

ABSTRACT

My aim in this bachelor thesis is to look for similarities between Hippocratic medicine and homeopathy by analysing historical sources with the support of literature and to focus primarily on the so-called archetypes of homeopathy in the collection of writings *Corpus Hippocraticum*. Homeopathy often refers to the principles of Hippocratic treatment and the knowledge of the so-called law of similars in its theories, therefore I would like to find out whether these tendencies are truly at least partly justified, or whether Hippocrates is rather just a phenomenon and an authority that this alternative medicine uses to defend its own practice.

Furthermore, this thesis aims to introduce the personality and phenomenon of the “father of medicine” Hippocrates (5th–4th century B.C.) together with his theories, contained in the aforementioned collection of writings, and alongside him also the personality of the founder and “father of homeopathy” Samuel Hahnemann (1755–1843), who at the beginning of the 19th century summarized the principles of the newly emerged type of alternative medicine in his *Organon of the Rational Art of Healing*. One of the research questions is whether Hahnemann was anyhow inspired by Hippocrates, whether he was familiar with the principles of Hippocratic medicine and how he potentially worked with them.

Last but not least, I also focus on the circumstances of the origin and development of homeopathy and its definition in relation to allopathy – according to Hahnemann, allopathy works on the basis of the idea *contraria contrariis curentur* (i.e. the opposite is treated by the opposite), while homeopathy is based on the principle *similia similibus curentur* (i.e. like is cured by like). Within the analysis of the *Corpus Hippocraticum* I try to ascertain which of these approaches is in fact closer to Hippocratic medicine.

KEYWORDS

Hippocrates; Corpus Hippocraticum; ancient medicine; alternative medicine; homeopathy; allopathy; Samuel Hahnemann; law of similars; antiquity; 19th century