FDA approves temporary use of artificial heart

Use of the Jarvik-7 artificial heart at Barnes Hospital as a bridge to transplantation of a human heart was approved in April by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

The Jarvik-7 will be used only as a temporary device when a patient’s own heart is failing and a donor human heart is not yet available, explained Dr. R. Morton Bolman, director of the heart transplant program at Barnes Hospital.

The FDA approval is for use of the Jarvik-7 at Barnes for up to seven patients. Barnes, which is affiliated with Washington University School of Medicine, is the sixth institution nationally to receive FDA approval for the clinical investigation of the use of the artificial heart as a bridge to transplant of a human heart.

Dr. Bolman said he expects the Jarvik-7, which is now on standby, to be used at least one to two times a year, although he added it is not known when the first use might occur. He described the Jarvik-7 as an addition to existing technology available at Barnes to assist or now to replace a malfunctioning heart until a human transplant can be performed.

The first human heart transplant at Barnes Hospital was performed in January, 1985, and doctors here have now transplanted 56 human hearts and one set of heart-lungs.

Edward Case appointed senior vice-president

Edward B. Case has been named senior vice-president for finance at Barnes Hospital, according to hospital president Max Poll. Mr. Case joined the Barnes staff in March.

As senior vice-president for finance, Mr. Case assumes responsibility for all financial functions and information systems at the hospital, reporting directly to the hospital president. In that capacity, he holds line responsibility through vice-presidents and administrators in the areas of accounting, auditing, budgeting, control, development, patient accounts, cashiers, management information systems, medical records, risk management, telecommunication and alternative delivery system development.

Mr. Case came to Barnes from St. John’s Mercy Medical Center in West St. Louis County, where he had served as senior vice-president for finance since 1983. He joined the St. John’s staff as controller in 1979 and was named vice-president for financial operations in 1982. Mr. Case, a certified public accountant, also served as a senior accountant and manager at the accounting firm, Arthur Andersen & Co. He graduated with honors from the University of Missouri at St. Louis with a bachelor of science degree in business administration.

Productivity plan yields 78 percent success rate

Barnes’ productivity incentive program, implemented during 1986 to improve performance and profitability, yielded a 78 percent success rate. Of the 42 departments participating in the program, 26, or 62 percent, fully funded and seven partially funded their incentive payments for an overall total of 78 percent. Only nine departments were unable to meet their established goals and receive incentive payments.

Under the productivity incentive program, each department sets goals to improve performance, productivity and profitability, and established productivity indicators to gauge their success. The goal of the program was to reduce the hospital’s overall costs by increasing efficiency in each department.

In a recent letter, Barnes president Max Poll congratulated employees on the program’s success. He thanked all hospital employees for their efforts, adding that departments which did not fund productivity payments in 1986 may have been highly efficient before the program, making significant improvement difficult.

Barnes Annual Report chronicles 1986 events

“Today’s hopes and fears, dreams and dreads, opportunities and obstacles will soon become tomorrow’s reality,” begins Barnes Hospital’s 1986 Annual Report, published last month. The chronicle’s message is that how those challenges are met and conquered will determine the future of Barnes Hospital.

The Annual Report briefly describes the new healthcare environment of HMOs, PPOs, IPAs and DRGs that appears to be here to stay, and highlights the steps the hospital is taking in uncharted areas, still guided by the basic principles that have served Barnes for more than 70 years.

The report emphasizes Barnes’ commitment to provide a continuum of care that combines its historical role as a high-tech leader—strengthened by a close affiliation with Washington University School of Medicine—with a high level of preventive care and quality post-hospital care. The report describes 1986 highlights in each medicine and surgery field, from anesthesia and urology to cardiothoracic surgery and ophthalmology. Community outreach programs and new patient services such as the hospice program, skilled nursing facility, pheresis center and same day surgery plan, are also highlighted in the 1986 report that states, “The past year is prologue to the future...”

