

From Near and Far- Diplomats' Wives at RMC

It was a diplomatic affair to remember as wives of diplomats from around the globe, visited Rabin Medical Center (RMC), at the invitation of the Friends of RMC.

Among the visitors were representatives from Japan, Egypt, Germany, England, France, India and Spain. The women were greeted by Nava Barak, President of the Friends of RMC and were addressed by Dr. Maya Cohen, Director of the Department of Imaging at Bellinson Campus. Dr. Cohen spoke about the use of mammography and the vital importance it serves in the early detection of breast cancer. The women were quite impressed with the outstanding facilities of the hospital including the modern technologies, the hospitalization departments and the beautiful synagogue donated by Gour Shasha and named in memory of his parents. These visits help to encourage the relationship between Rabin Medical Center and countries around the world and open avenues for medical cooperation.



Pictured from the right side: Dr. Maya Cohen, Nava Barak (President of Friends of RMC) and several diplomatic participants



Dr. Baliga at RMC

From India With Love

Dr. Poornima Baliga, a pathologist at the Kasturba Medical College in India, underwent advanced training recently at the Institute of Pathology at Rabin Medical Center.

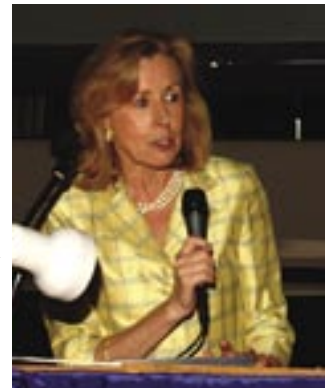
Dr Baliga worked alongside Prof. Elimelech Okon, Director of the Pathology Department and expressed her sincere gratitude at having had the opportunity to work at such a prestigious medical institution and with Prof. Okon where she had the chance to be exposed to his expertise and knowledge in this field. She hopes her visit will be a stepping-stone towards the beginning of medical cooperation between the two countries.

Florida Chapter Dinner Enthusiastically Supported *“The Power to Help”*: Hadassah Lieberman’s Theme



Burton Lazarow, left, and Hadassah Lieberman, center, are joined by some of the committee members most responsible for the Florida Dinner: left to right; Dr. Ronald and Cheryl Jordan, Michael Gorinsky, Dr. Gabriella Gerstle, Leah and Dr. Robert Bregman, Dinner chair.

A tribute to the work of RMC was given in the keynote address of Hadassah Lieberman at AFRMC’s First Florida Dinner held May 16 in Boca Raton. She acknowledged RMC’s leadership in Women’s Healthcare, an area very close to her own involvement priorities, and in cancer care, cardiology, transplantation, and, said Mrs. Lieberman, “unfortunately in the treatment of terrorist victims, which requires support for RMC’s Trauma Unit.”



Mrs. Hadassah Lieberman delivered the keynote address at AFRMC’s Florida Dinner on May 16, 2004

a challenge, saying, “It is our responsibility to figure out how we can help.” She also suggested that solid medical practice and quality places to practice, such as RMC provides, is of “critical importance to the entire State of Israel.” She emphasized that AFRMC provides “all of us the power to help.”

Mrs. Lieberman expressed the belief that the good medical care, as offered by RMC, produces “bridges to peace.” She offered

Comedy permeated the evening as noted performer Scott Blakeman served as master of ceremonies and kept the program moving as he interspersed several of his routines between the various presentations and before and after the dinner. Cantor Irving Grossman, of Congregation Beth Tikvah of Green Acres, Florida, led the singing of “Hatikvah” and “The Star Spangled Banner” as well as performing “The Impossible Dream,” “Exodus”, and a selec-

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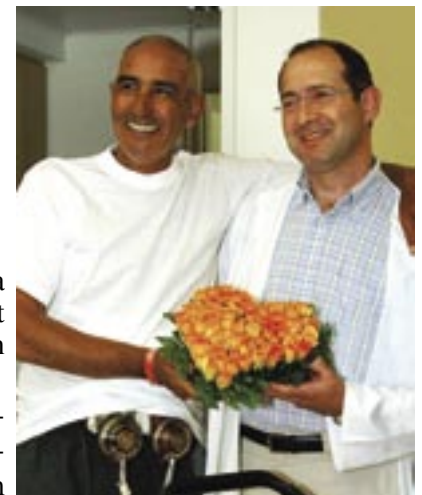
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RMC Pioneers In Mobile Artificial Heart Implantation

For the first time ever in Israel, a completely functional artificial heart was implanted in a patient at Rabin Medical Center.

