

The history and present state of the bubonic plague



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The History and the Present State of the Bubonic Plague The Bubonic Plague got its name because of the symptoms of the disease. Bubonic plague causes swollen lymph nodes, called buboes. These swollen lymph nodes are found in the groin area, which is " bubon" in Latin (Discovery). This disease became known as a " plague" because of its huge fatality rate throughout time. Bubonic plague was also known as the " Black Death" in Medieval times. This is because the dried blood under the skin turns black. The Plague is caused by an infection with Yersinia pestis. Yersinia Pestis is a bacteria carried by rats and fleas found in parts of Asia, Africa, and North and South America. Plague is given to humans by being bitten by a flea with the disease or by plague infected tissue. When Yersinia Pestis gets into the body, it goes to the liver, spleen, kidneys, lungs, and brain. Some of the symptoms are shivering, vomiting, headache, dizziness, intolerance to light, pain in the back and limbs, or white coating on the tongue(Discovery). After a couple days places that have lymph nodes start to hurt (neck, armpits, and the groin). After the pains, there is swelling of the lymph nodes called " buboes", which are hard lumps that begin to appear on the groin, neck, and armpit. Blood vessels then burst, which causes internal bleeding. Dried blood under the skin begins to turn black(Discovery). The plague was called the Black Death because of the black blood(History). Fourteenth century doctors didn't know what caused the plague, but they knew it was contagious. They wore a protective suit which had a mask with a beak. The beak of the mask, was filled with vinegar, sweet oils and other strong smelling things so that they would not have to smell the dead and dying people(History). The Bubonic plague has a vaccine, which lasts for about 6 months. The plague vaccine is not available in the United States but a new vaccine is being worked on. The <https://assignbuster.com/the-history-and-present-state-of-the-bubonic-plague/>

plague can be treated if caught early. Penicillin is useless on the plague(Discovery). The best way to prevent the plague is making places more clean by killing rats and other plague causing things. The people of the 14th century tried to eliminate the plague by bathing in human urine, putting crap on themselves, putting dead animals in their houses, and drinking molten gold and emerald powder(History). The Bubonic plague is not as harsh as it used to be, but it still is around. The third biggest outbreak of the Bubonic plague in history was in Manchuria in 1890, and it even reached San Francisco in the early 1900's. Before the plague started to die off, it killed 12, 597, 789 people in India and Asia(Far From).