



ALCOR NEWS

A newsletter about Alcor and cryonics activities and developments

In This Issue

[CEO Update](#)

[From the MRD desk](#)

[Interesting Media](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Silver Anniversary of Alcor](#)

[Alcor Funds Cryonics Case Meta-Analysis](#)

[CT Scan Training at Alcor](#)

[Member Profile](#)

[Cryonics Magazine](#)

Quick Links

[Ask a Question](#)

[Contact Us](#)

Join Our List

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February 2019

CEO Update

by Max More

Are life extension and especially cryonics doomed to remain the province of a tiny minority of people? Changing responses to surveys in recent years encourage me. As Alcor member Reason reports: "However, in the last few years, things have apparently started to change. In 2015, in [a study by Donner et al](#), it was found that given perfect mental and physical health, 797 out of 1000 participants wanted to live to 120 or longer; over half of these 797 people desired unlimited lifespans (around 40% of all participants). A [new study by YouGov](#) shows even more impressive results."

<https://www.fightaging.org/archives/2019/02/arguing-that-public-desire-for-greater-longevity-is-growing>

Among those results: Out of 1200 participants, one in five (19%) people agreed with the statement "I want to live forever" without any promises related to perfect health. 42% of the participants chose "I want to live longer than a normal lifespan, but not forever", while 23% said, "I don't want to live longer than a normal lifespan." Support for radical life extension was more supported by young people (24%) than by people over 55 (13%).

19% of people agreed with the statement "I want to live forever." A plurality (42%) chose "I want to live

longer than a normal lifespan, but not forever". And this from a randomly-select group of people. Few of them are likely to be regularly exposed to news about aging and longevity research. Compared to this 60%+ positive response, the 2013 Pew Research study found that only 38% of the participants expressed the desire to undergo medical treatments to slow aging and live to be 120 or more.

In commenting on this survey, Elena Milova wrote in "The American Public Increasingly Desires Life Extension": Interestingly, when asked about their preferred way to dispose of their body after death, 3% of people (that is, about 36 people overall) named cryonics! According to another analysis, 14% of Britons are confident that at least some of those who have been frozen will successfully be revived, while another 16% are unsure one way or the other. Among those in the group characterized as "Tech Disciples", 23% said they would be cryopreserved if money were no object.

[Full Results of YouGov Study](#)

[Link to Milova's piece](#)

For another analysis you can use this [LINK](#)

From the MRD Desk

by Chris Divver



Hello and welcome to the inaugural issue of my monthly column. As your Medical Response Director, I have the responsibility of ensuring our members have a smooth transition from member to patient. I cannot, however, do that without your help. This column will highlight some of those areas that have been identified during case debriefs as corrective actions our members and their families can take to assist me in ensuring a seamless transition. I will also use this column to address any issues or concerns our members may have as well as answer any questions.

One concern that is easily rectified is your documentation. As a member, you have made full legal and financial arrangements for cryopreservation with Alcor. While that is one major step in the documentation process, there are several other critical steps you need to take. One of those steps is ensuring your family, friends, and medical professionals are aware of your desire for cryopreservation. There will come a time when you are not able to speak on your own behalf and those around you (doctors, nurses, paramedics, etc.) will have to rely on your previously established paperwork in order to ensure Alcor is notified promptly.

Your paperwork should include an undated HIPAA form, a Durable Medical Power of Attorney (DMPOA) establishing who can speak on your behalf in the event you cannot speak for yourself, and a letter to your primary care physician outlining your desire for cryopreservation. While we certainly advocate wearing your pendant and bracelet identifying you as an Alcor member, you should not rely solely on that single form of identification to alert us that you need Alcor's response team.

One relatively inexpensive way to ensure your paperwork is up-to-date and available when needed is by utilizing a company that will digitally store your cryo docs. There are several companies such as Everplan, LifeSite, AboutOne, and Raymond James wealth management that offer an Everplan. These companies offer an easy-to-access, **secure digital archive** of everything you need throughout your life and that your loved ones might need should something happen to you. Through these sites, you can store all the vital documentation mentioned previously in one easy to access site as well as name your beneficiaries. Your beneficiary is an important person in your life whom you trust enough to provide access to some or all of your paperwork.

It is in your best interest to ensure your vital documentation is in place, up-to-date, and secure for when your loved ones need it.

I hope you have found this column helpful and informative. Please contact me if you have any questions or if you have a topic you would like to see discussed in a future column.

Until next month where we discuss HIPAA: what it is, what it isn't, and why you need one!!

