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Alcor News Bulletin-----
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Authors This Issue:

Jennifer Chapman [JC], Diane Cremeens [DC], Tanya Jones [TJ], Joe Waynick [JW].

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Facility Upgrade Project

Demolition for the Facility Expansion Project has begun. The construction is being done by Exclusive Development, Inc (EDI) and they clearly understand that they have a June 30th deadline to complete the project or they will face late penalties of \$300.00 per day for up to 30 days. On day 31 we have the option of canceling the contract and only owe for work actually completed. Conversely, if they complete the project early they will receive early completion incentives of \$300.00 per day for up to a maximum of 30 days.

One or two minor items not included in their bid may add an additional \$2,000 - \$4,000, depending on quotes from materials suppliers. But I did not want to hold up the project for that. EDI's bid is for \$112,500. Construction includes completion of the new Patient Care Bay, completion

of a new Operating Room, walling over the hallway entrance to the wet lab, and installing a new hallway entrance to the dry lab. Electrical outlets and switch plates in the new conference room will be brought into code compliance, and several code violations of ADA regulations will be corrected, such as widening a short hallway from the wet lab to the new conference room, and making a bathroom ADA compliant.

The demolition and construction schedule is expected to be met on-time and on-budget. Construction areas have been isolated from working areas to avoid dust and debris contamination to equipment and supplies. [JW]

Cryopreservation of A-2024

We returned to Georgia for the stabilization and transport of patient A-2024. Bill Voice and I flew from Phoenix, and we were joined by one of our Florida paramedics. Preparations were mostly complete as the result of our being in Georgia three weeks prior. The standby was launched upon a significant change in the member's condition, and we arrived in time to rearrange the stored equipment, to draw up the medications, and to contact the local funeral director about the impending stabilization. All told, we were in and out of the state in about twelve hours.

Pronouncement was prompt; the stabilization went well, aside from not being able to gain intravenous access; and the washout was done quickly, with the patient's temperature lowered to 10°C in 3.5 hours. The family was extremely supportive, and we have collected fifteen days of pre-mortem data, including vital signs, food and fluid intake, urine output, and medications administered. The funeral directors were also helpful and provided great service. We look forward to contacting them again for any other case in the area.

Our patient arrived at the Alcor facility about 13 hours after pronouncement. Cryoprotection proceeded without incident and took less than six hours, from initial incision to end of perfusion. The patient achieved the target cryoprotectant concentrations and had good uptake throughout the procedure, as evidenced by unusually close arterial and venous refractometry readings. Cooldown began at about 19 hours post-pronouncement.

Interesting fracture data was collected during cooling. The equipment registered seven distinct events, along a narrow temperature range. The first event occurred at -121°C and the last at about -134°C. No events were detected at lower temperatures. Transfer to the maintenance dewar occurred on May 5, 2005.

Overall, this case went very well, both from patient-care and preparation standpoints. A case summary will appear in the Jul/Aug issue of Cryonics magazine. [TJ]

Cryopreservation of A-2077

At the same time we transferred A-2024 to the maintenance dewar, we also transferred A-2077. (As you may recall from previous reports, this patient is Mathew Sullivan's family member.) Mathew is single-handedly responsible for this patient's preservation, having been involved in obtaining consent, completing the paperwork, supervising the removal of the brain for cryopreservation, and carefully cryoprotecting the tissue through a diffusion method over the course of many months (with the assistance of Hugh Hixon). His dedication and commitment are commendable, and the outcome appears to be good as far as the quality of cryoprotection achieved.

During the transfer, we took some photographs of the brain, which has good color and no visible fractures in the tissue. We also have completed the MRI data collection portion of this project, and we look forward to analyzing the results. [TJ]

Transport Team Matters

Our most recent training session was held in northern California. We covered medications, thumper setup and use, patient handling, external cooling, and data collection. The training was held over a day and a half, and we hope to continue using this day-and-a-half format in southern California later this month. We also added a couple of new individuals to the northern California team, and we're looking forward to getting them trained to participate in transport procedures. Our next training session will be held in southern California on the weekend of May 21, 2005.

With last month's resignation of the northern California Regional Coordinators, we were left with a slight gap in our capability. The transport kit was removed and placed in the care of local transport team member Tim Freeman. Tim has agreed to maintain the kit until such time as we choose a new Regional Coordinator.