Statistics cited in the Annual Report indicate that 35,565 patients were admitted in 1986 for (continued on page 2)
To receive a copy of the 1986 Annual Report, contact the public relations department at (314) 362-5290.

Larry Volkmar joined the Barnes nursing service staff in February as director of medical nursing.

Nursing names directors of medicine, specialties

Larry Volkmar has joined the Barnes Hospital nursing administration as director of medical nursing, responsible through the clinical nursing directors for the delivery of patient care on the medical nursing divisions and intensive care units, Digestive Diseases Clinical Center and Mohs and Dermatologic Surgery Center. Mr. Volkmar replaces former director of medical nursing Sherilyn Hallstone, who was named associate vice-president for nursing in fall, 1986.

Mr. Volkmar brings to Barnes 10 years of experience in nursing and patient care services, most recently as vice-president for patient services at Jane Lamb Health Center in Clinton, Iowa. In that capacity, he was responsible for the administrative direction of the nursing, cardiological, social service, infection control and physical therapy departments, as well as for the hospital's adherence to national and professional accreditation guidelines. Mr. Volkmar also has served as director of nursing, house supervisor, instructor and staff nurse during his career.

Mr. Volkmar holds an associate degree in nursing from Kaskaskia College in Illinois and a bachelor of science degree in nursing from St. Louis University. He is currently a candidate for a master's degree in business administration at St. Ambrose College in Davenport, Iowa.

In other recent nursing administration changes, former clinical directors Joan Karvinen and Pam Lesser were promoted to directors of nursing service. Ms. Karvinen is now director of psychiatry, neurology and neurosurgery nursing and activity therapy. Ms. Lesser is director of obstetric, gynecology, otolaryngology and ophthalmology nursing.

Cay Doerr, director of surgical nursing; Joe Burke, director of the emergency department; Pat Potter, director of nursing practice; and Susan Dollahr, director of nursing systems, complete the nursing service management team. Clinical directors, who work with head nurses on each division and report to the nursing directors, include Penny Barri and Mike Felling, medical; and Louise Weber and Josie Ciatala (Lombardo), surgical.

Dispatch department offers hospital program

Area hospitals have the opportunity to learn about the operation of a centralized dispatch service from the largest such department in the state. The Barnes dispatch department currently offers a two-day educational program for hospital administrators interested in centralizing a vital hospital service.

The program explains how a centralized dispatch department relates to the entire hospital, exploring staffing, training, scheduling, communication, productivity, utilization and incentives to most efficiently and economically serve the hospital and the patients. A centralized dispatch department such as Barnes' creates an efficient system for the timely transfer of mail, specimens, medical records, x-ray films and hospital equipment, as well as for the transportation of patients from their rooms to testing facilities. Barnes' 135 dispatch employees provide this service 24-hours-a-day.

The educational program for hospital administrators offers one-on-one instruction tailored to each hospital's needs. Courses are available on an ongoing basis on Monday and Tuesday or Thursday and Friday. Overnight accommodations are available in Queeny Tower. For more information about the program, call Bobbie Lee, director of dispatch services, at (314) 362-1235.

Fact cards available through public relations

If you've ever wondered about the number of patients cared for, operations performed, or even meals served annually at a hospital the size of Barnes, the answers can be at your fingertips with Barnes Hospital Fact Cards, a wallet-size card packed with 1986 statistics.

Last year, 1,152 doctors, 489 residents and 4,221 employees cared for 35,565 inpatients, performed 27,445 operations, delivered 3,004 babies and completed 10,075 outpatient surgery procedures. In addition, they processed 10,281,016 pounds of linen, served 3,153,511 meals, ran 1,938,579 laboratory tests, filled 6,882,394 inpatient prescriptions and provided 45,110 home health visits.

Barnes attending and house staff physicians were honored by the Barnes Hospital Auxiliary March 27 in celebration of Doctor's Day. Doctor's Day is celebrated annually to commemorate the first use of ether as an anesthetic. At Barnes, Dr. Charles B. Anderson, assistant obstetrician/gynecologist, was honored.