Edmond Peretz, 55, of Tiberias, suffered from terminal cardiac insufficiency and was transferred to RMC from another Israeli hospital in critical condition. He became the first Israeli recipient to receive a mobile mechanical heart implant, which was performed by a team headed by Dr. Alon Stamler, senior surgeon in the Cardiothoracic Surgery Department.

Until then, this procedure has been used on some 2,000 patients in 21 countries. The device, manufactured by Thoratec, in the United States, is called an artificial heart though it is not implanted in the chest. It operates in a vacuum



Dr. Alon Stamler, right, receives a bouquet of flowers from Edmond Peretz, the man in whom Dr. Stamler implanted Israel’s first mobile mechanical heart.

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RMC- AT THE HEART OF THE MATTER



*Dr. Dan Oppenheim
CEO of RMC*

In our continuing efforts to advance and lead in the medical world I am especially proud to share with you Rabin Medical Center's (RMC) latest achievement, the first Israeli implantation of a mobile artificial heart, which provides a completely functional heart. In looking at RMC's history in the field of cardiac care, this latest accomplishment comes as no surprise. The Cardiothoracic Surgery Department established in 1964 at Beilinson Hospital was the first in this country. In 1968, the department, then under the leadership of Prof. Morris Levi carried out the first Israeli heart transplant, only one year after the procedure was performed for the first time in the world. In 1995 we were the first in Israel to complete a semi artificial heart implantation and we once again made Israeli medical history in 2001 by performing the first robot assisted cardiac surgery. This new and exclusive procedure is beneficial to both the surgeons and the patients and is now used regularly on our operating tables.

The Cardiothoracic Surgery Department, headed by Prof. Bernardo Vidne, is a renowned facility which offers innovative, outstanding quality care and performs approximately 1400 open heart surgeries annually, 25% of the total amount in Israeli hospitals and this number is constantly rising. The department boasts an international reputation and is therefore honored by the presence of many physicians from around the world who come to train and study here.

When it comes to matters of the heart, RMC

continues to move forward, whether it be in research, advanced surgical techniques or patient care. And, I am confident, that with the continued support and friendship of our American Friends, we will continue to be a pioneer in this field and in other medical domains.



The Pardes Hanna heart transplant patient at RMC.

RMC PIONEERS IN MOBILE ARTIFICIAL HEART IMPLANTATION - continued from page 1
that fills and empties at a volume suited to the heartbeat of the patient and is a mobile unit.

The artificial pump, whose energy supply Peretz must always take with him in a small suitcase, can function as an alternative heart for up to three years while the patient waits for a human heart donor. During this time the patient is able to lead a near normal way of life. The advantage, besides keeping the patient alive, is that he is in better health condition and stands a greater chance of surviving a heart transplant.

Rabin Medical Center is proud to have pioneered another Israeli medical breakthrough and plans to perform further artificial heart procedures in the future.



Edmond Peretz, Israel's first mobile mechanical heart recipient moves about with his new heart.



Staff of the Cardiac Rehabilitation Center and one of their patients at the opening

New Cardiac Rehabilitation Center Opened at Golda-HaSharon Campus

A new modernized cardiac rehabilitation center was recently inaugurated at the Golda-HaSharon Campus of RMC.

The new center is equipped with the most up to date physical fitness equipment and offers some of the most advanced treatments available in Israel today. This facility is an integral part of the Cardiology Department, under the direction of Prof. Alexander Battler, and it will enlarge the existing scope of activities and offer services for the prevention of heart disease and for patients recovering from all heart procedures. Teams, comprising physicians, nurses and exercise specialists, carefully design a program, which is tailored to fit the individual needs of the specific heart problem and is critical in restoring the heart function to an optimal level. They also educate the heart patients toward a healthier lifestyle and aim to improve their long-term outlook, which is vital to their recovery.

