

M0005146: Richard Lower's blood transfusion experiment, page from an account of 1666

Publication/Creation

14 April 1937

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/bzfv7kmd>

License and attribution

Wellcome Library; GB.

This work has been identified as being free of known restrictions under copyright law, including all related and neighbouring rights and is being made available under the Creative Commons, Public Domain Mark.

You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, without asking permission.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

there be occasion to open them.

All things being thus prepar'd, ty'e y^e Dogs
on their sides towards one another soe conveniently
that y^e quills may goe into each other (for y^e Dogs necks
cannot be brought soe near, but y^e you must
put 2 or 3 severall quills more into y^e first
two, to convey y^e blood from one to another.) After
y^e unstop y^e quill goinge downe into y^e Dogs ingular veine
& y^e other quill cominge out of y^e other Dogs artery,
& by y^e help of 2 or 3 other quills, putt into each other
according as there shall be occasion, put them into one
another, then slip y^e running knot, & immediately y^e blood
runs through y^e quill, as through an artery very impetuously
& immediately as blood runs into y^e Dogs, out of y^e other
quill cominge out of y^e upper part of his ingular veine (a
ligature being first made about his neck, or also his other
ingular veine being compréssed by ones finger) & let his
owne blood run out at y^e same time into dishes (yet
not constantly, but according as you perceive him to
bare it) till the other Dog begins to cry & faint, & fall
into convulsions, & at last dye by his side.

Then take out both y^e quills out of y^e Dogs ingular
veine & ty'e y^e running knot fast, & cut y^e veine as in
(if you may doe without any harme to y^e Dog, one
ingular veine being sufficient to convey all y^e blood
from y^e head & upper parts by reason of a large anastomosis
wherby both y^e ingular veines meet about y^e Larynx.)
this done sow up y^e skin, & dismisse him & y^e Dog
will leape from y^e table, & shake himselfe & run away
as if nothing ailed him. And this I have tryed severall
times before severall in y^e University, but never yet
upon more then one dog at a time, for want of
times & convenient supplies of severall dogs
at once. But when I returne (wh^{ch} I hope may be
this Autumme) I doubt not but to give you
a fuller Acc^t, not only by bleeding severall
Dogs into one, but severall other Creatures
into one another, as you did propose to me
before you left Oxford. It will be very easy to
performe, & will afford many pleasant & perhaps not
unusefull Experiments.