Medicvs

Profile description

Medicvs serves as a field physician and provider of first aid in the army, where he is responsible for the general health of all persons participating within the Legion. The army had its own hospitals and surgeons, who often treated patients better than their counterparts in the cities. Each legion had its own medical team, qualified in treating wounds and injuries sustained during military service. They were able to diagnose the danger posed by a particular wound, when to leave an arrowhead in the body, and when to attempt to remove it. The legions also had their own well-equipped hospitals, and many of the instruments used by the ancients are still used in modern medicine.

Tasks and duties

The duties of the **Medicvs** include:

- Providing first aid in the case of serious injuries
- Dressing minor cuts, disinfecting wounds, administering medication for injuries and other ailments that do not require professional medical consultation
- On the battlefield, dressing the wounded: both real wounds and simulated ones.
- Keeping a list of the injured and the “wounded”, together with medical opinions and recommendations.

During battles and displays

During displays and battles, the **Medicvs** withdraws at appropriate moments to the rear of the fighting units, where he begins dressing the lightly wounded, who are quickly able to return to the battlefield and take part in the fighting again. Once all those able to return to the front have been treated, the **Medicvs** proceeds to examine those in serious condition, performing simulated procedures close to the audience so that they can have close contact with and insight into the actions that took place in the ancient world.

Daily running of the camp

Medicvs has his own station, where he presents all procedures, surgical instruments and dressings used in ancient times. He conducts displays related to surgery and the treatment of various diseases / wounds on persons assigned by the **Centvrio** as part of the “living camp” at the field hospital station (Valetvdinarivm). It is the duty of the **Medicvs** to have in his resources, or to provide by other means, the materials needed for his function.

Outside displays, he is additionally responsible for providing basic healthcare for all injuries, cuts, contusions and wounds that are not dangerous and do not require the intervention of a real doctor or hospital stay. He presents all health problems, exclusions from certain activities, and a list of such persons in the form of a report in the **Praetorivm** to the Centvrio or **Optio**.

Staff meetings

Medicvs reports in the morning and evening to the Centvrio / Optio on the health condition of the “fallen” or “wounded” soldiers and gives recommendations concerning their level of activity for the following days, according to his current and best professional knowledge, together with predictions regarding their further ability to participate in displays and in the life of the Legion. Additionally, he may provide a list of activities that are inadvisable for a given person with their current injuries.

For discussion and development

External links

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