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The Concept of pain among two royal physicians: Galen and Ibn Sina

Running Title: Galenic Concept of pain

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ABSTRACT

The periods of Galen and Ibn Sina are about 850 years apart. They contributed a substantial amount of knowledge in various disciplines of sciences and arts including medicine. Both the scholars understand and explain all the phenomena of health and disease based on humoral theory. The theory of pain proposed by Galen and Ibn Sina is still a matter of discourse in medicine. In the Galenic concept, the breach in continuity is the sole cause of pain but Ibn Sina mentioned two circumstances i.e., a sudden change of temperament and breach of continuity, any of these two circumstances may induce pain. Hence, Ibn Sina elaborated on the Galenic concept of pain and provides a more detailed description of the types of pain. The theory of pain proposed by both these scholars is being systematically summarized and compared in this article.

KEYWORDS

Pain, Galen, Ibn Sina, Humorism, Unani Medicine, McGill Pain\, *Waja*’

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