Large Scale Investigation Of Eye Disease Causes Begins in Framingham

An investigation into four of the most common causes of blindness and visual disability—sponsored by the National Eye Institute—is now beginning in Framingham, Mass. It is the first large-scale study of eye diseases, as opposed to blindness, in a closely followed population.

Researchers will also seek to identify factors which increase the risk of developing any of the four diseases under investigation—senile cataract, senile macular degeneration, chronic simple glaucoma, and diabetic retinopathy.

Participants Described

During the 4-year study, conducted by the Boston University School of Medicine's Department of Ophthalmology, approximately 5,500 people will be examined. These same people have been participating for over 2 decades in the well-known Framingham study of heart disease conducted by the National Heart and Lung Institute.

The heart study has contributed significantly to knowledge about coronary disease, including the identification of such risk factors as high blood pressure, tobacco.

(See EYE STUDY, Page 7)

Tumor Immunotherapy Register Serves As Data Center for Cancer Treatment

An International Tumor Immunotherapy Register has been established to serve as a center for collection, storage, and exchange of information on immunological methods of treating cancer.

The Registry will record physicians' experience with immunotherapy for human cancer, including methods of administration, results of the treatment, and possible side effects.

It is to be kept up to date by periodic progress reports from the physicians, who will in turn receive newsletters containing summaries of the most recent information.

Computers are expected to handle much of the work involved in maintaining the Registry.

Immunological methods of cancer treatment, which stimulate a patient's immune system to attack cancer cells, are increasingly evaluated against types of cancer not treatable by other methods. Many different approaches are being explored, and results have been variable.

The organizers hope that the rapid communication afforded by the Registry will prevent needless duplication of unsuccessful treatment and encourage cooperation in well-controlled studies of promising approaches.

Dr. Dorothy B. Windhorst, NCI medical officer, is acting as coordinator of the project. The Registry will be a service of the International Cancer Research Data Bank, which is currently being organized as a result of the National Cancer Act of 1971.

The Act provides that the NCI Director "collect, analyze, and distribute periodically progress reports from the physicians, who will in turn receive newsletters containing summaries of the most recent information.

Reconciles Conflicts

During the past 30 years, the field of murine leukemia research has been a bitterly contested battleground between proponents of genetic and viral etiology of the disease.

Dr. Rowe's development of sensitive assays that detect naturally occurring murine leukemia virus have enabled scientists to reconcile the conflicting viewpoints.

His studies with "leukemia-prone" and leukemia-free mice led to the first proof that the instructions for a leukemia virus may be present in unexpressed form in the DNA of normal cells.

Dr. Rowe first joined NIAID in 1952, following 3 years as a virologist at the Naval Medical Research Institute at Bethesda.

He studied at the College of William and Mary and Johns Hop-
Deadline Extended to Apply
For NIH Day Care Center

The deadline for submitting applications to enroll children in the NIH Day Care Center has been extended to March 9. NIH employees with children between 2½ to 5 years of age may obtain applications from the child care coordinator in Bldg. 31, Room 2B-51.

For further information, contact Virginia Burke, Ext. 61811.

Golf Association Season Begins Soon; Join Now!

The men’s NIH Golf Association will begin its eighth season soon. The Recreation and Welfare Association provides the prizes and trophies awarded at a banquet at the end of the year.

Matches are played during the afternoon from approximately April to October.

Members pay a modest membership fee and their own green fees. Full handicaps are used. Players of all levels of skill are welcome to join.

Submit Applications

Team applications are preferred (not less than 12 nor more than 20 players). However, individuals may apply.

If you are interested in becoming a member, submit your name, extension, building, and room number to the R&W office, Bldg. 31, Room 1A-18, as soon as possible.

EHS Lecture Series on Effects of Alcohol to Start Mar. 27

A series of seven lectures on alcoholism, sponsored by the Employee Health Service, will begin on March 27.

The adverse effects of alcohol on the mind and body will be discussed by EHS staff members and guest lecturers.

The series, open to all NIH employees, will alert participants to potential alcohol-associated difficulties, and will include suggestions.

Mr. Schwartz welcomed participants and explained the purposes of the NIH housing program.

Housing experts and civic groups took part in panel discussions on topics which included The Housing Crisis in Washington, D.C., and The Housing Problems in Montgomery County. A play on racial discrimination in housing was given by members of the Montgomery County Family Services.

Several major topics concerning housing problems in the metropolitan area were discussed at a recent conference sponsored jointly by the NIH EEO and the Office of Personnel Management.

Leon M. Schwartz, NIH Associate Director for Administration, opened the conference, expressing NIH’s concern over the housing situation.

