William Gilbert, who was elected president of the Royal College in 1600, stated that the Greek writers had handed down to us much knowledge, nevertheless we had made many discoveries which the Greeks would be ready to acknowledge ifg they were living. Theodore Goulston, who was a censor in 1526, published in 1640 a translation of Galen's Opuscula.

Sir Theodore Mayerne added to other studies that of chemistry, in which he became very proficient for his day. Linacre, Clement, Wotton, Caius, Doyley, Gilbert, Harvey, Mayerne, and Glisson represented the best that the college stood for during the first century and a half of its existence. It was Mayerne who introduced lotio nigra, or "black wash." He also wrote the dedication to King James for the Pharmacopoeia of 1618.

William Harvey was born in 1578 and died in 1657. He became a Fellow of the College in 1607. In his lectures in 1616, he began to expound and demonstrate the circulation of the blood. For a time he was severely criticized, but his views prevailed when, in 1628, he issued his completed work in Latin. The book was published in Frankfort. In 1632 he was made physician to Charles I. In 1645 he shared the dangers of battle with the King, and was appointed warden of Merton College. When the Parliamentary Party came into power he resigned the wardenship. In 1654, he was elected president of the college. He made extensive annotations on the works of Galen. These notes were made in 1640.

Sir George Ent was president in 1675. The silver sceptre still in use by the College of Physicians, was in use then. Sir George knew Harvey well, and this is referred to in one of Dryden's poems. In 1663, Edward Browne, a son of Sir Thomas Browne, applied for his M.B. This document sets forth that he had studied medicine for six years, and had heard the usual lectures, having passed through the usual exercises. Dr. Francis Glisson, Regius Professor of Physic, admitted Browne. He was made a Fellow in 1675.

At this period Dr. Christopher Terne gave lectures on anatomy. These lectures were six in number, and given on three days, in the foremoon and afternoon. He delivered the Harveian oration. Edward Browne and his father Sir Thomas Browne were close friends of Dr. Windet, who was a great reader and a wide scholar. Sir Edmund King was a surgeon, but gave this up for the practice of medicine. He was physician to Charles II in 1676; and became a Fellow of the College in 1687. He carefully dissected one hundred brains, and his anatomical knowledge was highly praised by Dr. Thos. Willis. On one occasion he was called into attend the King who seemed to be in some sort of a fit.