

M0007779: Apparatus used in Joseph Lister's experiments on the coagulation of the blood

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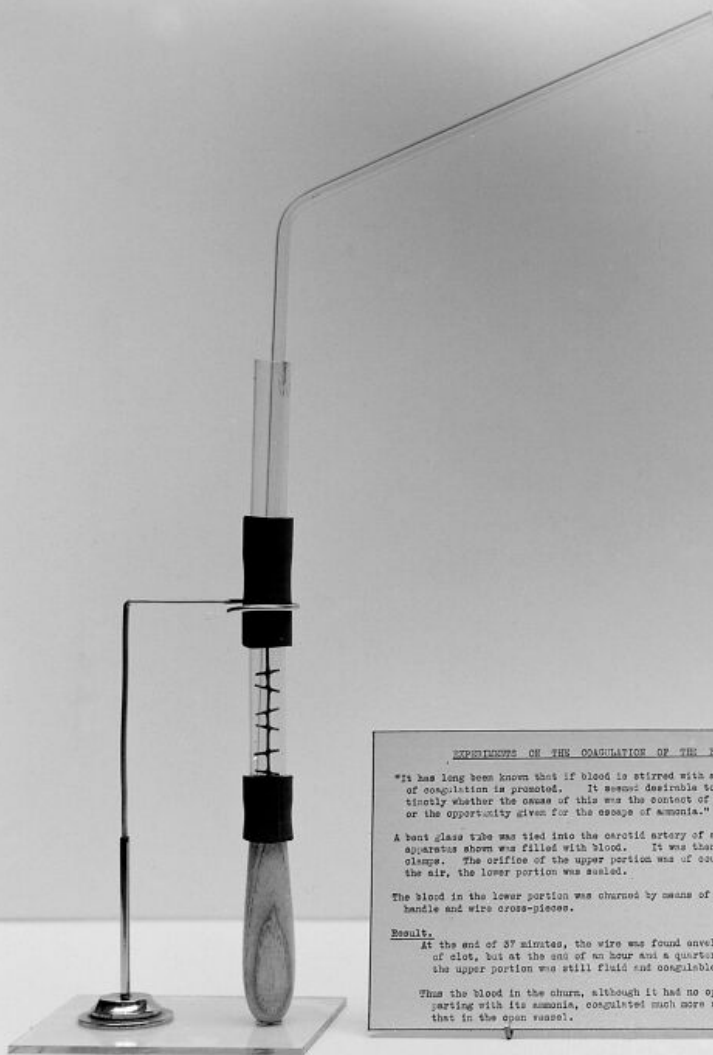
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EXPERIMENTS ON THE COAGULATION OF THE BLOOD. (II)

"It has long been known that if blood is stirred with a rod the process of coagulation is promoted. It seemed desirable to ascertain distinctly whether the cause of this was the contact of the foreign solid or the opportunity given for the escape of ammonia."

A bent glass tube was tied into the carotid artery of a calf and the apparatus shown was filled with blood. It was then divided by clamps. The orifice of the upper portion was of course exposed to the air, the lower portion was sealed.

The blood in the lower portion was churned by means of the wooden handle and wire cross-pieces.

Result.

At the end of 37 minutes, the wire was found enveloped in a mass of clot, but at the end of an hour and a quarter the blood in the upper portion was still fluid and coagulable.

Thus the blood in the churn, although it had no opportunity of parting with its ammonia, coagulated much more rapidly than that in the open vessel.

