Contents

Acknowledgements x

Introduction xiv

Part one – Medical practice and theory: the classical and medieval heritage 1

1.1 Galen's approach to health and disease: *The Art of Medicine* 1

1.2 A medieval *consilium*: Ugo Benzi (1376–1439) 5

1.3 The history of surgery: Guy de Chauliac (1298–1368) 8

1.4 The Hippocratic oath 12

1.5 Reactions to the 'French Disease' at the papal court 14

Part two – The sick body and its healers, 1500–1700 30

2.1 Medicine: trade or profession? 30

2.2 Women practitioners: the prescriptions of Lady Grace Mildmay 35

2.3 The place of women in learned medicine: James Primrose's *Popular Errours* (1651) 37

2.4 Lay and learned medicine in early modern England 38

2.5 Physical appearance and the role of the barber surgeon in early modern London 45

2.6 Renaissance critiques of medicine: Pico and Agrippa 50

2.7 Cardano's description of the death of a patient 56

Part three – The medical renaissance of the sixteenth century: Vesalius, medical humanism and bloodletting 58

3.1 Leoniceno and medical humanism at Ferrara 58

3.2 Bloodletting in Renaissance medicine 63

3.3 Attending a public dissection by Vesalius, Bologna, 1540 67
3.4 Vesalius and the anatomical renaissance 68
3.5 Vesalius, *On the Fabric of the Human Body* (1543) 76
3.6 Fabricius and the 'Aristotle Project' 79

Part four – Medicine and religion in sixteenth-century Europe 84
4.1 Luther and medicine 84
4.2 The church, the devil and living saints: the example of Maria Manca 86
4.3 Paracelsus on the medical benefits of travel 89
4.4 The religion of Paracelsus 91
4.5 The Christian physician in time of plague: Johan Ewich 98
4.6 Protestantism, poor relief and health care in sixteenth-century Europe 100
4.7 Rules for ministering to the sick in the Maggiore Hospital, Milan (1616) 107

Part five – Chemical medicine and the challenge to Galenism: the legacy of Paracelsus 111
5.1 Paracelsianism in England: Richard Bostocke (1585) 111
5.2 Sanitising Paracelsus: the Paracelsian revival in Europe, 1560–1640 113
5.3 Challenging the medical status quo: the fate of Paracelsianism in France 119
5.4 Helmontianism and medical reform in Cromwellian England: Noah Biggs (1651) 128
5.5 A new threat to medical orthodoxy: the Society of Chemical Physicians (1665) 134
5.6 Defending the status quo: William Johnson and the London College of Physicians (1665) 137

Part six – Policies of health: diseases, poverty and hospitals 140
6.1 Fighting the plague in seventeenth-century Italy 140
6.2 Plague and the poor in early modern England 146
6.3 Medical advice in time of plague: Stephen Bradwell (1636) 153
6.4 Healing the poor: hospitals in Renaissance Florence 156
6.5 Caring for the sick poor: St Bartholomew's Hospital, London (1653) 161

6.6 The establishment of the county hospital at Winchester (1736) 163
6.7 The medicalisation of the hospital in Enlightenment Edinburgh, 1750–1800: the case of Janet Williamson (1772) 166
Part seven – New models of the body, 1600–1800 173
7.1 William Harvey and the discovery of the circulation of the blood 173
7.2 The mechanical body: Descartes on digestion 178
7.3 Debating the medical benefits of the new anatomy: Girolamo Sbaraglia versus Marcello Malpighi 180
7.4 New theories, old cures: the Newtonian medicine of George Cheyne 185
7.5 Medical knowledge, patronage and its impact on practice in eighteenth-century England 189
7.6 The popularisation of the new medical theories in the eighteenth century: the novels of Laurence Sterne 198
Part eight – Women and medicine in early modern Europe 203
8.1 Female complaints: the flux 203
8.2 Popular and learned theories of conception in early modern Britain 209
8.3 A midwife defends her reputation: Louise Bourgeois (1627) 213
8.4 The clientele of London midwives in the second half of the seventeenth century 220
8.5 The making of the man-midwife: the impact of cultural and social change in Georgian England 226
Part nine – The care and cure of the insane in early modern Europe 231
9.1 Madness in early modern England: the casebooks of Richard Napier 231
9.2 Melancholy: a physician's view 241
9.3 The hospitalisation of the insane in early modern Germany: Protestant Haina and Catholic Würzburg 243
9.4 New approaches to curing the mad?: William Battie's *A Treatise on Madness* (1758) 251
Part ten – War and medicine in early modern Europe 256
10.1 Medicine, surgery and warfare in sixteenth-century Europe: Ambroise Paré 256

10.2 The cause, diagnosis and treatment of scurvy: James Lind's *A Treatise of the Scurvy* (1753) 263
10.3 Military medicine in the eighteenth century: John Pringle's *Observations on the Diseases of the Army* (1764) 271
10.4 Military and naval medicine in eighteenth-century France 276

Part eleven – Environment, health and population, 1500–1800 282
11.1 Air and good health in Renaissance medicine 282
11.2 Visiting wells and springs in Protestant Scotland 284
11.3 An account of the mineral waters of Spa (1733) 286
11.4 The commercialisation of spa waters in eighteenth-century France 288
11.5 New approaches to understanding disease: Thomas Sydenham (1624–89) 290
11.6 Medical police and the state in eighteenth-century medicine 293
11.7 Medical statistics and smallpox in the eighteenth century 296
11.8 Voltaire on smallpox inoculation 298
11.9 A newspaper account of inoculation for smallpox (1788) 300
11.10 Smallpox and inoculation in a provincial town: Luton (1788) 301
11.11 Cleanliness and the state in eighteenth-century Europe 303
11.12 The use of artificial ventilators in hospitals 305
11.13 Public health measures in Paris on the eve of the Revolution: the Cemetery of the Holy Innocents 308
11.14 Environmental medicine in late Enlightenment Europe 309

Part twelve – European medicine in the age of colonialism 313
12.1 Ecological imperialism and the impact of Old World diseases on the Americas and Australasia 313
12.2 Health and the promotion of colonialism: Thomas Hariot (1588) 318
12.3 Medicine and acclimatisation 320
12.4 The introduction of European medicine to New Spain 326
12.5 The Europeanisation of native American remedies 334
12.6 The reception of American drugs in early modern Europe 336

12.7 Medicine and slavery 339
12.8 The survival of African medicine in the American colonies 342

Part thirteen – Medical organisation, training and the medical marketplace in eighteenth-century Europe 346

13.1 Challenging the physicians' monopoly in London: the Rose Case (1704) 346
13.2 The Académie Royale de Chirurgie and medicine in *ancien régime* France 348
13.3 Medicine and the state in eighteenth-century Germany: the plight of the *physicus* or state-physician 353
13.4 Reforming the medical curriculum: Toulouse (1773) 357
13.5 The clinical education of the physician in late eighteenth-century France: Philippe Pinel (1793) 359
13.6 Surgical instruction in early eighteenth-century Paris 366
13.7 Popular criticism of the medical profession: Tobias Smollett's *Humphry Clinker* (1771) 368
13.8 Alternative therapies in Georgian England: James Graham's Celestial Bed 370

Index 373