

Epilepsy - then and now

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Hippocrates (460-370 BC) is called the father of medicine, founding the Hippocratic school. They were convinced that the brain is the source of all emotions and knowledge, although the ancient greek view differs from the present.

One of the most studied was the epilepsy, due to the spectacular aspect of the crisis.

In his book - 'On the Sacred disease', Hippocrate rises some theories, revolutionary from his predecessors, but quite far from the present view. Ul. The origin: hereditary , in the uterus a lack of 'purification' appears, conducting to a 'phlegmatic' person, as his parents. But, this may be depurated in childhood by skin eruptions. If not, the person becomes epileptic . They present with curved spine or mental retard. The clinic is well documented. The determinant factors: changing in temperature – cold , emotions. It may affect the lung or heart- the choking and hypersalivation or the bowel – spontaneous diarrhea. It presents on several forms: left seizures / right / both. Physiopathology: it is a defluxion of cold phlegma into the cava veine, that makes a blockage in the blood and inspiration and determines the hypersalivation, abnormal breathing and movement, loss of conscious, intellect. Prognostic is reserved for children and the elderly, as the young may heat the phlegma /ulAlthough the psysiopathology is far from the truth, the Hippocratic theories closely analysed may be interpreted in ways that modern medicine confirmed, increasing the value of logic observation, taking in consideration that the Corpus didn't make dissections on humans.