He stated that “one of the purposes of the NIH housing program is to encourage local metropolitan government to increase their legislative activity to provide more low and moderate income housing.”

Specialists who addressed the meeting explained the problems which contribute to the shortage of adequate housing, such as lack of available land, restrictive zoning, and discrimination. It was pointed out that there are community services which will advise on cases of discrimination.

A play—For Sale—depicting racial discrimination in housing was enacted by members of the Montgomery County Family Services.

Housing authorities and representatives of religious and community services took part in panel discussions moderated by Spencer Logan, now acting NIH EEO officer, and James R. Gregg, special assistant for Administration, Cancer Control Program, NCI.

Gertrude Weinberger Fox Dies; Information Specialist at NLM

Gertrude Weinberger Fox, who had been with the National Library of Medicine for 5 years, died on Feb. 10, after heart surgery at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

Mrs. Fox was a technical information specialist at NLM where she helped develop a computerized system for retrieval of medical references. She taught this system to analysts throughout the country.

Mrs. Fox was a reference librarian with the NIH Library. She earned her graduate degree from Boston State Teachers College, and received an M.L.S. degree from Catholic University.

She is survived by a daughter, Lisa O’Connell of Takoma Park, a sister, three brothers, and one grandchild.

Colleagues and friends at NLM have donated a sum of money to purchase 34 trees which will be planted in Israel in memory of Mrs. Fox.
Md. Congressman Gude Praises Skill of NIH.
Quotes Letter Received

Maryland Congressman Gilbert Gude recently applauded NIH for superior skill and the friendly attitude with which the medical and hospital staff treat patients at the Clinical Center.

Terming the attitude of devotion and dedication to patients "refreshing" in the Federal bureaucracy, Mr. Gude quoted a letter he received from one of his constituents whose wife had been a CC patient.

Staff Displays Concern

"... Sheer professional competence alone does not explain the warmth and concern displayed by every staff member with whom we met—from every physican, nurse, and technician we met—and we met many—by everyone in the nutrition units, every clerk, every elevator operator, every person dispensing food in the cafeteria."

"During the evening and morning before my wife went into surgery, she was visited by everyone who had cared for her until then—not only the members of Dr. (Andrew) Morrow's (NHLI) surgical team, but all the people who had taken part in the weeks of tests and observation."

"They came to reassure her about the surgery and to tell her that they looked forward to visiting her afterward. And... they did, in fact, spend many hours in her room and to wish her well."

"... NIH, whose Clinical Center represents a national asset of great value, for its own sake and as a model for other institutions."


Former Students and Colleagues Hold Symposium to Honor Dr. Karl Sollner

Dr. Karl Sollner was honored earlier this month by a warm personal symposium commemorating his 70th birthday. All the speakers on the program were former students who had obtained their doctorates under his guidance.

The symposium was followed by a dinner where his former collaborators presented him with four bound volumes of reprints of his scientific papers.

Dr. Sollner, who is chief of the Section on Electrochemistry and Colloid Physics in the National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases, is retiring this month after 26 years of Federal service.

Over the last 45 years Dr. Sollner has earned an international reputation as a pioneer in the preparation and use of artificial membranes.

His physicochemical investigations of porous and liquid membranes that are "selective" (a term he coined)—permeable only to cations or only to anions—have aided in the development of specific membrane electrodes, in electroanalytical desalination of salt water, and in artificial kidney membrane research.

In addition, his fundamental studies of model membrane systems have helped in the understanding of the flows of ions, other solutes, and water through living membranes.

Although Dr. Sollner's work at NIH has primarily concerned membranes, in Europe in the 1930s he did basic exploratory work on ultrasounds in the laboratory of Dr. Herbert Freundlich and Dr. F. G. Donnan at University College, London.

He pinpointed cavitation as the mechanism for sonic dispersion in liquid systems (emulsification), solid/liquid systems (ultrasonic cleaning), and liquid/gas systems (fog formation).

Dr. Sollner used ultrasonics to solidify, fluidize, and coagulate colloidal systems and to orient anisometric particles.

A native of Vienna, Austria, Dr. Sollner received his Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Vienna in 1926.

He came to the United States in 1937 and joined the staff of Cornell University as a research chemist. Dr. Sollner later served as assistant professor of physiology and associate professor of physiological chemistry at the University of Minnesota before coming to NIH in 1947.

He is a fellow of the New York Academy of Sciences and author of numerous scientific publications.

