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Alcor News Bulletin-----
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Facility Upgrade Project

Construction was halted for about 2.5 weeks because our architect failed to secure the proper permits. The required permits have now been obtained and work has resumed. It is unclear as to whether this delay will impact the completion date. We'll know more next week when we meet with the construction contractor about stepping up the project.

However, the demolition work that was done is extensive. We spoke with the project foreman this week. Plumbers have been in to demo the restrooms for ADA compliance. They will also be demoing the new scrub room. Electrical and underground work is also expected to be started next week.
[JW]

New Cryoprotectant Implementation

Alcor is investigating the licensing and application of a new cryoprotectant called M22 for whole-body patients. This new cryoprotectant is expected to eliminate the need for the combination procedure, where the body and brain are cryoprotected separately. With the new solution, the brain can be vitrified without removing the trunk, and this new procedure (as indicated in previous issues of Alcor News) will be called neurovitrification with whole-body cryoprotection. Implementation has moved forward, and we've completed an inventory review to establish the changes needed to have sufficient chemical inventory on hand to prepare for a standard number of cases.

Steve Van Sickle has also been assisting Hugh Hixon with M22 implementation, checking his figures and estimating costs. The cost of M22 will be \$143/liter (not including the additional ingredient that is still private), with whole bodies requiring ~80 liters, and neuros requiring ~10 liters. B1 washout solution is costing out at \$36/liter, with 20 liters required for whole bodies and 10 liters for neuros. Totals for perfusate are therefore around \$12,000 for whole bodies and \$1,800 for neuros. To be prepared for 8 whole body/8 neuros, as discussed at the last Board meeting, would require an order of ~\$92,000. (This is in addition to the components we have on hand.) [SVS]

Transport Vehicle Development

The plumbing is now complete on the vehicle, and a wet test has been performed. The system works very well, and we had no trouble with the installation. During the test, we noted that the temperature in the back of the vehicle was quite warm, and so we fired up the air conditioner to cool things down to tolerable levels. Unfortunately, the air conditioner broke after a couple of hours, something that may be an artifact of its sporadic use. We delivered the vehicle to a local contractor for evaluation of the six individual alarm indicators and repair. The problem turned out to be a simple loose wire in the circuitry, and the air conditioner now works again.

The vehicle is currently in the hands of an electrical engineer, who is tasked with getting the generator, inverter, and batteries installed. Installation should be complete by the end of this week. This project is nearing completion, and we're very much looking forward to the deployment of this vehicle in a cryopreservation case. [TJ]

Transport Team Matters

Since the last report, we've held two training sessions, one in southern California covering the set-up and use of the ATP. The second was in Laughlin, NV, where we provided a refresher on medications, surface cooling, safety precautions, and an overview of the new transport equipment

we plan to deploy in the next month. New equipment being deployed includes improved safety equipment designed to reduce the potential for needle-stick injuries and an inspiratory impedance device that we hope will improve the quality of circulation during cardiopulmonary support. [TJ]

Media and Advertising Update

The May/June issue of Cryonics magazine was delayed in production but was mailed June 10th. We are faced with some unexpected challenges with the July/Aug issue, but it should be mailed in the month of July. Establishing a regular schedule and increasing the subscription base are our main goals for this year. Content improvement and an expanded authorship are priorities as well, but it will probably be several more issues before we really start showing success in these areas.

Within a few weeks, we will have 3,000 pre-packaged instructional DVDs about cryonics and Alcor ready for distribution. We plan to send one to each member's household and to begin including them with the information packages.

We continue to collaborate with our graphic designer on an ad for Life Extension Foundation magazine. The editor of The Director (a monthly magazine for funeral directors with nearly 15,000 subscribers) is agreeable to an article about cryonics for the purpose of educating funeral directors. Alcor will work with Steve Rude, our local funeral director, on the article.

In May, Alcor participated in the following media events:

- * WDR Radio, to air in Germany: General information about cryonics and Alcor.
- * Carte Blanche, to air in Africa: This is a 60-minutes style program with the theme of preserving life.

These media events were cancelled or declined:

- * National Geographic: National Geographic decided to cancel the entire series of which cryonics would have been a part.
- * Fast Company: They were considering a segment about how Alcor operates as a business but did not want to sign our Usage Statement.

Alcor is currently in discussions with the History Channel, and two production companies in the UK that want to do documentaries that include footage of a cryopreservation, a reporter from the Toronto Special Newspaper, and a production company in California that wants to do a reality-based series about Alcor. [JC]

Database Enhancements

A contractor was retained to complete the coding necessary to import data files downloaded from the internet directly into the Central Database for the purpose of automated capturing of info pack requests and tour request data. It is complete with sophisticated error handling routines, event logging, data archival, backup capability, mailing label generation, and a dashboard user interface.

These upgrades will completely eliminate all manual labor previously necessary to carry out these routine and tedious tasks, thereby enhancing the productivity of the administrative and marketing staff. [JW]

Fundraising Efforts

Our launch of the fundraising program has been pushed back a month due to various priorities. The magazine with the launch appeal will be in the mail in June. Pledges collected to date still stand at \$10,000. [JW]

Membership Statistics

On May 31, 2005, Alcor had 750 members on its Emergency Responsibility List. Eight memberships were approved during this month, one membership was cancelled, none were reinstated, and no members were cryopreserved. Overall, there was a net gain of seven members this month. We have an average net gain of 7.4 members per month this year to date, which compares favorably to last year's average of 4.3 members per month. Also of note is that of the eight approvals this month, five of them are friends or relatives of existing Alcor members.

At the end of this month, Alcor had 82 applicants for membership. There was a net loss of seven applicants with eight membership approvals, three incoming applicants, and two people withdrew from the application process.

During the month of March, 90 information packs were distributed. Of those, 84 were mailed, and 6 were handed to facility tour participants. Our average for 2005 has grown to 84 per month, compared to 50 in 2004. We also had 693 subscribers to Alcor News as of May 11. [DC]

Employment Opportunities

We have a need for a dielectric vinyl welder to assist with the completion of a prototype ice bath. If you know a vinyl welder or are one yourself, please contact Bill Voice) for more information on this project.

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 does 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 in the field of cryonics. 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, July 9, 2005, at 11:00 AM (MST).

Board meetings are typically 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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End of Alcor News bulletin #39 dated June 16, 2005.
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