During this month, Alcor Chairman Michael Riskin provided us with a list of southern California paramedic schools, hoping we might be able to recruit some talent from their student body or, more ideally, from the instructor pool. Our initial contact was favorable with a private school on the list, and we hope to make arrangements to meet with them soon. There is a chance at least one of their paramedics will also attend the next training session. We're interested in creating similar relationships with schools in states other than Florida, and would accept any additional assistance that our members or supporters provide in locating likely candidates. [TJ]

Media Update

A graphic designer is creating an inspirational ad for national publication with the purpose of encouraging public

interest in our website and info packs. Additionally, we are in discussion with the editor of The Director (a monthly magazine for funeral directors with nearly 15,000 subscribers) about the possibility of writing an article explaining what funeral directors can expect if they assist with a cryonics case. We are also planning to run an advertisement to inform funeral directors about Alcor's objectives.

In April, Alcor participated in the following media events:

* Discovery Channel Europe, to air worldwide via the Discovery Channel network. The aim of this "Top Ten" series is to explore the real science behind ideas popular in science fiction.

* "Beyond Man," a three-part television documentary to air in Finland, Holland, Belgium, and France. This documentary discusses new technological developments and their impact on our world and world view. The first part will show the state of the art of present technological evolution, including quantum computers, artificial intelligence, biogenetics, bionics and implants, cryonics, and nanotechnology. The second part focuses on the speed of these technological developments and how we can understand and manage these changes. The third part offers an impression of how different world cultures and religions are coping with these scientific and technological changes.

* The Sunday Herald Magazine, published in Scotland and the UK. You can view this article at:
<http://www.sundayherald.com/49468>

* German Press Agency, available worldwide. A reporter stopped by for an interview on short notice.

* "Cryobiology: Cool Science," to be published in the US. Alcor offered assistance with the section that discussed cryonics in this children's book. [JC]

Fundraising Efforts

The May/Jun issue of Cryonics features the launch of a new fundraising campaign seeking pledges from 200 members of either \$500 or \$1,000 per year for five years. Our goal is to raise \$1 million during the 5-year time frame for the Endowment Fund for providing ongoing revenue to pay for new research, lab equipment, personnel, and other operating overhead. [JW]

Personnel Update

It is with deep regret that Tim Reeves has decided to resign his position due to health and family reasons. Tim will be greatly missed and we wish him the best of luck. We are currently searching for a replacement. [JW]

Membership Statistics

On April 30, 2005, Alcor had 743 members on its Emergency Responsibility List. Seventeen memberships were approved during this month, three memberships were cancelled, and one member was cryopreserved. Overall, there was a net gain of thirteen members this month.

At the end of this month, Alcor had 89 applicants for membership. There was a net loss of 17 applicants with 17 membership approvals, 6 incoming applicants, and 6 people withdrew from the application process.

During the month of March, 144 information packs were distributed. Of those, 136 were mailed, and 8 were handed to facility tour participants. Our average for 2005 has grown to 97 per month, compared to 50 in 2004. [DC]

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 Team. 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]

You Can Help!

Alcor's research and development and daily operations do not have the benefit of large government grants, private foundations, or a huge fundraising organization to raise the millions of dollars necessary to develop much-needed technology and protocol enhancements. What we do have are loyal, dedicated members like you who have a personal interest in the success of cryonics.

Alcor has a long and proud tradition of innovation and technical excellence. This will continue to be our overriding mission in the years ahead. Yet, the organization is only as great as its people, starting with its supporters. Membership dues and cryopreservation cases cover just 60% of our annual budget. The remainder must come from generous individuals within our small community.

You can help achieve that success with your tax deductible contribution to the Alcor Life Extension Foundation. We have many projects that would benefit from your generosity. You can also make a credit card donation TODAY by calling Alcor at (877) 462-5267 ext. 101. Or you can mail your check to: Alcor Life Extension Foundation, 7895 E. Acoma Drive, Suite

110, Scottsdale, AZ 85260.

Your generous gift will help create a more secure Alcor, so we can be there for your future, as well as the future of your friends and family who also belong to our small community of cryonicists. [JW]

Next Board Meeting

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Saturday, June 4, 2004, at 11:00 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 and enjoy lunch with the Alcor staff after the meeting.

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End of Alcor News bulletin #38 dated May 11, 2005.
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