

MediCal

MEDIEVAL CALCULUS

MEDical treatments in medieval leprosaria.
Exploring healing remedies through dental
CALculus analysis

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I am a **bioarchaeologist** with an extensive training in the analysis of **human skeletal remains**.

My research interests focus on **paleopathology**, palaeodemography, dental occlusion analysis, and **dental calculus analysis**.



2004-2010 BA and MA in Archaeology
University of Padua, Italy



2008 ERASMUS (Seville, Spain)



2011-2015 PhD in Biology
Autonomous University of Barcelona
(Spain).



2014 Visiting student, Durham
University (UK) and Smithsonian
Institute (Washington DC, USA)



2016-2020 Postdoctoral research and
other works Durham and York
University (UK)



2020-2022 MARIE CURIE FELLOW
Sapienza University of Rome



THE SUNDAY TIMES

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Fern tea, the medieval cure for dandruff

Rhys Blakely, Science Correspondent

Monday November 05 2018, 12:01am GMT, The Times



An infusion of fern leaves, sometimes with sugar or honey, was used as a medieval remedy
ALAMY


Snail slime for scalds, hedgehog grease to soothe sore throats, cormorant blood to calm colic . . . medieval medical books frequently promote remedies likely to make a modern reader feel queasy.

Now British researchers have uncovered physical evidence of a treatment that is easier to stomach: fern tea.

Forbes


Nov 9, 2018, 01:16am EST


New Evidence Ferns Were Used As Medicine In Medieval Europe





Fiona McMillan Former Contributor ©
Science

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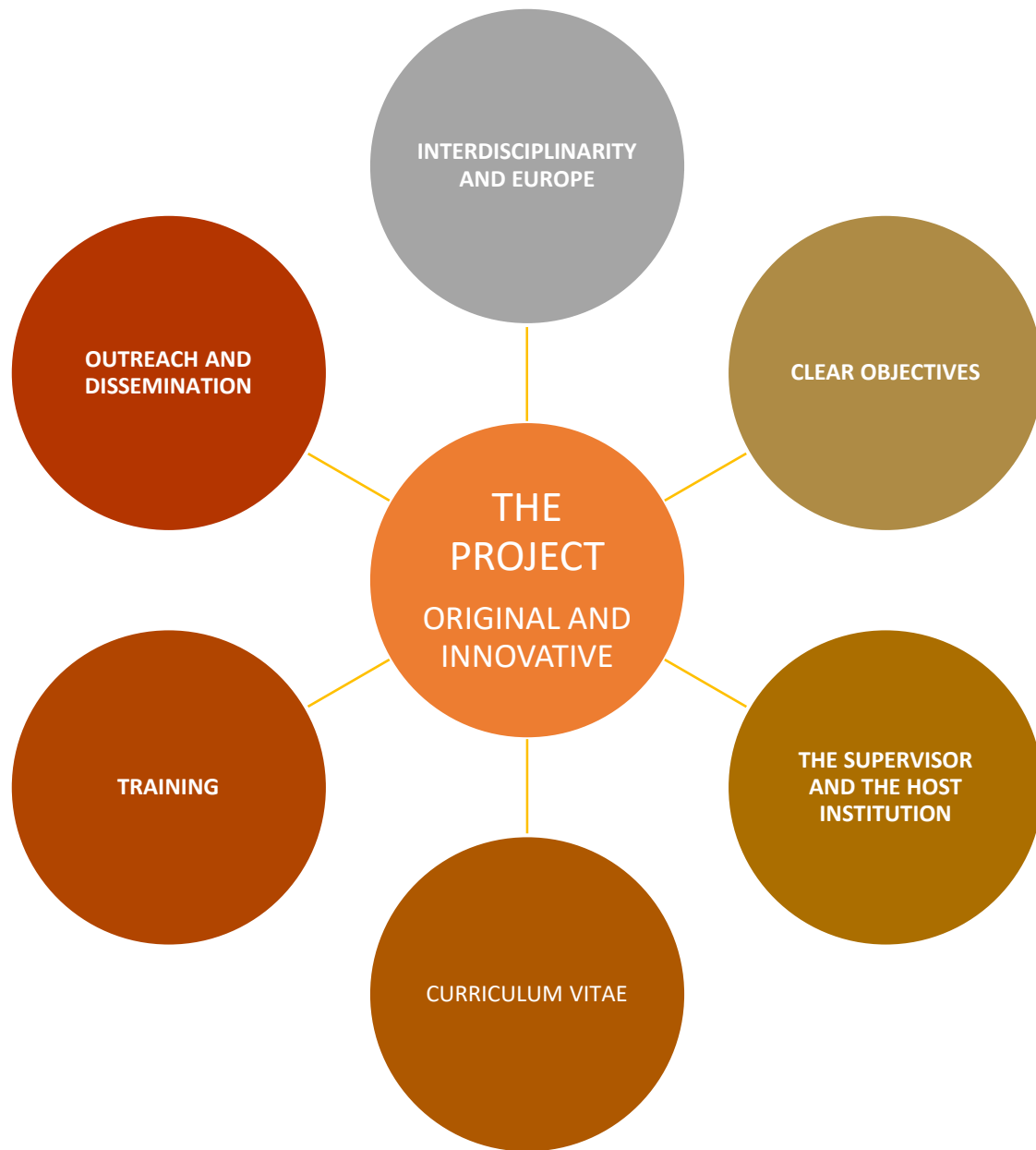




