INTEGRATION OF THE HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF MEDICINE

MAMATQULOVA NILUFAR XUSANOVNA
Teacher, Department of Social and Humanitarian Sciences
Tashkent State Medical University, Termez Branch
Email: nilufarmamatqulova@gmail.com
XOLMURODOV SHAXRIYOR DILSHOD O‘G‘LI
1st year medical student
Tashkent State Medical University, Termez Branch
shaxriyor.xolmurodov@gmail.com
XURRAMOV BEXRUZ OULATOVICH
1st year medical student
Tashkent State Medical University, Termez Branch
bexruzxurramov@gmail.com
SADULLAYEVA JASMINA ODILJON QIZI
1st year medical student
Tashkent State Medical University, Termez Branch
jasmine.sadullayeva@gmail/com

Abstract This article comprehensively analyzes the stages of formation of the history of medicine and its philosophical foundations. The developmental processes from ancient times to modern medicine, the evolution of scientific thought, and the moral and normative aspects of medical practice are highlighted. Furthermore, the role of philosophy in medicine and the theoretical foundations of the concepts of human health and disease are analyzed.

Keywords: history of medicine, philosophy, bioethics, health, disease, physician, scientific thought.

Introduction

Medicine is one of the oldest and most important fields in human history. It is a complex system directly related not only to the treatment of diseases but also to human life, health, and quality of living. The development of medicine has been formed in an inextricable connection with the progress of society, scientific achievements, and philosophical views.

Philosophy, as a science that studies the general laws of existence, cognition, and values, has continuously enriched the theoretical foundations of medicine. The role of philosophy is especially invaluable in matters such as human life, health, disease, death, and moral decisions.

While the ancient Greek physician Hippocrates established the scientific approach in medicine, the Eastern scholar Abu Ali ibn Sina (Avicenna) took it to a new level by harmonizing medicine and philosophy.

Methods

This research was conducted based on the following methods:

- **Historical-analytical method** – studying the developmental stages of medicine
- **Comparative method** – comparing views across different eras and schools
- **Philosophical analysis** – studying concepts related to health, disease, and human nature
- **Systematic approach** – determining the interrelation between medicine and philosophy

ANALYTICAL DATA ON RESEARCH METHODS

Historical-analytical method: studying the developmental stages of medicine The historical-analytical method allows for the study of the formation and

evolution of medicine across different eras. Through this method, it is determined how medical knowledge emerged, developed, and improved.

Analytical aspects:

- **Ancient era (empirical-initial stage):**
  - Diseases were associated with divine forces or spirits.
  - Treatment methods were based on experience and traditions.
  - Hippocrates initiated the explanation of diseases through natural causes.
  - Observation and logical deduction appeared in medicine.
- **Middle Ages (systematization stage):**
  - Medicine reached a high level of development in the East.
  - Abu Ali ibn Sina developed systematic classification and diagnostic methods for diseases.
  - Clinical observation and experience began to acquire a scientific basis.
- **Modern era (scientific-experimental stage):**
  - The sciences of anatomy, physiology, and pathology were formed.
  - The experimental method became widely used.
  - Scientific proof and verification gained crucial importance in medicine.
- **Contemporary era (innovative stage):**
  - Molecular biology, genetics, and artificial intelligence developed.
  - Evidence-based medicine (EBM) became a priority direction.
  - Medicine formed as a multidisciplinary science.

Conclusion: The historical-analytical method shows that the development of medicine occurred through a transition from empirical experience to a scientific system, and later to technological innovations.

Comparative method: comparing the views of different eras and schools

The comparative method identifies the differences and commonalities between theories, schools, and approaches in medicine by comparing them with each other.

Analytical comparison:

Ancient Greek medicine vs. Eastern medicine

- **Greek medicine (Hippocrates):**
  - Natural causes of diseases.
  - The "four humors" theory (humoral theory).
- **Eastern medicine (Ibn Sina):**
  - Viewing the organism as a holistic system.
  - Treating diseases based on a comprehensive approach. **Conclusion:** Eastern medicine developed a more systematic and integrative approach.

Traditional medicine vs. Modern medicine

- **Traditional medicine:**
  - Based on experience and customs.
  - Individual approach prevails.
- **Modern medicine:**
  - Based on scientific evidence.
  - Standard protocols and technologies are applied. **Conclusion:** Modern medicine has increased precision and reliability, but the issue of an individual approach remains relevant.

