

THE EARLY PIONEERS

- Snow developed anesthetic apparatus.
- His best known apparatus featured unidirectional valves within a malleable, well-fitting mask of his own design, which closely resembles the form of a modern face mask. The face piece was connected to the vaporizer by a breathing tube, which Snow deliberately designed to be wider than the human trachea so that even rapid respirations would not be impeded.
- The following year, John Snow introduced an agent-specific chloroform inhaler.
- Despite the limitations of technology in 1848, this element of his work anticipated the modern concept of minimum alveolar concentration (MAC).
- Snow published two remarkable books *On the Inhalation of the Vapour of Ether* (1847) and *On Chloroform and Other Anaesthetics* (1858), which was almost completed when he died of a stroke at the age of 45.