 This article is more than 2 years old.



3



MEDICAL project is innovative both in its subject matter and approach. **It will shed new light on medieval medicine, and in particular on medical treatments for leprosy.**

To date, these treatments are generally reported in medical treatises but they **have never before been analysed** objectively in the archaeological record.

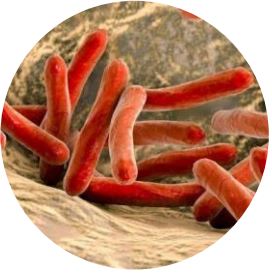
...However, leprosaria are today judged to be places where **medical care was** generally poor or even completely **absent**.

Very few archaeological studies have so far been completed for any chronological or geographical context which explore metal concentrations in dental calculus in relation to past human lives...

...applications of ICP-MS **are restricted to modern** tartar samples...

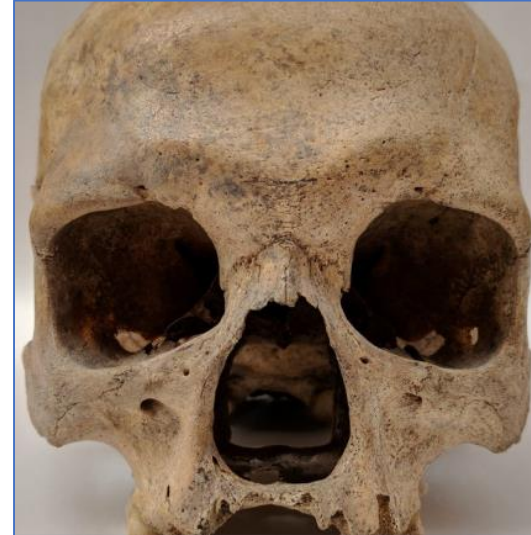
This is therefore **the first application of its kind** to ancient medicine...