Two papers by ophthalmologist Dr. Harry Knopf, titled "Surgical Therapy of a Pseudo-monas Corneal Ulcer in a Diabetic" and "Periocular Anesthesia for Relief of Pain," were published in the April issue of the American Journal of Ophthalmology.

Dr. Charles B. Anderson, general surgeon-in-chief, spoke on the clinical assessment and management of an organ donor at the Mid-America Transplant Association's transplant symposium April 3 in St. Louis.

Rose Dunn, a Barnes vice-president, was one of 11 healthcare professionals across the nation interviewed for a Journal of the American Medical Record Association article titled "Leading the Way: Interviews with AMRA Leaders." Ms. Dunn, who joined the Barnes staff as director of medical records in 1974 and was named a vice-president in 1982, is still an active member of the association.

U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop was the keynote speaker April 24 at the first Research Dinner hosted by the American Lung Association of Eastern Missouri. Funds from the event support pulmonary research projects at regional medical institutions, including a Career Investigator Award recently granted by the National Lung Association to Dr. Daniel Schuster, pulmonary specialist and medical director of Barnes' respiratory intensive care unit.

Articles by Dr. Marvin Levin, physician specializing in diabetes, appeared recently in the professional publications, Conn's Current Therapy, Diabetes Forecast, Diabetes Self-Management and Diabetes' St. Dr. Levin also participated in the Washington University post-graduate course held in Acapulco, Mexico, where he spoke on obesity and fat diets, the diabetic foot, and controversies in diabetes management.

Denise McCartney, assistant administrative director of the laboratories for support services, has been named to the national Outstanding Young Women of America program.
Barnes honors families of 1986 organ donors

Representatives of area organ procurement agencies gathered April 26 to honor families who made the decision to donate a loved one's vital organs and give another person a renewed chance for life during 1986. The luncheon, hosted by Barnes Hospital in Queeny Tower Restaurant, kicked off Organ Donation Awareness Week in St. Louis.

Head table guests at the luncheon for the 74 donor families included the American Red Cross, American Kidney Foundation, Missouri Kidney Program and St. Louis Eye Bank. Dr. R. Morton Bolman, head of Barnes' heart transplant program, served as master of ceremonies, with Dr. M. Wayne Fyfe, director of organ transplantation at Washington University School of Medicine and head of Barnes' liver transplant program, representing Washington University Medical Center and heart transplant surgeon Dr. D. Glenn Pennington representing St. Louis University Medical Center. Representatives of the Governor's, Mayor's and County Executive's offices were invited to attend and sign the proclamation marking April 26-May 2 Organ Donation Awareness Week.

During 1986, organ donor families made possible at Barnes Hospital alone 32 heart transplants, 16 liver transplants and the hospital's first heart-lung transplant. A total of 100 kidney transplants, from both living and non-living donors, were performed at Barnes during 1986.

Also in 1986, Missouri joined more than 20 other states in passing "required request" legislation that requires hospitals to ask relatives of potential organ donors to consider donating vital organs for transplantation. The bill also established regulations concerning the training of hospital personnel making requests and stipulated that no request would be made if the hospital had prior notice that the family or patient was opposed to organ donation.

Birthday party marks medical phenomenon

"An extraordinary medical phenomenon and a one in a million person" is how friends and acquaintances affectionately describe Lenabell Bell. The Barnes Hospital and Washington University School of Medicine communities joined together March 3 to celebrate the 70th birthday of this special woman who delights all who meet her and who has defied the norms of medicine.

It is more than a warm and courageous nature that sets Lenabell apart and endears her to all she meets. Lenabell suffers from sickle cell anemia, an inherited disease of the red blood cells, and has shown a remarkable response to a treatment program she began in 1956.

