

The technology of
medicine and how its
shaped the nation
over the last century
as...



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

Running head: IMPORTANCE OF MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY IN WAR Importance of Medical Technology in War Medicine has evolved with the introduction of modern technology in its field. Introduction of computers, digitisation and new techniques have revolutionised medical practice. Almost every ailment today is diagnosed and treated through the use of medical technology and patients expect to avail the latest technological methods of treatment. There is however risks and consequences involved when it comes to using the technology for serious ailments like the use of heart pacemakers.

Medicine and Technology

The five primary contributions made by technology advancement in medicine would be: ways to prevent an illness, diagnose and test the symptoms, early detection and treatment of the illness. All the above have been made simpler, faster, cost effective and above all, life saving processes through technology. Medical help is offered online and there are facilities to reach out to specialists and doctors for online advice and suggestions before critical surgeries. Evolution and incorporation of technology and medicine have gone a long way in changing the world today (Hernandez, 2007). There have been new treatments for previously terminal and untreatable illnesses such as diabetes and AIDS. An acute condition like bypass grafting is possible today due to the major advancement in medicine and technology.

Medical technology and the Military

New procedures have been developed that enable diagnosis and treatment of secondary ailments. It is an on-going clinical progress today, done to improvise on the quality as well as making major advances in the scope of medicine (National Research Council, 2003) The most important contribution of medical technology has been towards war and the injured soldiers.

<https://assignbuster.com/the-technology-of-medicine-how-its-shaped-the-nation-over-the-last-century-as-it-pertains-to-war-battlefield-effectiveness/>

It has come a long way from using chloroform to perform surgeries (Civil War), to the discovery of penicillin (WWII) to the latest medication and treatments provided today to the war- ravaged soldiers. The concept of Triage, wherein the injured are treated based on the severity of their wounds, was pioneered first during the Napoleon wars and is being implemented even today.

Today the soldiers are trained on better management of the injured with the aid of improved technology and advancement in medicine. Wars in Afghanistan, Vietnam and Iraq have one thing in common- gravely injured soldiers who needed immediate attention and medical aid. This led to the improvisation of medicine with better equipment provided to the army, pain management and infection control given priority, setting up of combat support hospitals (Military Medicine, 2009) which specialize in the planning and performing of critical surgeries for the battlefield wounded, with minimal logistical and operational constraints.

Evolvement of Military Medicine

Keeping the benefits of soldiers in mind, the army went into in-depth implementation of medical technology by introducing and incorporating Military Medicine. This specialises in the research and development of medical solutions for the army and providing the best and latest preventive medicines, treatment and rehabilitation for the wounded. They work with various renowned institutes across the world to ensure the best of technology and medicine is made available (HJF, n. d). They have introduced the medicines to civilians in the warring countries as preventive measure against any epidemic. They also give importance to the after effects of an injury, which might need rehabilitation, posttraumatic stress management <https://assignbuster.com/the-technology-of-medicine-how-its-shaped-the-nation-over-the-last-century-as-it-pertains-to-war-battlefield-effectiveness/>

and mental health care. Medical technology has today increased the life span of soldiers by almost 70%, and is striving to do more. With technology getting better, medical facilities are also getting better and are looked at as a boon to civilization.

References

National Research Council. (2003). Science and technology for army homeland security. Washington: National Academic Press.

Hernandez, K. (2007). How Improvements in Medical Technology are raising the survival rate of wounded Retrieved from [http://www. helium.com/items/308463-how-improvements-in-medical-technology-are-raising-the-survival-rate-of-wounded](http://www.helium.com/items/308463-how-improvements-in-medical-technology-are-raising-the-survival-rate-of-wounded)

Military Medicine.(2009) Medical advances. Retrieved from [http://www. nhs.uk/Livewell/Militarymedicine/Pages/Medicaladvances.aspx](http://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/Militarymedicine/Pages/Medicaladvances.aspx)

HJF. (n. d). The Henry Jackson Foundation for Advanced Military Medicine. Retrieved from [http://www. hjf. org/about/faq-milmed. html](http://www.hjf.org/about/faq-milmed.html)