NST2BBS
Natural Sciences Tripos Part II: Biological and Biomedical Sciences

Monday 4 June 2018 09.00–12.00

Paper 65

Early Medicine

You should answer three questions. All questions carry equal weighting.

Begin each answer on a separate sheet.

Write legibly and on only one side of the paper.

Answers must be tied up in separate bundles, marked 1, 2, 3, etc. according to the number of the question.

Attach a completed coversheet to each bundle and complete a master coversheet listing all questions attempted. It is essential that you write your examination number and not your name on the coversheet and on each bundle.

You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed to do so by the invigilator.
1. Why did medieval and early modern medical authors look to Ancient sources?

2. How did non-Chinese traditions influence theories and practices of medicine in China during the Ming and Qing dynasties?

3. Was experience or theory more important for medical practice before 1650?

4. Why did early modern physicians criticise other kinds of healers?

5. “Medicine from below”. What does this perspective bring to the history of medieval and early modern medical encounters?

6. Why did anatomy become so important in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries?

7. Discuss the importance of astrology in medical prognosis in the medieval and early modern periods.

8. What difference did 1492 make to European medical practice?

9. “A time of profound transformation in the science of sexuality” (Londa Schiebinger, 1993). How apt is this description of the early modern period?

10. What did lay people in the seventeenth century learn from medical publications?

11. What advantages did apothecaries have over physicians in early modern Europe?

12. Discuss the relationship between state borders and disease in the early modern period.

13. How did the Black Death change medical practices?

14. When would an early modern physician advise his patient and the patient’s family to call a priest?

15. How might a scholar writing in 1600 describe the difference between a man’s and a woman’s body?

END OF PAPER