Dr. Sollner is an international authority in the field of colloid chemistry, and is a member of many professional societies, including the American Chemical Society, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

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Drs. Kraybill, Roberts Active in International Pathology Conference

Two NIH scientists are taking active roles at the annual meeting of the International Academy of Pathology that is now being held in the Washington Hilton Hotel.

The conference, which opened yesterday (Tuesday, Feb. 27), will end on Sunday, March 4.

Today—Feb. 28—Dr. Herman Kraybill, National Cancer Institute, will present a paper on original research entitled "Ornithine Decarboxylase Levels in Patients with Head and Neck Cancer," at the National Cancer Institute.

Dr. Kraybill is the scientific coordinator of the Environmental Carcinogenesis Program at NIH.

Dr. William C. Roberts, National Heart and Lung Institute, will give a comprehensive course today on "Pathophysiology and Anatomy of the Heart.

This course will be under the direction of two noted cardiac pathologists, Dr. Jesse E. Edwards of Milwaukee, and Dr. Maurice Lev of Chicago.

Dr. Roberts, who is the head of the Section on Pathology, Division of Intramural Research, NIH, will discuss Left Ventricular Outflow Obstruction and Aortic Insufficiency.

DRA Issues Animal Care Guide

Guido for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals is available from the Animal Resources Branch, DRR.

It is a reference on standards of animal care in scientific institutions.

A free copy may be obtained from the DRR Information Office, NIH, Bethesda, Md. 20014.

Employee Volunteers Needed

For Study of 'Common Cold'

Employees with colds are urged to volunteer for a study on how to combat the common cold. The study is conducted by NIAID's Laboratory of Infectious Diseases.

Volunteers are asked to contribute samples of nasal secretions plus two blood samples, one at the start of the cold, and one 3 weeks later. Participants receive $2 for each blood sample.

Appointments may be made with registered nurse Sara Kelly or laboratory manager Harvey James, preferably within the first 3 days of infection.

Employees are asked to schedule appointments for the morning if possible.

DDH, Army Reserves Team Up To Distribute Dental Equipment

Through a joint project of the Division of Dental Health, BHME, and the U.S. Army Reserve, excess dental equipment will be distributed throughout Region I, which comprises the New England states.

The equipment will be used by minority groups in health programs, vocational schools, institutions for the retarded, nursing homes, and in housing for the elderly.

The reserve personnel of the 395th Supply and Service Battalion will distribute the dental units and chairs. This joint military and DDH venture is under the aegis of the Domestic Action Program which stresses community service.

Dr. Thomas C. Chalmers, Clinical Center Director (center), chats with medical students (l to r) David Kastl, University of Oklahoma, Jane Green, Harvard University, and Gary Williams, University of Iowa, at a tea given Feb. 12 for participants in the Clinical Electives for Medical Students program.

Eighteen students, representing 17 universities, are spending several weeks under the guidance of an NIH preceptor studying computers in clinical medicine, endocrinology and metabolism, oncology, hematology, or immunology.
a gift of blood...

A donor arriving for her appointment (above) is greeted by receptionist Pamela Dreisonstok (seated), who fills out a permanent donor card. Below, nurse Frances Shoup checks the donor's pulse during the screening process, which also includes a test for hemoglobin level, temperature reading, medical history questions, and blood pressure measurements, taken by clinical associate Dr. Bruce Lundborg in photo at right.

Photos by Ed Hubbard

Up to 5 times during the past year, NIH employees each donate 30 pints of blood—a gift that makes giving transfusion for a clinical patient possible.

PLACE IN ANY OUTBASKET

TO: Clinical Center Blood Bank, Bldg. 10A

I want to help extend the life of others. Please call me. I understand that this does not obligate me.

(Name)
(Institute or Division) (Building) (Telephone)

I have donated at the CC Blood Bank previously. Yes — No
My blood type is ________ Unknown to me ________
(If you do not know your blood type, the Blood Bank will inform you of it after you donate.)
Up to 5 times during the year, some 2,000 NIH employees each donate 30 minutes and one pint of blood—a gift that makes possible a life-giving transfusion for a Clinical Center patient.

That same gift provides coverage for all NIH employees should they or their families ever need blood.

Under the Blood Assurance Program, an employee can make a "directed donation"; he can specify that the unit of blood be credited to a friend or relative not already covered by the CC Blood Bank.

According to Dr. Paul J. Schmidt, chief of the Blood Bank, "The need for blood at the Clinical Center is constantly increasing. To date, 250,000 transfusions have been given here.

"The NIH staff is a valuable resource for these transfusion needs. A total of 6,000 units of blood are donated by NIH employees each year."

