

Know the answers to these questions for the next exam.

1) What was Dr. Blaylock trying to do with the dogs that were the subjects of his surgery?

Initially he was using the dogs to counter act the effects of "shock" in humans

Later, he used the dogs to emulate the illness causing "blue baby" syndrome

2) What were doctors doing for "shock" victims previous to Dr. Blaylock's work?

The accepted treatment of "shock" victims was to constrict blood vessels thus focusing on keeping the patient from losing any more blood which caused the blood pressure to lower

3) Why was it important to recreate the "blue baby" syndrome in the dogs?

If they couldn't recreate the syndrome, they would not be able to develop a surgical procedure to remedy the problem

4) What is "blue baby" syndrome?

A congenital heart condition where the foramen ovale doesn't close after birth and there is a narrowing of the pulmonary artery.

5) Why is working on the heart so difficult?

Blood flow to the brain is necessary to sustain life and conducting surgery on the heart requires it to be stopped thus ceasing the flow of blood to the brain.

6) What is significant with the change in color of these babies?

When there is a lack of oxygenated blood the skin appears cyanotic; blue in color. When oxygenated blood returns to this region, the skin changes from the blue color to the normal underlying tone of pink.