Domino liver transplant
a first for hospital

The hospital’s organ transplant program has performed its first “domino” liver transplant, a procedure performed less than 70 times in the nation.

The procedure spanned about 11 hours from early morning through noon March 27. Three transplant teams were involved, encompassing a staff of about 20 people, including four physicians.

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– Kate Howell, CNOR

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“It was an incredible organizational feat,” said Kate Howell, CNOR, leader of the general/vascular/transplant/truma surgery team. “Those team members are as good and dedicated as you could ever hope for.”

Even before the weekend’s success in the operating room, members of the transplant program devoted tremendous effort coordinating with patients, their families and the Midwest Transplant Network, said Tham Hofman, RN, transplant program manager.

The domino procedures started when a healthy liver was retrieved from a deceased patient. That organ was transplanted to a patient (patient A) with amyloidosis, which is a progressive degenerative liver disease.

Next, the liver from patient A was transplanted to a patient with liver cancer (patient B). Even though patient B received a liver with amyloidosis, it’s still much healthier than the cancerous organ. In fact, patient B – presumably now “cured” of cancer and otherwise healthy – is expected to live 30 more years before exhibiting signs of amyloidosis.

The timing of the three procedures was critical, Howell said. A liver transplant has a window of opportunity of about six

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Honoring our doctors

The hospital celebrated National Doctors’ Day March 30, inviting physicians to a luncheon in the School of Nursing facility. Before the event (above, from left), Chief of Staff William Barkman Jr., MD, MSPH, chatted with George Varghese, MD, Rehabilitation Services chair. Marketing’s Ally Moore helped coordinate the event.

As part of Doctors’ Day, physicians were reminded to get their TB test. Lisa Vansaghi, MD, General and Geriatric Medicine, hammed it up while getting a shot from Occupational Health’s Laurie Dolezal, RN.

Missys’ Boutique to offer hope, dignity to cancer patients

The hospital is preparing to begin construction on Missys’ Boutique, an appearance center that will help cancer patients “renew their spirit from the outside in,” cancer center leaders say.

The boutique will be located at the Richard and Annette Bloch Cancer Care Pavilion on the Westwood Campus. Among its features, the boutique will include a salon area for wig fitting, a private room for prosthesis fitting, and an array of items such as turbans, scarves, hats, skincare products, cosmetics and gifts.

“Missys’ will be a convenient one-stop boutique for our patients wanting to reclaim their self-image and self-confidence,” said Jeff Wright, Cancer Services executive director. “We’ll offer them a comfortable and relaxing retail space.”

Renovation of 840 square feet of space in the Bloch pavilion is scheduled to begin by mid-April, with the boutique expected to open in June. Vending machines currently in the space will be moved to Parkway Café in the Westwood Atrium.

The construction project is

continued on page 2
New professorship in spine program honors Dole

Hospital and KUMC leaders have joined together to establish The Senator Bob Dole Endowed Professorship in Spine Outcomes Clinical Research.

The endowed professorship comes after Dole made a $50,000 contribution to the hospital’s Marc A. Asher, MD. Comprehensive Spine Center, in addition to the $150,000 he donated in 2009.

The spine center’s physician governance committee requested that the funds be used to establish a KUMC professorship to lead a program of comparative effectiveness research of all major preventive, diagnostic and therapeutic techniques in spine care.

“I am certainly proud to see the professorship established, and honored to have it in my name, though I know there are others more deserving,” said Dole. “I’ve had an interest in spinal injuries since my spinal cord was damaged in World War II, which has made me acutely aware of how important this effort will be.”

The naming of the professorship reflects a long association for Dole, the University of Kansas and spine medicine. Dole was as a premedical student at the university from 1941 until 1943, when he enlisted in the Army.

In 1945, in combat in Italy, Dole was hit by German machine gun fire in his upper right back, suffering a spinal injury that affected all his extremities for more than a year. It affects him to this day.

