

An account of the cutting out the Cæcum of a Bitch by the Ingenious William Mufgrave LL. B. Student in Physick, and Fellow of New-College Oxon.

THe use of the *Cæcum* being still a *Defideratum* in Anatomy, I thought it worth my while to try, what light the *cutting out* of that part, might afford us, in a matter so obscure: In my first experiment of this kind (which was in the Easter-week 1683.) my hopes were soon defeated, by the death of the Dog, two days after the Operation; but being more successful in a second attempt, I will now (according to your desire) give you an account of it:

April 1683. I took a Bitch, of about a year old, and open'd the *Abdomen*, on the right side, in the *Regio Iliaca*, passing my knife thro the *Musculus oblique ascendens*, and by the side of the *Musculus Rectus*; having found the *Cæcum*, I immediatly put up the other guts again into the *Abdomen*, after which I separated the *Cæcum* from the *Ileum*, cutting the membrane which binds part of the former to the latter; then, having made a ligature on the artery which comes to the *Cæcum*, I made three, or four prick-seams thro the sides of the *Cæcum*, at the farther end of it, where it is continued to the *Rectum*, and by thus sowing the sides together, stopt the passage of the *Fæces* that way; after this I cutt off the *Cæcum* about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch from the stitches, and sowed together the new made lips, entring my needle alwais on the inside and passing it thro the outer membrane, that so the lips might the better touch edgewais, and grow together, the wounds being sowed up, and the Bitch tied away, milk is set before her, of which she lapt a small quantity the next morning, and by degrees recovered, so that in three weeks she seem'd as well as ever; in a little time (running up and down in the College) she grew fat, and proud, and the last summer brought a litter of Whelps: In four moneths observation I could not perceive any such alteration in her, as might reasonably be imputed to the loss of the *Cæcum*.

Sept. 19. 1683. I caus'd her to be hangd, and open'd her a second time; Dr. Pitt, our Learned Professor of *Anatomy*, was pleas'd to oblige me with his company; we found a great part of the *Omentum* ly in a heap on the right side; it had not recover'd its natural posture, since it was put up with the guts at the first opening; the edges of the wound were well grown together; in short, we did not find any thing that seem'd to intimate the least want, or supply the place of the *Cæcum*.