Biomedical model vs. Biopsychosocial model

- **Biomedical model:**
  - Disease is viewed solely as a biological process.
- **Biopsychosocial model:**

- Mental and social factors are also taken into account. **Conclusion:** Modern medicine is increasingly shifting toward viewing the human being as a complex system.

Philosophical analysis: studying health, disease, and human nature Philosophical analysis studies the most important concepts of medicine on a deep theoretical basis.

The concept of health

- **Biological approach:** the normal state of the organism's functions.
- **Philosophical approach:** the physical, mental, and social harmony of a person.
- **Modern interpretation:** quality of life and level of well-being. **Health** is not merely the absence of disease, but a state of complete well-being.

The concept of disease

- **Objective approach:** physiological disorder.
- **Subjective approach:** the person's feeling of illness.
- **Philosophical problem:** where does the boundary of disease begin? **Disease** is the result of a complex interaction of biological and social factors.

Philosophical approach to human nature

- **Dualism:** body and soul are separate.
- **Monism:** the human is a unified system.
- **Modern view:** biopsychosocial unity. **Medicine** should view humans not only as biological organisms but as conscious and social beings.

Epistemological analysis (the problem of cognition)

- Diagnosis – knowledge based on probability.
- Every clinical decision is made under conditions of uncertainty.
- The harmony of the physician's experience and scientific evidence is important.

Axiological analysis (values)

- Human life – the highest value.
- A physician's responsibility – a moral category.
- The principle of "Do no harm" (non-maleficence) – the fundamental tenet.

General conclusion Based on these methods, the following scientific results can be reached:

- Historical analysis reveals the evolutionary development of medicine.
- The comparative method identifies the strengths and weaknesses of different approaches.
- Philosophical analysis deepens the theoretical and ethical foundations of medicine. As a result, it is proven that medicine is not only an applied science but a philosophically grounded complex field of knowledge.

Results

Main stages of the history of medicine Medicine has developed in the following historical stages:

Medicine of the Ancient Era

- Medicine was associated with religious and mystical views.
- Diseases were interpreted as divine punishments.
- Hippocrates laid the foundations of scientific medicine.

Medicine of the Middle Ages

- Eastern medicine flourished.
- Ibn Sina introduced a scientific system to medicine through his work "The Canon of Medicine".
- Methods of diagnosing and treating diseases were improved.

Medicine of the Modern Era

- Anatomy and physiology developed.
- Experimental medicine was formed.
- Scientific methodology was strengthened.

Contemporary Medicine

- Technologies (AI, robotic surgery) have developed.
- Evidence-based medicine (EBM) is widely used.
- Bioethics has formed as a distinct discipline.

Philosophical foundations of medicine Medicine is closely related to the following philosophical branches:

Ontology (the study of existence)

- The essence of health and disease.
- The unity of the human body and psyche.

Epistemology (the theory of knowledge)

- The diagnostic process.
- Scientific knowledge and experience.

Axiology (the theory of values)

- The value of life.
- Medical ethics.

Medicine and ethical problems The following ethical issues hold an important place in modern medicine:

- The issue of euthanasia.
- Organ transplantation.
- Medical secrecy and confidentiality.
- Artificial insemination.
- The use of artificial intelligence.

Discussion Analyses show that medicine is not merely a biological science but a complex system with a deep philosophical foundation. In every era, the development of medicine is determined by humanity's worldview, scientific thought, and moral values.

For example, while in ancient times diseases were associated with divine forces, in the modern era, they are explained on a scientific basis. However, ethical problems (e.g., issues of life and death) still require a philosophical approach.

Furthermore, the development of artificial intelligence and biotechnologies today raises new questions in the philosophy of medicine:

- The boundary between human and machine.
- The problem of artificially extending life.
- The ethics of genetic modification.

Conclusion The history and philosophy of medicine are integral parts of human progress. The development of medicine is determined not only by scientific discoveries but also by philosophical views.

The following conclusions can be drawn:

- Medicine and philosophy are interconnected disciplines.
- Studying the history of medicine helps in understanding modern problems.
- A philosophical approach is essential in making ethical decisions in medicine.
- Bioethics and technologies hold a special place in modern medicine.

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