Vesalius:

Negatives: de fabrica
Vesalius used his money to make a gold and diamond version of his book and gave it to a man name maximilian (Roman emperor), this would make the Roman emperor easily allow Vesalius to become his personal physician and it worked, he left all the research he had done and medicine and got money for being the emperors personal physician.

This book threatened the medical establishment who depended on the work of galen.

Another negative is that this book did not deal with illnesses or treatments.

This book will not be accepted over night because the church and the establishment are in charge.

Positives: de fabrica (Vesalius’ book)
The pictures in this book are very accurate and link with the writing so this was hard to argue with.

This was a printed book which meant that it would easily be spread and hard to restrict.

This book is important because of the methods it told doctors to use. Vesalius said the only way forward was got to do their own dissection and find out things for themselves.

This book began to break a hold of the past showing galen was wrong.

The book shows that the septum did not have holes in it as galen said. The human jaw doesn't have two but one and the sternum only has three parts and not seven.

William Harvey:

Improvements: Harvey showed in his book (on the motion of the heart) that the blood was pumped out through the arteries and back via the veins, this showed that galen was wrong to think that the body made new blood, Harvey shows the way forward through experimentation and careful observation. Harvey drew a different picture of the body, he compared the body to a mechanical pump this was the start of a new idea the body was a machine.

Limits to improvements: his ideas aren’t being taken in because it was no practical use (like vesalius’ ideas) if people had taken on his idea then the use of bloodletting would have been seen as dangerous. People attacked his book as people could not accept galen was wrong Harvey gave up and went to earn money as a doctor, physician to Charles II. He did not enjoy a good reputation and went back to bloodletting which he proved was dangerous.

Vesalius revolutionised anatomy with his accurate pictures.

Harvey was seen as the first to apply science to medical research.

Harvey revolutionised physiology with his discovery that the blood circulated around the body.

Both men had clearly shown that galen had been wrong and would start the slow process of removing his authority.

However the problem was that their discoveries would not save a persons life, their discoveries did not deal with the cause of diseases.

The medical authorities of the day found it difficult do accept the new ideas.

One doctor said that the reason vesalius found something different from galen was because the body had changed.

The discovery of both men were very ineffective and both men abandoned their research to become rich men as doctors, in Harvey’s case despite his discoveries he would rely on bloodletting and purges.

These galen inspired treatments were also carried out by the best brains when Charles 11 was dying including the use of the bezoar stone which had been publicly shown to be useless.