
Alcor News Bulletin Number 36: March 15, 2005

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Comprehensive Member Standby (CMS)

The rollout of Alcor's new CMS program has been highly successful. We have had less than a dozen members question the new policy, and most members have been highly enthusiastic about the program. Also, we have lost only one member due to the rollout of CMS.

A further development in the CMS rollout was the discovery that the Charter Aircraft Program needs further refinement before we can offer it to the membership. Therefore, the Board has rescinded that particular aspect of CMS until it can be further vetted. Upon agreement of a new framework for a Charter Aircraft Program, the item will come up for consideration again.

Finally, a new Lifetime CMS option has been voted on by the Board. Lifetime CMS will allow members three different ways to obtain a fully paid-up CMS status without the worry of

having to make ongoing payments. The three options are:

Lump Sum Payment: \$4,000.00

Three Annual Payments: \$1,500.00 each for a total of \$4,500.00

Sixty Monthly Payments: \$100 per month for a total of \$6,000.00

All prepaid funds will be invested with the objective of achieving a 5% annual return. Each year the equivalent of the then current annual CMS charge will be deducted from the prepaid account and credited to the CMS fund pool. Upon pronouncement of the member, all remaining prepaid funds for that member will be credited to the CMS fund pool and the prepaid account closed. [JW]

Facility Upgrade Project

On February 21st our building plans were submitted to the City of Scottsdale for a plan check review. We have interviewed three building contractors and requested bids on the project. We still anticipate applying for a demolition permit by March 21st and we also anticipate having our first redline comments from the city by that date. No construction work can start until the demolition permit is granted and all bidders have been informed that the planned completion date for the project is still June 30th. [JW]

Media Update

The biggest media event to happen this month was publication of the New York Times article by Richard Sandomir titled Please Don't Call the Customers Dead. http://www.nytimes.com/2005/02/13/business/yourmoney/13freez e.html?ex=1109998800&en=68e96e34d80fdb08&ei=5070&pagewanted= all

The article generated a spike of information requests and visitors to Alcor's site; plus it prompted renewed interest in two MTV2 segments that are set to air this week. The MTV2 crew saw the New York Times article and got very excited. At the last minute they decided to interview one of our Members in New York, which was successfully coordinated on short notice. We actually received a handful of responses from Members who were interested in being interviewed; we since started keeping a list of Member contacts who may participate in future media events.

In February, we also participated in interviews with a reporter from the London Sunday Times who was asked by Simon & Schuster to write a book about immortality. We have scheduled participation in a three-part documentary titled Beyond Man and are in the process of arranging participation in four other broadcasts/publications, including: The Sunday Herald Magazine (UK), WDR (German radio), Grenada Factual TV (UK), and National Geographic News (online). [JC]

Neuro-Vitrification with Whole-Body Cryoprotection Development

The prototype has been completed and the components tested. If we intend to deploy this on a patient, we will need to cut and sterilize a proper tubing pack and sampling array. The plywood model we built in preparation for the plastic fabrication version has been disassembled and discarded.

Deployment of the entire system is dependent upon the introduction of the new cryoprotectant, M22. We expect to receive the recommendation to switch cryoprotectants soon; and once the recommendation has been accepted, we should be able to switch to this system quickly. [TJ]

Transport Team Matters

In accordance with the published schedule, transport training was held in southern California. Topics were covered that included: safety precautions and personal protective equipment, all of which is part of our hazard communication protocol for transport team members; airway management, which included general considerations and the theory and practice behind use of a "Combi-tube"; and medications, including practice in calculating dosages for varying patient weights and drawing up a full set of medications as an exercise in the amount of time it takes. Ten people attended the training.

Our transport team member contract is complete and will be required for all cryopreservation procedure participants. In exchange for their participation, team members will receive membership discounts of up to 75% of the standard membership fees. If you're interested in becoming a member of the Alcor Transport Team, contact Bill Voice) for more information.

Members of our transport teams do not need to wait until Alcor comes to their regions to provide training. Anyone traveling to Scottsdale or to Florida might wish to stop by our offices or those of our Florida Coordinator, Todd Soard. Bill Voice is available to provide personal instruction to anyone in Scottsdale, and Todd will teach in Florida. Available topics include: cardiopulmonary support, airway management, surface cooling techniques, bloodborne pathogens and safety protocols, and more. [TJ]

Personnel Update

One of our temporary employees, Nikki Knowlton, has resigned to accept a full-time position elsewhere. We have since retained Ms. D'Bora Tarrant as a replacement temp for Nikki. We appreciate Nikki's efforts over the past six months and wish her well in her new position. Meanwhile, we are still negotiating a final offer for a full-time researcher and we anticipate making that offer within two weeks. [JW]

Employment Opportunity for Medical Professionals

Have you ever thought about joining the Alcor team? We have immediate needs for licensed Paramedics, Emergency Medical Technicians, Registered Nurses, Lab Technicians and more to join our nationwide Transport Teams. Participation would be on a contractual basis.

You'll be given cryonics training that will enable you to participate in our patient rescue and transport cases. Licensed professionals do not have to be Alcor members to work with us. We welcome your expertise and interest. If you're interested, send your resume to: [JW]

Membership Statistics

On December 31, 2004, Alcor had 731 members on its Emergency Responsibility List. Ten memberships were approved during this month, no memberships were reinstated, no memberships were cancelled, and no members were cryopreserved. Overall, there was a net gain of ten members this month.

At the end of this month, Alcor had 141 applicants for membership. There was a net loss of 15 applicants with 10 approvals, 3 incoming applicants and 8 people exited the application process (4 withdrew and 4 were dropped for being non-responsive to our attempts to contact them). [DC]

Next Board Meeting

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 2, 2004 at 10:00 AM (MST).

Board meetings are held on the first Saturday of the month at the Alcor facility (7895 East Acoma Drive in Scottsdale, AZ). Members and the public are encouraged to attend.

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