RMC's New First- Heart Transplant Well Worth the Wait

After seven grueling months of hospitalization in the Intensive Coronary Care Unit, at the Cardiology Department at Beilinson Campus, headed by Prof. Alex Battler, the prayers of a Pardes Hanna resident were finally answered when he received a heart transplant.

The patient, a man in his fifties, suffered from severe cardiac failure and, though he was put on the heart donor list in March 2002, his condition greatly deteriorated and in August 2003 he needed to be hospitalized. Prior to the transplant he was barely able to function and was in dire need of a heart donor. The medical team, led by Dr. Tuvia Ben-Gal, head of the Cardiac Failure Service, which accompanied the patient, could not hide their excitement after the successful heart transplant and especially by the patient's reaction when, upon waking up from the operation, he said, "never for a moment did I stop believing that this day would come," and - indeed he was right.

One Doctor Can Change Lives- It Pays to Believe

Things could have been very different for Sharon Azolou Ayal, if she had not met Prof. Israel Meisner, head of the Ultrasound Unit at the Women's Comprehensive Health Center, Rabin Medical Center. During her 24th week of pregnancy she underwent an extensive fetal ultrasound examination, which disclosed a problem in the colon of the fetus. Two weeks later Sharon underwent another ultrasound showing that the situation had deteriorated, pointing to a blockage of the colon, one of the signs of cystic fibrosis.



Professor Israel Meisner at work at RMC

Sharon and her husband began their rounds of doctors in the hope of determining the health of the fetus. All the doctors agreed that the risk was too great and advised her to terminate her pregnancy. The couple was devastated. On the brink of terminating the pregnancy, Sharon met with Prof. Israel Meisner, who turned out to be her savior. She underwent another ultrasound examination and it was Prof. Meisner's opinion that the problem was in the small intestine and that it might heal itself. The couple also met with a group of specialists from Rabin Medical Center who became a support group for all their concerns. Though in the 34th week of her pregnancy other complications were discovered, the couple continued to believe in Prof. Meisner.

Now the proud parents of a healthy baby daughter, they know their belief was not unfounded. No words can describe their joy and gratitude to him and the staff at Rabin Medical Center. Miracles often come in the shape of a doctor.

Reborn at 27

It was a normal sunny day and as Ekatrina Britskov, a young vibrant healthy 27-year-old girl went to work, nothing could have prepared her for the days to come. She began to feel weak and thought it was just the flu, but she soon discovered she had been stricken by jaundice. She was transferred to Rabin Medical Center where she was diagnosed with hepatitis B, which causes severe liver failure. Her condition rapidly deteriorated and only a liver transplant could save her. Unconscious and in grave critical condition she needed the transplant, within three days at the maximum. It was now a race against the clock to save her life.

Both her mother and brother were found to be unsuitable donors and it was Ekatrina's father who came to her rescue. Like any parent he was more than willing to donate his liver in order to save his daughter's life, and as soon as he was found to be a suitable donor he didn't hesitate for a minute and was taken directly to the operating room. Ekatrina, unconscious at the time had no idea what was taking place. The operation, performed by Prof. Eytan Mor, Director of the Department of Organ Transplantation at Beilinson Campus, took over 14 hours to complete, left her father with 40 percent of his liver and gave his daughter back her life. The operation poses no threat to Ekatrina's father as the liver quickly renews itself and returns to 90% of its original size. Only upon waking up from this fateful operation did she learn who had been her life savior: upon first seeing her father she was overcome with gratitude and could't hold back her tears.

During the last 4 months alone, the Department of Organ Transplantation at RMC, which is the only hospital in Israel that performs live liver transplants, has performed 41 organ transplants, 8 of which were liver transplants. Ekatrina, who immigrated to Israel from Russia only 6 years ago, says she will be ever grateful to her father and to Prof. Mor and all his staff who simply saved her life.

