Starzl**, father of liver transplants, and **Dr. Joseph Murray** pioneered kidney transplants.



## Global Health

**Dr. Paul Farmer** and **Dr. Denis Mukwege** provide care in poor countries and war zones.

# Humanitarian Heroes



## Dr. Paul Farmer

Helped people in poor and disaster areas, making healthcare fair and accessible for everyone regardless of economic status.

## Dr. Denis Mukwege

Treats mothers and children in war zones with specialized surgeries, saving lives in the most dangerous conditions.



# From Herbs to High- Tech

Medicine has journeyed from simple herbs and prayers to advanced technologies and scientific methods. Ancient civilizations laid the foundation with natural remedies and early surgeries.

Discoveries of germs, vaccines, and antibiotics transformed medicine into a powerful science saving millions of lives. Today, modern medicine combines history, science, and technology to improve health and extend life.



## Ancient Wisdom

Natural remedies and spiritual healing

## Scientific Discovery

Germs, vaccines, and evidence-based care

## Modern Innovation

Technology, research, and global health

The evolution of medicine shows how human knowledge and care have grown together to build a healthier world.