Dole went on to serve as a U.S. congressman, U.S. senator, Senate Majority Leader and 1996 Republican presidential nominee.

Additional funding for the professorship comes from the spine center’s physicians, including its namesake, Marc Asher, MD. As a result, approximately one-third of the funds for the $1 million needed to establish the professorship already has been raised.

Hospital board welcomes two more members

Two new members have been appointed to The University of Kansas Hospital Authority Board.

The appointments, announced March 25, were made by Kansas Gov. Mark Parkinson and confirmed by the Kansas Senate. The board is the governing body of the hospital.

The new board members are Mark Jorgenson and Deryl Wynn.

Jorgenson, from Shawnee Mission, is the regional president and chief executive officer of U.S. Bank in Kansas City. He is also a board member of the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce, the Kansas City Area Development Council and The University of Kansas Hospital and Medical Center Advancement Board, among many others.

Wynn, from Kansas City, Kan., serves as general counsel for McAnany, Van Cleave and Phillips, PA., as well as an attorney for the Kansas City Kansas Community College, the Kansas City Kansas Public Library and the Wyandot Center for Community Behavioral Healthcare, Inc.

One of the appointments fills the open board position of Tom Murphy, who died in a tragic auto accident last August. The other replaces longtime board member Ed Chapman of Leavenworth, who chose not to seek renomination after serving on the board since its beginning in 1998.

Missys’ Boutique, continued from page 1

funded entirely through charitable contributions from corporations and individuals, including participants from last year’s Treads & Threads event.

However, Wright said more contributions are needed to create a fund for patients in need. Hospital employees can donate to Missys’ Boutique through the Employee Campaign. Go to 24/7 under Quick Links.

Not a hospital employee but still want to contribute? Contact Kate Migneron, 8-4497 or kmigneron@kumc.edu.

Volunteers also are needed for the boutique. Contact Paula Gangel, 8-6528.

Missys’ Boutique is named after two women, Ann Wilcox O’Neill and Melissa Malter Newell – each affectionately known as Missy. Both women lost their lives to breast cancer, and their families vowed to do something in their memory to help other cancer patients.

Art patrons

Student artists from the Sumner Academy of Arts and Science in Kansas City, Kan., displayed their work in the Westwood Atrium on March 25. The exhibit was part of the hospital’s support of the ArtsKC Fund. During the show, Rebecca Huser, ARNP-BC (left), cancer center clinic exams, and Teddy McDowell, RN, Oncology, talked with Sumner Academy students about their sculptures. The hospital’s fundraiser continued through the week.

Miller named to KU Women’s Hall of Fame

Karen Miller, RN, PhD, senior vice chancellor for KUMC Academic and Student Affairs and dean for the Schools of Nursing and Allied Health, has been inducted into the University of Kansas Women’s Hall of Fame.

She will be recognized at the KU Women’s Hall of Fame Dinner Thursday, April 8, in Lawrence. The induction honors her significant contributions, achievements and character – and for serving as a role model for students as a career woman and community leader.

Information: 785-864-3552 or email etwrc@ku.edu.

Karen Miller

Exposure

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Exposure
Thursday, April 1
HOY THURSDAY Service: 12:05 p.m., 2nd-floor waiting room (across from elevators), Westwood Campus.
HOY THURSDAY Mass: 12:15 p.m., Spencer Chapel.

Friday, April 2
PEDIATRIC GRAND Rounds: “To Cry or Not to Cry: Advising Parents on Their Child’s Sleep,” Jennifer Dioszezhy, MD, 8-9 a.m., Wahl Hall West Auditorium.
UNIVERSITY COMPUTER Equipment Drop-Off: 8:30-10:30 a.m., Hiscox Atrium. Dispose of university-owned computers and computer-related equipment. Information: 8-1081 or www2.kumc.edu/safety.

Thursday, April 8
LUNG CANCER Support Group: Second Thursdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Atrium Conference Room, Westwood Campus. Information: 8-1227.