Anyone wishing to donate blood or to obtain further information about the services provided by the Blood Bank may call Ext. 61048.

If an employee requires blood for himself or his family while he is out of town, the need for blood can be met by calling (301) 496-4506.
**Medical Research Advantages Brought To Bedside Care of Critically Injured**

Lost in the Series on Trauma Research Centers

The trauma center program initiated in 1966 by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences combines facilities for the study of trauma patients with supporting laboratories, research equipment, and personnel. This is an attempt to bring many of the advantages of medical research to the bedside care of critically ill patients.

Recent progress in trauma research can be traced to the development of highly-sophisticated physiological monitoring systems within the intensive care units. Experience from trauma centers has emphasized that physiological and biochemical problems encountered in the injured can be pursued with laboratory models of a given type at the organ, cellular, or subcellular level.

Researchers at the Trauma Research Center at Cincinnati General Hospital are studying alterations of basic host defense mechanisms following injury. They have found that onset of life-threatening infection is related to the circulatory and respiratory function of the circulating neutrophils (scavenger white blood cells). These cells, which increase proportionately during infection, vary in their ability to kill bacteria, and the variation occurs in cycles.

The researchers have standardized a method of measuring neutrophil function. The results have led to predicting impending septicemia with a high degree of accuracy.

Wounds of violence are particularly prone to infection because of gross contamination, cellular damage, and any delays in therapy.

Cincinnati scientists believe that indistinctive use of antibiotics along with altered host resistance permits generalized systemic invasion of bacteria.

The bacteria, normally innocuous (examples: Serratia and Candida), take on "L forms" following alterations of the cell walls.

A 38-year-old male’s life has been prolonged through the research efforts of the investigators at the Cincinnati TRC. He had multiple gunshot injuries of the colon, stomach, bladder, spleen, diaphragm, and pancreas which produced severe hemorrhage and profound shock.

**Youth Orchestra to Play Here**

The D.C. Youth Orchestras, composed of 120 youngsters ages 11 to 19, will present a free concert for Clinical Center patients Friday, March 2, at 7:30 p.m. in the Jack Maas Auditorium.

NIH employees and guests are welcome.

**March 16 Is Deadline For President’s Exec. Personnel Exchange**

Nominations for the President’s Executive Personnel Interchange Program are now being accepted for 1973.

A number of potential top executives selected by their companies or agencies have participated in the program since its inception in 1966.

HCEW hopes to increase the number of Presidential Interchange Executives in the upcoming year.

Nominations should be made consistent with the agency’s ability to support the program and should be submitted through agency training officers and executive manpower management officers to the Executive Development Branch, DHEW, no later than Friday, March 16.

For further information, contact these officers or the Executive Development Branch, (202) 282-0036 or IDS 18-90056.

**Doctors and nurses at the California center conduct multidisciplinary studies on victims of severe injuries.**

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Office of Engineering Service's Electrical Inspector Has Second Job—Mayor of Bolivar, West Virginia

By Ed Driscoll

On a lark, Mack W. Robertson of the Office of Engineering Services, ran for mayor of Bolivar, W.Va.—a town of 1,000 population near Harpers Ferry. "I was beaten so badly," Mack said, "that I won't even tell you what the totals were."

That was in 1967. Mack ran for won by almost a 2-to-1 margin. Today, he is still mayor of Bolivar near the end of his second term and plans to run again—probably.

Bolivar and Harpers Ferry share a common boundary, the same fire department, and post office.

The community was named after the South American general and revolutionary leader, Simon Bolivar. It was founded on Feb. 20, 1797, became a town in Virginia in 1825, and incorporated as a West Virginia township in 1877.

The Bolivar-Harpers Ferry area is the site of a National Park where John Brown, an abolitionist, raised the U.S. arsenal in 1859 and was hanged for treason.

More tourists—1½ million—visited the scenic park in 1972 than any other resort in West Virginia.

Mack moved to Bolivar 11 years ago from Wheaton, Md. His political career began when he was appointed recorder for the town. Later, he was named to finish the term of a councilman.

During this time he became disillusioned with the former mayor who had served the town for over 35 years in one capacity or another—mayor, recorder, or councilman.

As mayor, Mack earns $200 annually plus expenses. "Usually, I don't get either one," he said with a smile.

Mayorial duties include holding court every Monday evening to hear misdemeanors such as traffic violations, meeting once a month with the town council, and writing the town's budget.

Among several accomplishments during Mack's political career in the office again 2 years later and

Bolivar are: proposing a $2 million sewer system for which bids are about to be accepted; improving inequities in the school system while he was president of the PTA, and being instrumental in the establishment of several new schools in the county.