Lenabell is on a partial exchange transfusion program which replaces one unit, or almost a pint, of her blood with a unit of packed red blood cells every eight weeks. The purpose of the one and one-half hour exchange transfusion is to keep normal 15 to 30 percent of her red blood cells to deter the sickling of the cells that carry oxygen throughout the body.

"To my knowledge, Lenabell is the only person in the history of medicine who has been on a program of this kind for this length of time," said Dr. Hugh Chaplin Jr., her physician at Barnes. "She has received nearly 200 transfusions over the last 30 years. Considering the severity of her disease, it is remarkable that she has lived nearly twice the average life span of patients with severe sickle cell anemia."

Sickle cell anemia, so called because of the abnormal shape of the affected red blood cells, primarily strikes Blacks. One in 12 has the sickle cell trait, received from one parent; one in 500 has the disease, which occurs when both parents have passed on the trait to a child.

Pain experienced during sickle cell anemia crises is excruciating, especially in the bone joints. Hospitalization may be necessary during severe crises to treat the symptoms. Such treatment includes intravenous feedings, since most patients are not well enough to eat or drink, oxygen, antibiotics and pain medications. Patients with severe sickle cell anemia may require hospitalization for five to seven crises a year.

Lenabell is known to the Barnes/WUMS community not only as a patient, but as a former laboratory employee who retired in 1980. Dr. Chaplin calls her an inspiration to many other sickle cell patients due to her participation in a variety of additional clinical research programs to supplement her transfusions, most recently a seven-year study of the possible benefits of twice daily injections of small doses of heparin. For Lenabell, the programs have lengthened the time between crises and lessened the severity of the crises she does experience. She has been fortunate not to develop a sensitivity to the donor blood antigens, which would render the transfusions ineffective.

Lenabell recalls that, as a child, she was always in pain, but she was not diagnosed until 1938 when she was 21. Severe pain during her first pregnancy sent her to Barnes, where renowned hematologist Dr. Carl Moore diagnosed sickle cell anemia. Eighteen years later, she became part of the pioneering partial exchange transfusion program here that has made the difference in her life. And led her to her 70th birthday celebration.

Heart disease topic of free program

Keeping your heart healthy will be the topic of a free "Ask the Doctor" seminar open to the public at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 20, in the East Pavilion Auditorium at Barnes Hospital. Dr. Joseph Ruwitch, Barnes cardiologist, will be the speaker.

Dr. Ruwitch will discuss prevention and the latest treatments of heart disease, how to recognize symptoms and when to see a cardiologist. The program will include slides and printed materials, as well as time for individual questions and answers.

Barnes' "Ask the Doctor" programs are designed to give interested persons an opportunity to explore options, learn about charges and insurance coverage, ask questions and hear about the latest technology available—without the expense of an office visit. A different health-care topic is highlighted each month.

Although the program is free of charge, reservations are required. For more information or to make a reservation, call (314) 362-5290. Free parking is provided in the subsurface garage immediately south of Barnes Hospital.
At Home in the CWE

Ten years ago, an official of the then-recently formed Washington University Medical Center Redevelopment Corporation said, "There are 10,000 people in the medical center across Forest Park Boulevard, but only a few of them cross the intersection each day to spend time and money in the Euclid-Laclede area."

Ten years ago, the neighborhood organizations wanted to change that, to waken medical center personnel to the unique charm of the Central West End (CWE) community.

Today, those words uttered a decade ago reflect a happy turning point that has brought back life to an area now known for its quaint cobblestones, outdoor cafes and carefree spirit.

And medical center personnel not only flock to the CWE area in hordes for a pleasant stroll or lunch at a sidewalk diner, they have made their homes there—in grand, restored mansions, turn-of-the-century homes converted to condominiums, or new townhouse apartments that have sprung up as a sign of revitalization. The "future jewel" of the mid-1970s has lived up to its word.

