

NST2BBS  
Natural Sciences Tripos Part II: Biological and Biomedical Sciences

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Saturday 24 May 9.00am to 12.00pm

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## **Paper 45**

### **History and Ethics of Medicine**

*Students should answer **FOUR** questions, at least one from each section. 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.**

## SECTION A

1. What role was God thought to play in epidemics in medieval and early modern times?
2. “The physic garden was as important as the anatomy theatre in the development of medicine in the Renaissance.” Do you agree?
3. Discuss the role of practical technologies in providing models for understanding the functioning of man and animals in the early modern period.
4. Why has the stethoscope been claimed as the emblematic instrument of Paris Hospital Medicine?
5. Political economy or political medicine? Which term most aptly describes the nineteenth-century sanitarian movement?
6. Assess the relationship between medical technology and disease identity since around 1900.

## SECTION B

7. Is it permissible for a physician knowingly to kill a patient if she did not intend the death of the patient?
8. Do we have an obligation to participate in medical research? What does your answer imply about the role of informed consent in research?
9. What is the best way to allocate scarce medical resources?
10. Which factual questions, if any, are relevant to the morality of abortion?
11. What is Parfit’s non-identity problem and what are its implications for the use of reproductive technologies?
12. How can problems with using social categories in medical research be avoided or at least mitigated?

**END OF PAPER**