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INTERESTING MEDIA

The Bitcoiners Who Want to Defeat Death

by Julia Herbst, Breakermag



An ardent futurist, Finney arranged to have his body cryopreserved by Alcor after his death. Like a number of their peers, Merkle and Finney shared deep interest in both cryptography and cryonics. But their connection goes deeper. Their audacious techno-utopianism can be traced back to an astoundingly optimistic group founded in the 1990s called the Extropians. The group was cofounded by current Alcor CEO Max More, an early cryonics obsessive so committed to living forever he kept a heart-lung resuscitator in his college dorm room in case of emergency. A true believer in the cryonics cause, More wrote to his Extropian brother Finney, on the day of his passing: "Hal, I know I speak for many when I say that I look forward to speaking to you again sometime in the future and to throwing a party in honor of your revival."

[Read More Here](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

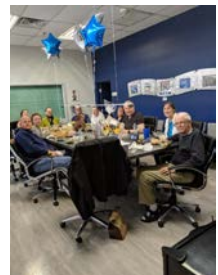
The Paths and Dangers to Transhumanism on a premiere stage at SXSW -- on March 12, at 11 AM in Austin.

More Information
[MAX MORE](#)

SILVER ANNIVERSARY OF ALCOR

Celebrating 25 years

Thursday, Feb. 21, 2019 was the 25th anniversary ("silver anniversary") of Alcor's move to its present location in Scottsdale, Arizona. On that day back in '94, our dewars and other belongings were loaded aboard three flatbed trucks and made a journey of several hours from our old residence in Riverside,



California, to our new home. To mark the occasion a small celebration was held in Alcor's conference room, where we congratulated ourselves on having endured as long as we have (a primary prerequisite of a successful cryonics operation!), and made the progress we have made. There have been major advances in cryopreservation protocols, membership, and public outreach, though no one will doubt that we still have a long way to go. For those of you, the membership and supporters, who have endured and stood by us for some or all of this long time interval, a sincere thanks. We hope you will stand by us and, if your time of need should come, be cryopreserved and rewarded some day with revival!



Leaving Alcor's facility in Riverside, Feb. 21, 1994. Fork lift is moving a concrete "neuro vault" holding patients in dewar inside.

ALCOR FUNDS COMPREHENSIVE CRYONICS CASE META-ANALYSIS

By Aschwin de Wolf

The Alcor Hal Finney Cryonics Research Fund has awarded Advanced Neural Biosciences a three-year grant (2019-2021) to conduct a comprehensive meta-analysis of all Alcor cryopreservation cases. The project will consist of three phases: (1) The creation of a comprehensive case database, culminating in a preliminary meta-analysis to establish case trends and patterns. (2) The development of a quantitative metric (or series of metrics) that will allow Alcor to determine the quality of a case (3) Experimental research to model typical and unusual Alcor case scenarios and alternative protocols. This 3-year project will be completed with a final comprehensive meta-analysis and a set of recommendations. An important component of this project will be the integration and review of brain scans of all existing Alcor patients utilizing Alcor's new in-house CT scanner (also funded by the Hal Finney Cryonics

Research Fund).

Advanced Neural Biosciences is neural cryobiology company founded by Alcor members Aschwin de Wolf and Chana Phaedra.

CT SCAN TRAINING AT ALCOR

Vimago CT



Alcor's Vimago/Pico CT scanner is now in full operation. Over the last few days the staff of Alcor enjoyed a comprehensive training by the Epica representative on the use of the CT scanner and safety precautions for use at Alcor. There are upgrades to existing O.R. equipment that are being designed to integrate with the use of the new CT scanner. The project to begin CT scanning our existing patients will begin once all the equipment is updated and thoroughly tested. The grapefruit being scanned was an excellent specimen!

MEMBER PROFILE

Michael Geisen

Minnesotan by birth and adventurer by nature, Michael Geisen is one of the hungry minds of the West Coast cryonics community, radiating life from his maverick spirit to his reputedly spry constitution. With his Alcor membership



spanning two decades, combined with a robust, eclectic background in naval aviation and sales, he offers a unique perspective to the future of cryonics and the priorities therein.

[Read Michael's profile](#)

CRYONICS MAGAZINE

Printed version of *Cryonics* magazine

Cryonics magazine is moving to a quarterly publication starting in January 2019. We are excited about the changes. Please send us an email with your feedback and if you have not indicated your preference for digital or mailed version of *Cryonics* you can still do so by sending an email to marji@alcor.org.



2019	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Members	1,237											
Patients	165											
Associate	296											
Total	1,698											



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