In 1728 Boerhaave published Aphorisms in which he analysed the course of syphilitic infection.

Herman Boerhaave (1668 – 1738)
Dutch Clinician

Virchow described the pathology of syphilis and showed that it affected all organs of the body. He suggested that the causative organism was carried via the blood to infect all parts of the body.

Rudolf Virchow (1821 – 1902)
Pathologist

Fournier first identified the connection between tabes dorsalis and general paresis of the insane with syphilis. This was published in 1893 in Traitément de la Syphilis.

Jean Alfred Fournier (1832 – 1914)
French Venerologist

Bekhterev is best known for his work in neurosyphilis and paresis, namely Bekhterev’s sign – anaesthesia in the popliteal space and Bekhterev’s pupillary reflex associated with neurosyphilis.

Vladimir Bekhterev (1857 – 1927)
Russian Neurologist