Correlation Found Between Atrial Septal Heart Defect and Migraines:

Migraine headaches are caused by many different factors, but, thanks to researchers at Rabin Medical Center, for some the suffering may be over.

Over 50% of ASD (Atrial Septal Defect) sufferers, one of the simplest forms of congenital heart disease, which can be repaired surgically, also suffer from migraine headaches. A research team at Rabin Medical Center, led by Dr. Arieh Koritzky, head of the Headache Unit and Dr. Alexei Yankovsky, of the Neurological Department, conducted a study on 227 patients. Seventy-two of the patients tested underwent ASD repair and of these, 70% of those with migraines improved after the procedure, while in the non-migraine group, 37% improved. They now believe it is worthwhile to clarify if the migraine sufferer has ADS since correction of the heart disease can relieve the intensity and frequency of the migraine attacks, and, in some cases, cause the headaches to stop. This important study was reported in *The Journal of Head and Face* and was presented at the International Conference on Headaches held in Rome last year.

PREMIERE FILM SCREENING BENEFITS RMC

Each year, Yoram Globus, international film and television producer and his wife Leah, longtime friends of Rabin Medical Center, donated the proceeds from a premiere film screening in one of their movie theaters in Israel. This year's proceeds from the screening of the movie "Along Came Polly", were donated to The Davidoff Comprehensive Cancer Center, to be opened in December 2004. The event was a great success.

From the right Yoram Globus, Dr. Dan Oppenheim, CEO.



The Best is Yet to Come

A very highly motivated group of South Florida volunteers, many of whom are physicians, on May 16, 2004 produced a stimulating and rewarding Florida Dinner in Boca Raton, on behalf



Burton Lazarow
Executive Director
AFRMC

of RMC. More importantly the Dinner resulted in an inspiring beginning of what should be many productive activities in Florida for AFRMC in the years ahead.

Similarly, in New York, a luncheon for young professionals, many of whom are Israelis, produced an enthusiastic response to a request for involvement and support.

In recent months, many people not previously involved with AFRMC have stepped forward to volunteer for participation or to make contributions to RMC.

The work of the past five years, to bring the message of RMC to the public, is beginning to bear fruit, and AFRMC is positioned for new levels of success in its work to provide support to RMC. It has been a rewarding ride for those who have brought the organization to this point, and it will be an even more satisfying experience for those who join them and get on board now. The best is yet to come!!

Mark of Excellence

Once again the international medical community praises Rabin Medical Center for its excellent work.

At the 2003 Conference of the European Dialysis and Transplantation Nurses Association, held in England, the Transplantation Department at the Beilinson Campus received praise for their work on cross couple kidney transplants. Meira Shternberg, head nurse of the Department at Beilinson Hospital, presented her team's research on this subject, where one partner of a sick patient is matched as a donor to another similar couple and visa versa. This research, done over a period of 6 years was aimed at couples where no donor was found within the immediate family and showed that cross couple transplants greatly increase the possibilities of finding a suitable donor. Rabin Medical Center's Transplantation Department succeeded in matching 16 couples in which they carried out 10 kidney transplants.



Pictured from the right side: Dina Alboer, Amos Eran (representative of the Polin family in Israel), Dr. Mickey Stein and Nava Barak (President of Friends of RMC)

efforts in the treatment of victims of terrorist attacks.

The Trauma Unit, one of six Level One Units in Israel, is unique in that it is able to treat a large number of multi-injured patients simultaneously. Regrettably, suicide bombers have made these Units vital in treating the innocent victims of terrorist attacks and 2400 terminal cases were treated at RMC during the last year alone. The recipients of the prize were Dr. Mickey Stein, Head of the Trauma Unit and Dina Alboer, Trauma Coordinator, who devote endless hours of their time in providing the best possible medical care. RMC is proud of their achievements, which under the most difficult of circumstances have saved the lives of so many, and of their devotion to their profession and their country.

