

"Inventors and innovators: our heritage and our future"



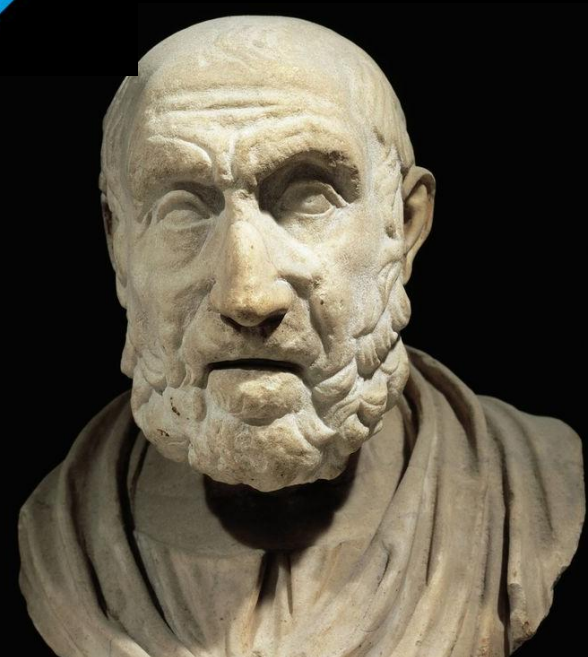
# HIPPOCRATES

## THE FATHER OF MEDICINE

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### EARLY LIFE

Hippocrates was born on the island of Cos around 460 B.C. His father was a physician-priest and his family could trace its lineage back to the legendary Asclepius. Hippocrates lived a very long life and died at a ripe old age (90 years old!) in the town of Larissa.



### A PIONEER IN ANCIENT TIMES

Hippocrates was the first physician to systematically classify diseases based on points of similarity and contrast between them. He virtually originated the disciplines of etiology and pathology. By systematically classifying diseases, Hippocrates placed their diagnosis and treatment on a sounder footing. What is known about these methods comes from a collection of about 60 medical books (Hippocratic Corpus) considered the oldest writings on medicine. Hippocrates was the ideal physician (wise and honest). He is mostly remembered for his famous Oath, which set high ethical standards for the practice of medicine.

### HIPPOCRATE'S GREATEST INNOVATIONS

- Hippocrates was the first to develop medicine and strictly define its limits from philosophy. According to Hippocrates, a "good" doctor ought to reject all kind of superstition related beliefs, have a strong and healthy body and, most important of all, be moral.



- The very familiar "Hippocratic Oath" is a document on medical practices, ethics, and morals. Some of the basic tenets of the oath include practicing medicine to the best of one's ability, sharing knowledge with other physicians, employing sympathy, compassion and understanding, respecting the privacy of patients and helping to prevent disease whenever possible.



- Hippocrates taught Medicine as well. First of all, as defined by his family tradition, he taught it to his sons. After that, he was the first to pass on the knowledge of medicine as a school subject. Thanks to him the science of medicine spread all over Greece and especially the island of Kos was greatly affected by Hippocrates's teaching.

### WISE WORDS FROM A WISE SCIENTIST

- "The natural healing force within each of us, is the greatest force in getting well"
- "Wherever the art of Medicine is loved, there is also love for Humanity"

Resources: Lipourlis Dimitrios (Hippocratic Medicine, 1983), Paratiritis Editions Lipourlis Dimitrios (Ancient Authors, 2000), Zitros Editions, Thessaloniki, Jouanna J. (Hippocrates, 1998) Kardamitsas Edition Athens, Maniatis St. (History of medicine, 2002) "Entos" Editions