



Museum Access: International Museum of Surgical Science

SEASON 3 - EPISODE 5

The International Museum of Surgical Science in Chicago features many medical artifacts that explore the pre-modern and modern healing practices of human civilization. Let's continue the learning with these questions and talking points.

Question 1

How did the discovery x-rays change the world of medicine?

More Talking Points:

1. Have you ever had an x-ray taken? Why?
2. Besides looking for broken bones, how else are x-rays useful?

Question 2

Although there was no evidence, the idea of having "x-ray vision" captured the imagination of Americans after the discovery of x-rays. Why do you think this was?

More Talking Points:

1. Would you want to have x-ray vision if it were possible?
2. Do you think there is any basis to the idea of x-ray vision? Why? (not. How so?)

Question 3

What have historians learned about ancient medical care?

More Talking Points:

1. Name the similarities between ancient and modern medical care?
2. Name the differences between ancient and modern medical care?

Question 4

Although modern day imaging is useful, it can pose risks after prolonged exposure. How do medical professionals protect themselves?

More Talking Points:

1. Have you ever had any experience using protective clothing?
2. What other protective measures are important for medical professionals to take while on the job?

Question 5

How has modern imaging advanced the world of medical care, particularly in the operating room?

More Talking Points:

1. What surprised you the most about the images of the brain?
2. Do you think you could perform a procedure looking at a screen?





Museum Access: International Museum of Surgical Science

SEASON 3 - EPISODE 5

Question 6

Why might a patient need to be awake for a minimally invasive brain procedure?

More Talking Points:

1. Would you want to be awake for a similar procedure?
2. Why did the surgeon need to communicate with the patient?

Question 7

Have you ever had a surgical procedure?

More Talking Points:

1. How did you feel about having the procedure?
2. How did the procedure help you?

Question 8

How did anesthesia help in the advancement of medical science?

More Talking Points:

1. What was used to help patients during surgical procedures prior to anesthesia?
2. Have you ever had anesthesia?

Question 9

How did people learn about the human body prior to x-rays?

More Talking Points:

1. Would those learning methods still be useful today? Why?
2. What surprising facts did you learn about the human body?

Question 10

Is there something you hope we'll learn more about in the near future?

More Talking Points:

1. Why is that important to you?
2. How would you use this new knowledge?

