

Embolisms avoided

Intravenous balloon guards against clots

United Press International
ATLANTA — One of the most common killers of hospital patients is the pulmonary embolism, a massive blood clot that can move quickly from the legs to the lungs, shutting off oxygen to the heart.

Now, surgeons have a new weapon against this recurring complication in seriously ill patients — a small latex balloon surgically implanted near the heart.

The device, according to its manufacturer and surgeons who have used it, has been 100 percent effective in preventing blood clots from reaching the lungs.

Called the Hunter-Sessions vena cava occluder, it was successfully tested in 85 patients over a period of nine years at the Rush-Presbyterian St. Luke's Medical Center in Chicago.

Similar results were obtained in trials with 12 other patients over a two-year period, conducted by Dr. Donovan Stiegel,

Lutheran Hospital, Moline, Ill., and Dr. James Duesman of Rush-Presbyterian.

Articles describing the device and the results of its clinical use were published by the physicians in the Journal of the American Medical Association, the Annals of Surgery, Archives of Surgery, and Contemporary Surgery.

It was developed by Dr. James A. Hunter, a cardiovascular surgeon of Chicago, and Robert Sessions, a biomedical engineer. Concept, Inc., of Clearwater, Fla., a manufacturer of surgical devices, recently acquired rights to make and market the occluder. The firm put it on display here at a recent convention of the Association of Operating Room Nurses.

Life-threatening blood clots in the veins of the legs and pelvis occur frequently when individuals, particularly older people, come down with phlebitis, a vein inflammation. An estimated 600,000 cases of phlebitis are re-

corded annually in the United States.

The blood clot threat in most of these 600,000 can be handled successfully with the administration of anticoagulant drugs that thin the blood and break up or prevent clots. But an estimated 30,000-40,000 patients, because of age or poor medical condition, are candidates for the occluder device.

Hunter, writing in Contemporary Surgery, described the step-by-step procedure for implanting the balloon occluder. He said use of it was indicated in patients who are poor candidates for major surgery requiring general anesthesia.

Using a local anesthesia, the balloon is attached to a 30-inch catheter, a slim tube, and inserted through an incision into the internal jugular vein. The catheter is passed through the right heart chamber and into the inferior vena cava, another part of

the heart. Its progress is followed by fluoroscope into the right iliac vein.

After correct positioning is assured, the balloon is inflated with a liquid that flows through a hollow needle inside the catheter. The balloon is then detached and the catheter withdrawn.

Tiny, secondary veins take over the work of the blocked, or occluded, vein, bypassing the blood around the obstruction and into the lungs and heart.

The operation requires about 25 minutes, compared to the old 2½-hour surgery under general anesthesia.

The balloon stays inflated for 18-24 months and after that gradually becomes a fibrous part of the vein itself, continuing its clot-blocking function.

Robert Musmanno, a Concept official, called the balloon-type occluder "a new technique for an old procedure."

Symphony orchestras are now big business

United Press International
NEW YORK — The Indianapolis Symphony had a \$400,000 profit last year and its \$5 million endowment campaign was oversubscribed by \$1 million — a financial performance many commercial businessmen might envy.

Although a symphony orchestra is seldom thought of in business terms, Ralph Black, chief executive of the American Symphony Orchestra League, says the Indianapolis orchestra's financial success is just the most recent and most dramatic story of its kind.

Black said a number of top orchestras in the country have built up substantial endowments and are big business operations. He cited the New York Philharmonic and the orchestras of Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Minnesota as outstanding business enterprises.

Black said there are 1,540 symphonic orchestras, both professional and amateur, in the United States. Sixty of these are really big league and 379 are college and university symphonies.

The Indianapolis orchestra was started in 1930 by 60 unemployed musicians. Their jobs had been wiped out by the first chill winds of the Great Depression when movie theaters, then the chief employers of orchestra musicians, turned to canned music.

Led by the late Ferdinand Schaefer, an immigrant from Germany, the infant orchestra was able to mount only three or four concerts a year and share the box office receipts, as little as \$3 a man on occasion, with no pay for rehearsals.

Today the orchestra has an endowment of \$10.5 million and in the last few years it has reached top rank under musical director John Nelson.

according to the Symphony League's Black. As early as 1951, the late famous musicologist, Deems Taylor, said Indianapolis was one of the 10 best symphonic orchestras in the country.

It has had only four musical directors in its half-century history. One, Fabien Sevitzky, a Russian emigrant, was a nephew of Serge Koussevitzky, the famous Boston orchestra conductor. He shortened his name so as not to trade on his uncle's fame.

The orchestra is a community venture in the Hoosier state. Everyone is proud of it. Like other top-flight symphony orchestras, it operates on three audience levels, the regular classical concerts, a series of pop concerts and a program of concerts for young people.

Running a modern symphony not only is big business, it is highly com-

plicated and extremely competitive. A symphony orchestra must make recordings, it must travel around the country and sometimes even abroad, and it must appear now and then on television.