MEDICAL



LEPROSY

- HISTORY
- ARCHAEOLOGY



MEDIEVAL MEDICINE

- HISTORY
- ARCHAEOLOGY

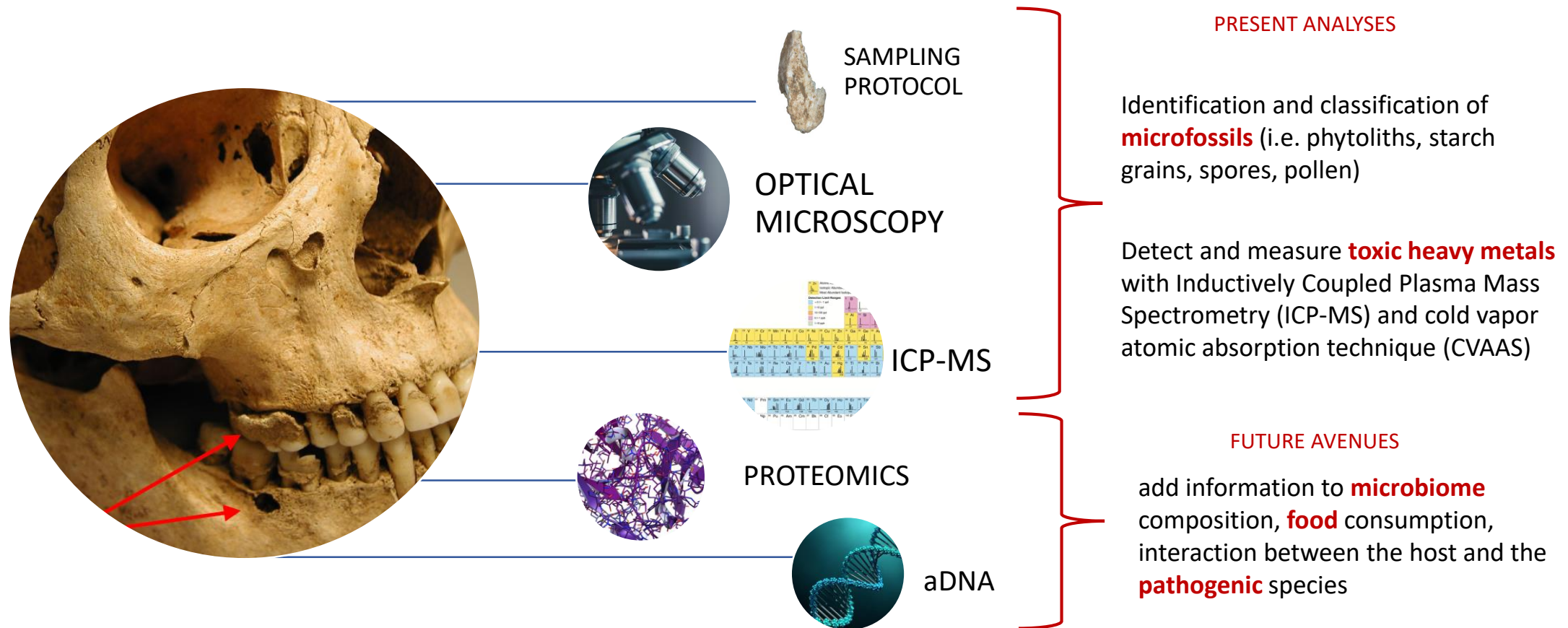


DENTAL CALCULUS

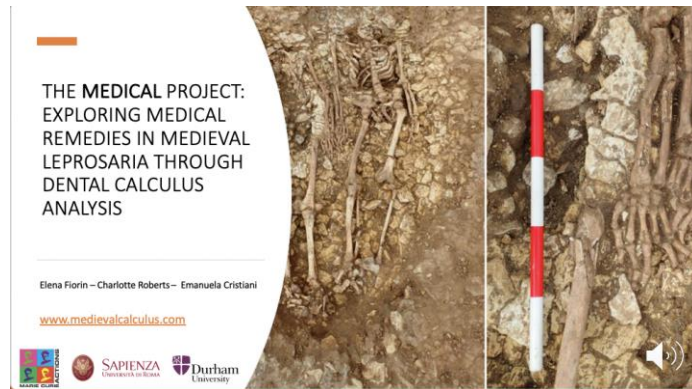
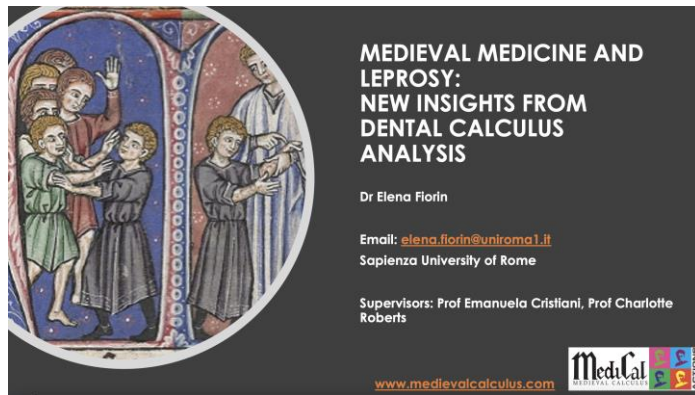
- METHODS
- POTENTIAL AND LIMITS



INTERDISCIPLINARITY AND TRAINING



DISSEMINATION AND OUTREACH



Questionario sulla malattia di Hansen (Lebbra)

Il presente questionario si pone l'obiettivo di raccogliere dati riguardo alla malattia di Hansen, più comunemente conosciuta come lebbra, e conoscere la percezione che le persone hanno nei confronti di questa malattia. I risultati, specificando che questo questionario è assolutamente anonimo, verranno raccolti e pubblicati per finalità di ricerca scientifica. Si richiede dunque di rispondere onestamente alle seguenti domande marcando la risposta che ritenete corretta. Questo questionario è stato tradotto dall'originale inglese redatto dalla prof.ssa Charlotte Roberts (Durham University). Grazie per la vostra collaborazione.