"Stimulating," "convenient" and "fabulous" are just a few of the words Barnes employees use to describe their homes in the CWE neighborhoods. While proximity to Barnes is a real plus, most are enchanted by the neighborhood's special charm. That charm comes in the form of rich architecture, unique shops, lively restaurants, appealing courtyards, sidewalk romance and an uplifting aura that is the hallmark of the Central West End.

"There is such a strong sense of neighborhood here," says Cindy Lefton, emergency department registered nurse who has lived in a DeBaliviere Place condominium for the last four years. "It's nice to walk down the street and exchange friendly smiles and greetings with those you pass. It's just a fabulous place."

Recovery room unit secretary Vivienne Dobbs had discovered that aspect of the DeBaliviere neighborhood when she bought a two-family flat on Westminster Place 23 years ago. She has witnessed and helped shape the area's growth in her role as a neighborhood organization board member.

"I've seen businesses change and property values skyrocket," she says. "When I first began looking for a home, I really thought I wanted to live in the county. But I soon found that this neighborhood offers everything. It's a close community within the city and I've been happy and content living here." She is not alone in her discovery of contentment in the CWE.

Cornelia Hill, audio-visual aide in the department of education and training, enjoys living in what she calls the city's showcase. She moved to a CWE apartment building four years ago and re-discovered a feeling she'd been missing since she left her hometown in Mississippi. "This area brings back the college town atmosphere and feeling of community I grew up in. I love the secure, open feeling ... and the restaurants!"

Rita Moss, head nurse on the cardiothoracic nursing division, discovered in the CWE the happy medium she and her husband had been
seeking nine years ago when they began house-hunting. She grew up in a midwestern city and he in New York City, so they were looking for a lively area that wouldn't overwhelm them.

"We had become discouraged after looking for a house for about a year," she remembers. "I found this place through a real estate ad and told my husband he had to see it. We put down a deposit that day." "This place" is a seven-room condominium with 10-foot ceilings and 2,100 square feet of living space in a refurbished 1906 building. "I love the architecture, the convenience, the restaurants and the feeling of the neighborhood."

Heart transplant surgeon Dr. R. Morton Bolman found an ideal situation in his Westmoreland home. Tipped off to the stately homes by a professional colleague when he moved to St. Louis in 1984, Dr. Bolman found a combination of spacious privacy for his family, vibrant activity and proximity to the hospital that enables him to reach his patients in a matter of minutes. "I was impressed with the changes that had taken place here between the time I was in medical school in St. Louis during the 1970s and when I moved back in 1984. It was upbeat and vibrant, and still afforded quiet and privacy."

Obstetrician-gynecologist Dr. Darwin Jackson calls his home a "Ladue lifestyle in the Central West End," while cardiology fellow Dr. Randy Genton enjoys the convenient location of and busy activity near his Laclede apartment. "It's unique, growing and stimulating," he says.

Lamont Estes, respiratory therapist, calls the CWE "the best place in the city" and has stood by those words by taking up residence there for the last 19 years, appreciative of the accessibility and activity. A newcomer to the neighborhood compared to Lamont, home health clerk Vernon Jackson concurs. He moved into the neighborhood in late 1985, returning to St. Louis from a town in Illinois. "I've always enjoyed the city—it recharges my batteries. And the CWE gives a special sense of community even though it sometimes seems to be a transient setting, with a variety of interesting people constantly on the move."

Janet Lutz, pastoral care director, is another city lover who enjoys the CWE shops and restaurants. A native of Chicago, she moved from the Skinker-Waterman area to the Chouteau neighborhood south of U.S. Highway 40 five years ago. "I love my home, but I wish the spirit and activity of the CWE would be extended south of the highway into my area. This is a viable neighborhood and I'd like to see some of the changes that have occurred in the CWE over the last 10 years happen here. I'm still hoping...and, in the meantime, enjoying the CWE."
A jaw disorder, temporomandibular joint (TMJ) dysfunction, was explained on KPLR-TV March 18. Reporter John Schieszer’s story included interviews with Dr. Allen Sclaroff, oral-maxillofacial surgeon-in-chief, and Laurel Wiersema, coordinator of a support group.


