Aging Heart Valves Module – Challenge Question Brainstorm Worksheet

The Challenge
Your grandmother, who has been a non-smoker and relatively healthy throughout her life, has recently noticed that she is becoming increasingly short of breath as she does simple things (such as climbing the steps in her house). She has also noticed that her heart rate increases when she does mild exercise (such as climbing the stairs or walking outside to get the mail). Think about the following:

What could be causing this?
Is it just due to her getting older?
Is there reason to be concerned?
What can be done to help her?

Discussion Questions
Write down some ideas that your group develops as to why your grandmother might be experiencing these problems.

1. What do you already know about this problem? _______________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

2. What do you need to know to better understand this problem? ___________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

3. Where might you look to find answers to the questions you develop? ______________________
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   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________