Seeing a need for a civic association for Bolivar, Mack named himself chairman of a one-man nominating committee. He appointed four members to the association. Each appointee accepted without questioning who was on the nominating committee.

Since then, the association has bought land, built a playground, and has made plans to build a medical center for Bolivar.

Many people who live in Bolivar work for the National Park Serv-

Committee to Consider Parking, Traffic Aspects Formed on NIH Campus

A committee was recently formed to consider all phases of parking administration and traffic control on the reservation.

The committee members are: Howard E. Kettl, Deputy Associate Director for Administration; Dr. Carl M. Leventhal, Assistant to the Deputy Director for Science, and Willard E. Vincent, assistant director for Protection and Safety Management, OAS.

Employees may send suggestions, comments, or problems on parking and traffic to the NIH Parking Committee, Room B1C02, Bldg. 31. However, the committee will not consider the adjudication of individual traffic violation notices that may be received by NIH personnel.

EYE STUDY

(Continued from Page 1)

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A contractor's electrician, Pete Parodi (l), consults with Mr. Robertson on renovations being done on the second floor of Bldg. 13.
U.S., Russian Scientists Describe Plans For Research on Coronary Heart Disease

At a press briefing at NIH on Feb. 9, Soviet and American heart experts described plans for a cooperative research attack against the greatest cause of death in both countries—coronary heart disease.

The project is one of several concerned with various heart problems. All are components of the much broader U.S.-U.S.S.R. Cooperative Health Program on Disease launched by the governments of both nations last year.

The title of the project for which the U.S. and U.S.S.R. delegates had been meeting at the National Heart and Lung Institute the week before the press briefing, is Cooperative Project on Management of Ischemic Heart Disease.

The project aims, over a period of years, to evaluate and compare chronic angina and heart attack disability treatment methods that have been developed separately in each country.

Some of the most popular methods in the U.S. for treating chronic angina and heart attacks are virtually untried in the U.S.S.R.

An example of this is the increasingly popular but controversial coronary artery surgical procedures in the U.S.

Conversely, some of the most elaborate and interesting medical approaches in the U.S.S.R. are unfamiliar or unknown to U.S. heart specialists.

A cooperative study will be a systematic assessment of the way well-defined patients are treated in both countries," said Dr. Peter L. Frommer, associate director for cardiology of the NIH Division of Heart and Vascular Diseases, and U.S. chairman for the project.

To insure that the study will result in an exchange of data meaningful to both countries, an immediate goal is to establish standard definitions, criteria and methods as a common ground for the scientists of both nationalities.

It is expected that plans incorporating these standards and major points of agreement will be ready for implementation by the end of next December.

Principal spokesman for the five-man Russian delegation during the press briefing was the U.S.S.R. project chairman, Prof. Igor K. Shkhvatsabaya, Director of the Myasnivk Institute of Cardiology in Moscow.

He reported that, as in the U.S., Russian research and treatment focus on preventive aspects of ischemic heart disease.

Nevertheless, he said, Russian cardiologists have developed many useful approaches to the treatment of acute and chronic forms of coronary heart disease.

As an example, he cited the widespread availability of emergency medical aid to the Russian people, and said that emergency medical assistance systems are more highly developed in Russia than in the U.S.

Other members of the visiting U.S.S.R. delegation were Drs. Nikolai A. Meur and Robert A. Grigoryantz, Myasnivk Institute; Dr. Zaven L. Dolapchyan, Ministry of Health of Armenia, and Dr. Lidlyi P. Kalynova, U.S.S.R. Ministry of Health.

Besides Dr. Frommer, the U.S. delegation included Jerome Cornfield, George Washington University; Dr. Joseph Reeves, University of Alabama, and Dr. Valerie Willman of St. Louis University.

During the weeks following the press briefing, the Soviet delegation attended the American College of Cardiology annual meeting in San Francisco, and visited the University of Alabama and the St. Louis University. They returned to Russia on Feb. 25.

Benjamin Hartman, Locksmith At NIH for 17 Years, Dies

Benjamin Hartman, who came to NIH in 1956 to take charge of the locksmith's shop, died on Jan. 30. He was with the Protection and Parking Branch, OAS.

During his tenure here, he designed and established a coding and indexing system for the duplication of almost 20,000 keys.

Mr. Hartman was in the U.S. Army Signal Corps during World War II, serving in England, France, Belgium, Germany, and Holland.

Before coming here, he was with the National Bureau of Standards. Mr. Hartman leaves his wife, Ida, at the home address, 2445 Lyttonville Rd., Silver Spring, Md.