Barnes doctors recorded educational, public service messages about AIDS for KSDK-TV. The announcements, which continue to be broadcast, were done by Drs. Christine Cherry, obstetrician/gynecologist, and Jay M. Marion, hematologist/oncologist.

Dr. Erwin B. Montgomery, neurologist and director of the movement disorders clinic, was called upon for perspective after published reports about a new investigational treatment in Mexico for Parkinson’s Disease. Doctors there had transplanted adrenal tissue from two patients’ kidneys into their brains. The transplants appeared to correct a chemical imbalance and greatly reduced Parkinson’s symptoms. Dr. Montgomery called the results very promising and said similar research on laboratory animals was continuing in the United States.

Volunteers needed for diabetes study

Volunteers are currently being sought to participate in a seven-year diabetes study that will include 1,200 participants. Funded by a branch of the National Institute of Health, the study involves newer forms of diabetes therapy are in progress. Delaying or reversing the presence of diabetic complications that may affect the eyes, kidneys, nerves, heart and blood vessels.

Even in people who control their diabetes, the complications can cause serious health problems,” says Dr. Julio Santiago, Barnes diabetes specialist and one of the local study directors at Washington University School of Medicine. “The outcome of the DCCT will have a major impact on the future treatment of diabetes.”

Volunteers for the study should be diabetics between the ages of 13 and 39 who have been dependent on insulin to control their disease for one to 15 years. Study participants will receive diabetes care and supplies at no charge for the duration of the study. For more information or to volunteer, call (314) 362-6025.

Gifts to Barnes Hospital Funds

Listed below are the names of persons (honeymoons in boldface) who have made contributions during the period February 1 through March 19, 1987, to the funds at Barnes Hospital. Because Barnes is a private hospital and does not receive public funds, it relies on the gifts of individuals to continue providing quality patient care and to support research aimed at improving the lives of patients.

Auxiliary Tribute Fund

Anonymous

IN MEMORY OF:

Morton Binder, M.D.   M/M Harold Elbert   D/M David Margolis
M/M Jim Rothbarth   M/M John Rothbarth   D/M Henry G. Schwartz

Robert Engler

Lawrence Finley

Caroll, Bill, Suzy, Sally & Doug

Father of Mr. Abe Gelber, Anita

Hearsh and Bonnie Lander

Linda Hyken

Dr. Jack Gordon

Bennie & Ralph Long

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D/M Frank Barnes Long   D/M Henry G. Schwartz

Sally H. Gulick

Mary & Alex Cornell

Douglas, Theda

Mrs. Larry Tucker

Carlyn H. Wahl

M/M Burt Wenmer

IN HONOR OF:

Birthday of Mrs. Philip Moss

M/M Mrs. M. K. Elston, III

Birthday of Percy Tucker

M/M Evelyn Sue

New Office of Dr. John Daniels

M/Den Stew Art

Future scout: Newborn Erin McGlynn appears comfortable in her role as a future girl scout while she models a T-shirt given to her by the Girl Scout Council of Greater St. Louis. The T-shirts were presented in celebration of the Girl Scouts of America’s 75th birthday to all girls born March 8-14 this year. Erin’s parents, Barbara and Kevin, looked forward to taking their future girl scout home to meet her big sister, Megan.
Who needs a 400-lb. baby? No one. Because that’s the sledgehammer force with which an unrestrained baby can hit the windshield or dashboard of a car traveling 20 miles per hour when that car makes a sudden stop. Barnes Hospital Auxilians and volunteers manned a booth at St. Louis Centre March 31 to help spread information about Missouri’s new seat belt law, to be enforced beginning July 1, 1987, and about the current child restraint law. Information about the laws, which set forth regulations about child restraints and the wearing of seat belts by adults, is available through Barnes’ volunteer office at (314) 362-5326.