Saturday, April 10
11th ANNUAL KUMC Street Fair: noon-4 p.m., Rosedale Middle School, 3600 Springfield St., Kansas City, Kan. Activities include face painting, clowns, games, food, prizes and more. Admission is free.

April organ donor drives set for hospital, Westwood
Hospital groups are expanding efforts to encourage campus employees and visitors to register as organ donors.

Doctors’ Notes break into spring song
Doctors’ Notes, a group of singing medical students at KUMC, will host a spring concert noon-1 p.m. Friday, April 2, in Reike Auditorium. The group will unveil a new lineup of songs.

A world of health care on display at KUMC
A three-day symposium will showcase global health care through the experiences of KUMC students and faculty. Highlights:
- Noon-1 p.m. Monday, April 12, 1023 School of Nursing Auditorium. Lunch for first 125 attendees. Preregister: www2.kumc.edu/PDFT raining.
- Noon-1 p.m. Tuesday, April 13, 4th floor restroom (across from elevators), Westwood Campus. This year’s Heart Walk goals for the hospital and KUMC:
  - 800 registered walkers
  - $75,000 campuswide ($74,000 raised last year)
  - $25 raised or donated by each walker
What can you do?
- Recruit a department team captain
- Encourage employees to participate in the Heart Walk
- Donate and support team activities
- Register to walk – family, friends and patients are invited to join the hospital and KUMC team. Register at kcheartwalk.org

Send calendar items to centerexpress@kumc.edu. Items must be received by noon on the Monday prior to publication.

4th floor restrooms to close for a month
Long-awaited renovation of the hospital’s fourth-floor restrooms, located near the elevator lobby, gets going Thursday, April 1.
"The restrooms will be closed during the construction; be sure to advise guests to use nearby restrooms on the third or fifth floors, or in the hospital lobby."

Doctors’ Notes notes on their spring concert
The group will unveil a new lineup of songs.

Send calendar items to centerexpress@kumc.edu. Items must be received by noon on the Monday prior to publication.
Domino liver transplant, continued from page 1

hours, from the time blood is halted in the donor until the liver is transplanted and blood flow is started in the receiving patient.

Anesthesia lines require up to an hour per patient. Removing a liver takes one to two hours. And in this case, Pathology must ensure patient B was otherwise free of cancer — a process that starts only after the surgery begins. (Another patient needing a liver transplant was waiting, in case patient B’s cancer had spread.)

What’s more, the teams also retrieved two healthy kidneys from the deceased patient, which will be used to save more lives.

Meantime, patients A and B are expected to spend a week to 10 days in the hospital before going home. The hospital OR and transplant teams are taking pride in their extraordinary accomplishment. “The level of collaboration required between the teams was immense for all this to happen successfully in such a short period of time,” Howell said.

Added Brian Dolan, MHSA, Perioperative Services’ business operations manager: “Instances like this are rare in a health provider’s career. Our team did a stellar job. This is a great way to celebrate our nursing excellence in the OR and our talented transplant physicians.”

Electronic Rx comes to KU MedWest

You’ve heard of email, eBay and E-TRADE. Now there’s E-Prescribe — a new function in O2 that sends detailed prescriptions electronically to a patient’s preferred pharmacy. And it receives refill requests when required. The feature goes live in the Pediatrics, Internal Medicine and Family Medicine Clinics at KU MedWest Tuesday, April 6.

The benefits of E-Prescribe include:

• Legible prescriptions, defined dosages and quantities
• Reduced phone calls and call-backs to pharmacies
• No more faxing to pharmacies

You’ll notice a difference in the medication order screen in O2 with this go-live. Watch for more information about these changes through emails and on 24/7.

The hospital will roll out E-Prescribe to Westwood Internal Medicine, the Richard and Annette Bloch Cancer Care Pavilion and Mid-America Cardiology in May.

Please send classified ads to centerexpress@kumc.edu or post online at 24/7. Items must be 25 words or less and received by noon Monday. Ads run on a space-available basis.