



Medical Instrument

Date

1600-1700

Medium

Iron

Description

Speculum Oris. The implement resembles an cross when folded up. The bottom half opens out into two right-angled arms. It was originally used by dental surgeons to force the jaws of a person open to treat lock-jaw. It was also used in the slave trade to force-feed slaves and stop them from starving themselves.

Dimensions

Object/Work: 158 x 65 mm