

104 Transplant Advances

To air week of January 28, 2008

Intro: Organ transplantation has come a long way in the past decades. Take heart transplants for example. It used to be that only people under age 50 could get them and they were fairly risky. Now people in their 70's are having transplants and transplant patients of all ages are living longer and feeling stronger. Here's more on the state of heart transplantation from Mayo Clinic.

Video

Total running time 1:46

Bob Aronson

Had cardiomyopathy

Audio

"I ENJOY DOING WOOD WORK."

MODEL SHIP BUILDING DOESN'T

LOOK STRENUOUS, BUT WHEN

BOB ARONSON'S HEART WAS

FAILING BECAUSE OF A DISEASE

CALLED CARDIOMYOPATHY, ANY

ACTIVITY WAS TOO MUCH.

"I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING ANY

MORE OTHER THAN SIT IN FRONT

OF THE TV AND SLEEP."

YOU SEE, CARDIOMYOPATHY IS A

DISEASE OF THE HEART MUSCLE.

IT CAUSES YOUR HEART TO

BECOME WEAK UNTIL IT CAN'T

PUMP EFFICIENTLY. MEDICATIONS

MAY HELP, BUT IN SEVERE CASES LIKE BOB'S, THE ONLY OPTION IS A HEART TRANSPLANT.

Bob Aronson
Had heart transplant

"I'M SOME KIND OF A MIRACLE. I WAS ONLY ON THE LIST FOR 13 DAYS."

BOB WAS LUCKY BECAUSE THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH DONOR ORGANS TO MEET DEMAND. AT ANY GIVEN TIME THERE ARE 10,000 PEOPLE WAITING FOR ORGANS BUT ONLY A QUARTER OF THOSE PEOPLE GET TRANSPLANTS. BUT DR. JEFFREY HOSENPUD SAYS THERE IS SOME GOOD NEWS -- FEWER PEOPLE ARE DYING WHILE WAITING.

Standup
Vivien Williams
Reporting

Jeffrey Hosenpud, M.D.
Mayo Clinic Cardiologist

"WE'RE USING MECHANICAL PUMPS TO KEEP PATIENTS ALIVE WHILE THEY'RE WAITING FOR THEIR TRANSPLANTS."
AND MORE GOOD NEWS IS THAT TRANSPLANT PATIENTS ARE

Jeffrey Hosenpud, M.D.
Mayo Clinic Cardiologist

LIVING LONGER.

“WHEN I STARTED IN THE MID-80’S
OUR OUTCOMES WERE IN THE 70
TO 80-PERCENT 1 YEAR SURVIVAL
RATE. NOW THE EXPECTATION IS
THAT THERE SHOULD AT LEAST BE
A 90-PERCENT SURVIVAL RATE.”
BUT THE REALITY IS MORE DONOR
ORGANS ARE NEEDED TO SAVE
THE LIVES OF PEOPLE LIKE BOB.

Bob Aronson
Had Heart Transplant

“THAT DONOR AND HIS FAMILY,
THEY GAVE ME MY LIFE BACK. I
WAS DYING AND THEY GAVE ME
MY LIFE BACK.”
FOR MEDICAL EDGE, I’M VIVIEN
WILLIAMS.

Anchor tag:

The two most common causes for heart failure resulting in the need for transplantation are cardiomyopathy and coronary artery disease.

If you want to learn more about Bob and his desire to spread the word about organ donation, check out his blog at <http://bobsnewheart.worldpress.com/>.

For more information about heart transplants and organ donation, visit our Website at...

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