Abe and Irene Polin Prize Awarded

Irene and Abe Polin, of Washington, D.C., whose philanthropic and humanitarian endeavors know no boundaries, recently instituted an award at RMC, which will be given yearly in their names. This year the Polin Medical Prize was awarded to the Trauma Unit of the Beilinson Campus, in recognition of its faithful and relentless

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*Acknowledges With Much Gratitude The
Sponsor And Donors Of Its First Florida
Dinner May 16, 2004*

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*Save the
Date*

FIFTH ANNUAL
NEW YORK DINNER

Monday,
October 25, 2004

The Pierre - New York City

FLORIDA CHAPTER DINNER ENTHUSIASTICALLY SUPPORTED - continued from page 1

tion of Hebrew melodies.

Burt Lazarow, Executive Director of AFRMC, presented a plaque to Dinner Chair, Robert Bregman, for his leadership in making the Dinner possible. Mr. Lazarow read a greeting from RMC's CEO, Dr. Dan Oppenheim, and made a brief presentation on the work of RMC and addressed the answer to the questions "With the plethora of Jewish and Israeli organization inundating the Florida communities, why do we need another one coming here to Florida for money? And - What is there about RMC that we should support in addition to our contributing to every other institution in Israel and in our community?"

Participants saw two brief videos of RMC, "Trauma" and "Cardiac Care" and learned that Datascope, a prominent manufacturer of cardiac equipment, was serving as sponsor of the Dinner and supplying an assortment of materials and equipment to RMC to commemorate the occasion. Dr. Ronald Jordan, the Florida fundraising chair, was responsible for arranging the involvement of Datascope.

The excitement of the audience, at the conclusion of the evening's formal program, resulted in the scheduling of the next such event on February 13, 2005.



Burton Lazarow, Executive Director, AFRMC, presented the Florida Dinner Chair, Dr. Robert Bregman, with a plaque in appreciation for his leadership.

Davidoff Comprehensive Cancer Center (DCCC) Opening Celebration



Rabin Medical Center (RMC) is proud to invite you to participate in the opening celebrations of the Davidoff Comprehensive Cancer Center, (DCCC) to take place on the 20th- and 21st of December 2004. The center, the first of its kind in Israel, will be a national focus of excellence and compassion in the treatment, prevention and research of cancer, and will consolidate all of RMC's oncology and hemato-oncology inpatient and outpatient facilities. *We look to our American Friends to be our partners in the fight against cancer.*

AFRMC Reschedules Israel Trip – December 17 to 23

To participate in the celebration of the opening of the Davidoff Comprehensive Cancer Center; to be involved in an intensive tour of RMC; to meet with Israeli dignitaries; to visit prominent Israeli institutions not often seen by tourists; and to have the opportunity to experience sites in Israel in a most unusual manner – this is the time to call AFRMC to convey your interest in joining a group of friends of RMC in an exciting group trip to Israel.

World Patent for RMC in Cardiac / Bone Marrow Research

Many have been trying, but in the end it was the Cardiac Catheterization Unit of RMC, under the direction of Dr. Ran Kornowski, which was the first at the finish line to receive the international patent for an innovative technique where stem cells from the patients own bone marrow is injected into the diseased heart. This technique offers new hope for cardiac patients who have already undergone other extensive cardiac treatments and are still plagued with severe heart problems.

One such case is that of Menachem Steinvorzel, a 58-year-old man who, two years ago, was the first to take part in this experimental treatment. Dr. Kornowski and his team removed 30 million stem cells and then processed them in a lab before injecting them, via a special catheter, into 12 different sites in Menachem's heart. The entire procedure took only 45 minutes, during which time he was fully conscious. Steinvorzel returned home the next day and has been feeling great ever since. Prior to this he had gone through no less than four open heart surgeries and thirty-three bypass operations and says that this remarkable procedure has given him a new lease on life.

Though Dr. Kornowski could not be prouder of their accomplishments and says that the procedure is completely safe, he is ever cautious and knows that it is still in the experimental stages. The Ministry of Health in Israel has already approved further trials on another 20 patients.

The international medical community will no doubt be watching as RMC advances in this amazing field, as one thing is for sure, this latest technique offers new hope and optimism to cardiac patients, where all other options have failed them before.