It has labor problems — the Indianapolis orchestra has had one musician's strike — transportation, insurance, tax, accounting and legal problems like any business. Its personnel and public relations hazards are formidable since musicians, like most artistic people, tend to be temperamental.

Management's biggest challenge, however, comes in competing for top musicians to fill its chairs, for top notch singers and instrumental soloists, for famous guest conductors and in selecting programs that are artistically solid and will please the public.

GM develops computer to help repairs in future

United Press International
DETROIT — Imagine a computer system that introduces a motorist to auto mechanic and then helps explain what needs fixing.

You drive up to the service area of the car dealership, the door rises automatically and you enter. The service writer walks up to the car with a repair order already in hand bearing your name and the car's service records.

You complain the car is making an odd noise, so the technician takes you to a nearby computer terminal and sets it to investigate problems involving sound.

It displays a picture of a car and through a series of questions helps narrow the problem to a loose power steering pump belt.

These are service concepts developed by General Motors Corp. that may become standard in the auto dealership of the future.

"We work in the future, developing methods and equipment that will enable our dealers to offer better service," said S. Ted Parker, director of service research at the GM Service Development Center.

"Some of the items that were concepts a few years ago are going into service now and, as the use of computers grows, more of these concepts become realities. Some may never get past the concept stage.

The customer recognition system ready is undergoing a feasibility study at GM's Service Development Center in Warren.

It uses a low-cost, miniature radio transmitter installed on the car by the dealer. As the car is driven up to the service door, it is activated by a remote sensing device and transmits the vehicle identification number to the dealer's computer.

Before the driver shuts off the engine, the computer will have printed at the car's maintenance history, pending scheduled maintenance and any outstanding recall campaigns.

GM says the same thing might be accomplished by using a bar code — the familiar series of wide and narrow lines on packaged foods — that can be read by a computer. The bar code could carry the automobile's identification number, which would be computer-scanned upon entry to the service area.

A simple premise guides research on the system to help motorists describe car troubles — once a symptom is accurately described, there is

a set of most probable causes, GM said.

The system, which GM says is in the advanced concept stage, has been dubbed TOUCH — for Touch-Operated Universal Communications Helper.

In its final form, GM said, it could be used by the customer to prepare a repair order to leave with the vehicle if it is dropped off at night or early morning before the dealership opens — similar to the 24-hour tellers banks now use.

Other service concepts are:

— A Service Order Scheduling System, which uses a computer to ensure that mechanics and shop facilities are being used at 100 percent efficiency, compared with an average shop efficiency of 85 percent. It already is in use in a number of large dealerships.

— The Automotive Service Analyzer, a portable tester using a micro-computer to diagnose air conditioning, cooling, electrical and automatic transmission systems. Its prime feature is that repair instructions are flashed on a message display.

The focus on the future hasn't been limited to service techniques and tools. GM recently sponsored a project at the University of Michigan College of Architecture and Urban Planning to improve the overall design of auto dealerships and adapt them to different settings.

ATM STUDY ABROAD ATM ST

MONDAY, APRIL 14, 1980
Brown Bag Lunch
Room 137, MSC, 12 Noon
400 Overseas Job Opportunities Available
Paul Marotte, Peace Corps Representative, will discuss the various work opportunities available overseas. Several former Peace Corps participants will be present for questions and answers.
HOPE & HARVEST
A film depicting Peace Corps experiences will be shown at 12 noon, Room 137, of MSC.
AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN STUDY
A representative from AIFS will be on campus to give an overview of the Institute. He will be available throughout the day (table, First Floor of MSC) to meet individually with interested students.

TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 1980
Brown Bag Lunch
Room 137, MSC, 12 Noon
WANT TO STUDY OR TRAVEL OVERSEAS?
The Study Abroad Office will sponsor a brown bag lunch. Topics discussed will include: study abroad opportunities, student tours, International Student Cards, work permits, train passes, passports and youth hostels, and cheap travel within Europe.
EXPERIMENT IN INTERNATIONAL LIVING
Mr. Wayne Stark, Director of MSC, will talk about the Experiment and the different programs available. Also several students who have been part of the Experiment will be available to talk about their experiences.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1980
Brown Bag Lunch
Room 137, MSC, 12 Noon
THIS SUMMER IN LATIN AMERICA
You can volunteer to inoculate, do dental hygiene and visual screening, well digging, community sanitation or animal husbandry. One month programs available in Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Ecuador, Paraguay and the Dominican Republic. Representatives from AMIGOS DE LAS AMERICAS will be conducting a brown bag lunch to discuss the above mentioned opportunities.

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HOWDY WEEK
APRIL 14-18

HEY AGS, show your Aggie spirit by greeting fellow students and visitors with a warm smile and a friendly "Howdy."

HIGHLIGHTS:

- **MYSTERY PERSON CONTEST:** A FREE HOWDY T-SHIRT AND FIVE DOLLARS WILL BE AWARDED TO THE 100TH PERSON TO SAY HOWDY TO ONE OF THE 5 MYSTERY PEOPLE.
- **HOWDY T-SHIRTS ON SALE IN THE MSC.**