



FRESNO COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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VALLEYHISTORY.ORG

Civil War Medicine Discussion, Quick Write Response or Quiz Questions

1. In this video, medicine is described as "crude" during the period of time before the Civil War, which was also known as the "Heroic Age of Medicine." Specify what you saw in the video as evidence to support this description.
2. What important medical innovation did Dr. Jonathan Letterman implement as the medical director of the Army of the Potomac? Describe how it changed military medicine.
3. Who said "a wounded soldier is no longer my enemy"? What does this suggest or reveal about his character?
4. Based on the information presented in the video, describe the different stages of the triage system, and outline what happens at each stage.
5. Approximately how many amputations were performed during the Civil War? Why did doctors increase their use of this procedure as the war progressed?
6. Compare hospitals at the beginning of the war to the later years. How did the buildings change? What were the reasons for this change? Were they effective?
7. Explain how medical innovations during the Civil War impacted the civilian hospital system and changed Americans' expectations regarding healthcare after the war.



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