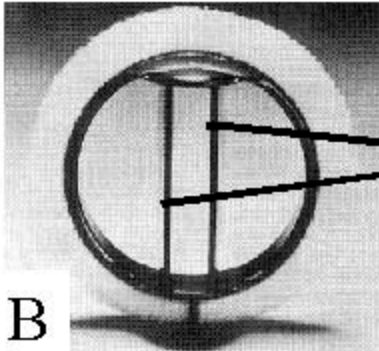


Valve  
leaflets in  
closed  
position



Valve  
leaflets in  
open  
position

A mechanical St. Jude's heart valve seen with the valves in the closed position (A) and in the open position (B).