1. Che cos'è la lebbra?
 - a. Un tumore
 - b. Un'infezione
 - c. Una malattia che colpisce le articolazioni
 - d. Non lo so
2. Qual è l'agente patogeno della lebbra?
 - a. Un virus
 - b. Un parassita
 - c. Un batterio
 - d. Non lo so
3. In quale parte del mondo è più diffusa la lebbra?

Elena Fiorin (univ. de Rome La Sapienza) accueilli au service d'archéanthropologie

PAR CRAHAM - PUBLIÉ 24/09/2021 - MIS À JOUR 02/11/2021

Elena Fiorin, chercheuse à l'université de Rome La Sapienza, a été accueillie du 13 au 24 septembre 2021 au sein du service d'archéanthropologie du Craham dans le cadre d'un projet intitulé « [Medical – Medieval Calculus](#) » auquel Cécile Chapelain de Seréville-Niel (Craham) est également associée. Ce projet est financé par une Action Slodowska-Marie Curie (ASCM, conseil européen de la recherche) et se déroule à l'université de Rome La Sapienza. Son objectif est d'étudier le régime alimentaire et les soins médicaux prodigués aux malades vivant dans des léproseries en Europe du Nord à la fin de la période médiévale (1100-1550). Ce projet est coordonné par la direction de la Dr. Emanuela



INHH

International Network for the History of Hospitals

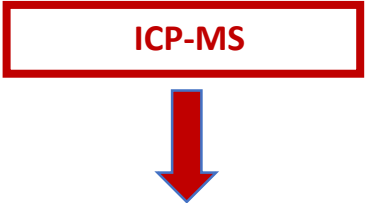


Posted on June 17, 2020 by sarahleannardbrown

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The Secret Life of Teeth: How Dental Calculus Can Shed Light on Medieval Medical Treatments for Leprosy

FIRST RESULTS: ST LEONARD'S LEPER HOSPITAL, ENGLAND



High concentration of **mercury** in an adult female of the first phase of the cemetery (XI-XIII) who was probably affected by **lepromatous leprosy**.

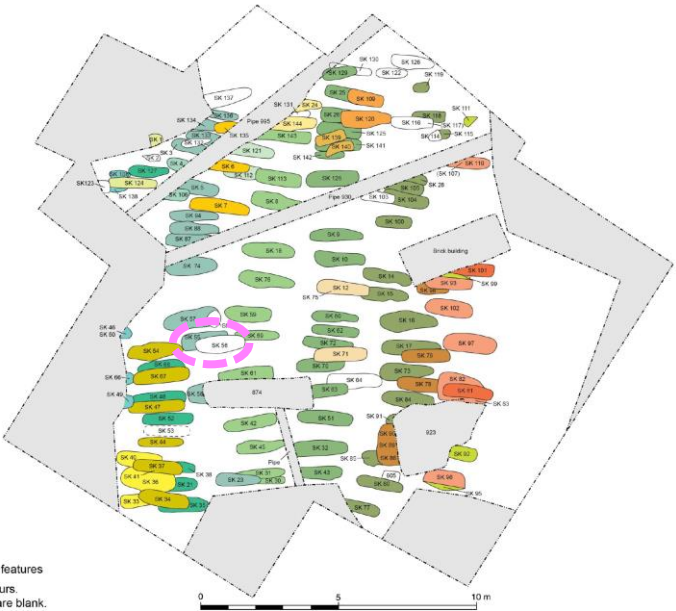
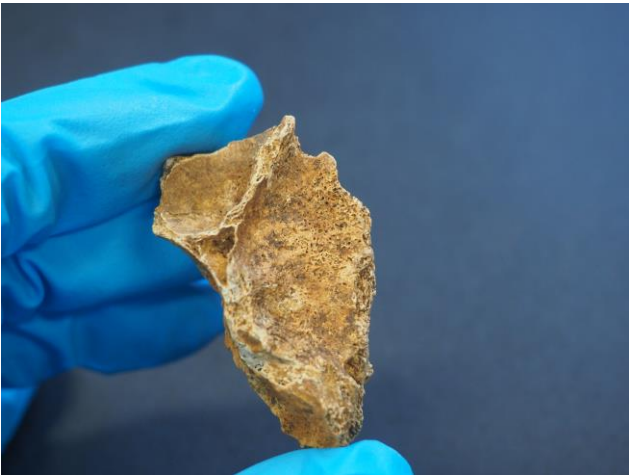


Figure 2: Skeleton numbers



Fragment of the right maxilla, porosity on the nasal surface of the palate



DC sample analysed on the left mandible (LLM2)