Dr. Ran Kornowski monitoring stem cell reproduction

AFRMC

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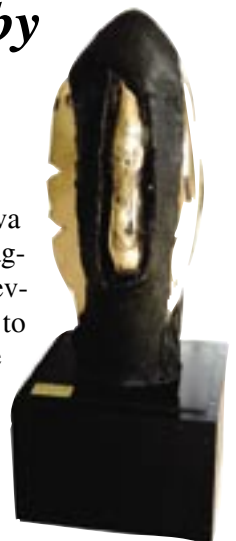
Burton Lazarow - Executive Director

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Sculpture Donated by Shimon and Hava Topor

A special thanks to Shimon and Hava Topor for their generous donation of a magnificent sculpture, which along with several other sculptures adorns the entrance to the lobby of the Gour Shasha Tower. The sculpture, titled Duolith VIII, is a bronze casting, sculpted by Eli Elan in 1976 and adds further artistic beauty to the hospital's entrance, which was designed by the renowned Israeli architect Ram Carmi.



AFRMC Florida Dinner



Burton Lazarow welcomed Hadassah Lieberman



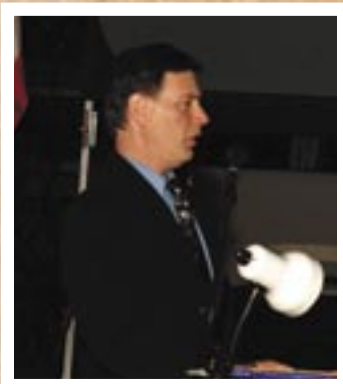
Scott Blakeman, prominent comedy star, served as MC for the evening



Mrs. Hadassah Lieberman gave the Keynote Address



Florida Dinner Chair, Dr. Robert Bregman, welcomed the participants



Cantor Irving Grossman, of Congregation Beth Tikvah, Green Acres, Florida sang the anthems and a selection of songs



Burton Lazarow, Executive Director of AFRMC, conveyed greetings from RMC and presented the RMC story



Dr. & Mrs. Robert Bregman with Hadassah Lieberman



Dr. & Mrs. Ronald Jordan with Hadassah Lieberman



Scott Blakeman and friend, Ruth, with Hadassah Lieberman



Michael Gorinsky with Hadassah Lieberman



Emanuel Pachman with Hadassah Lieberman



Dorit and Walter Gerstle with Hadassah Lieberman



Claire Siegel with Hadassah Lieberman



Ken Schwartz and Dr. Gabriella Gerstle with Hadassah Lieberman



Hadassah Lieberman with Aliza and Dr. Josh Hollander



Hagit and Steven Lipson with Hadassah Lieberman

May 16, 2004, Boca Raton



Dr. & Mrs. Armando Armas, Dr. & Dr. Eyal Meiri, and Mrs. & Dr. Tom Niederman



Mr. and Mrs. Zohar Mantzoor with Hadassah Lieberman



Mr. & Mrs. Cliff Weidberg with Hadassah Lieberman



Dr. & Mrs. Martine Avello with Hadassah Lieberman



Burton Lazarow, Donald Gartner and Marcia Hoffman



Marion Gold, Burton Lazarow, Herbert Gold



Dr. and Mrs. Roger Gorman



Mr. and Mrs. Barry Levi, and Dr. and Mrs. Avi Rubin



Hadassah Lieberman, Leah Bregman, Dr. Stuart Rubin, and Dr. Robert Bregman



Mr. & Mrs. Steven Whitehill, Mr. & Mrs. Cliff Weidberg



Mr. & Mrs. Howard Oshry



Sheri Mantzoor, Rinat Nakdimon, and Lisa Levi



Emanuel Pachman, Betty Greenberg & Roger La Fresh



Solange Howard, Mr. & Mrs. Howard Oshry, and Dr. Robert Bregman



Mr. (standing) & Mrs. (seating) Roy Nakdimon, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Weiss, seated, Mr. and Mrs. Amit Tirosh, standing, Mr. (seated) & Mrs. (standing) Avi Shorek



Rabbi & Mrs. Hersch Gansbourg with Hadassah Lieberman