



Interview No.: OH 2.1

Title: H. Biemann Othersen, MD, Interview by Brooke Fox and P. R. Rajagopalan, 15 October 2008

Interviewers: Fox, Brooke

Rajagopalan, P. R.

Interviewees: Othersen, H. Biemann (Henry Biemann), 1930-

Date: 2009-10-15

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Subject (Topical):

Kidney Transplantation.

Transplant Recipients.

Tissue Donors.

Nephrology.

Nephrectomy.

Medical College of South Carolina.

Medical University of South Carolina. Medical University Hospital.

Subject (Names):

Artz, Curtis P. (Curtis Price), 1915-1977

Ashley, William R., 1944-1973

Ashley, Charles

Derrick, Fletcher C., 1933-

Fitts, Charles T., 1932-2008

Graber, Charles D., 1917-1996.

Hargest, Thomas S., 1925-2014

Harvin, James Shand, 1929-1991

Martin, Lloyd L., 1920-2013

McAlister, Velma

Othersen, H. Biemann (Henry Biemann), 1930-

Townes, Joyce

Williams, Arthur V., 1919-2007

Subject (Genre):

Oral histories.

Interviews.

Summary: Dr. H. Biemann Othersen, Jr., was a pediatric surgeon for the Medical College of South Carolina in 1968. In his interview he describes his education, professional background, and how he became a member of the transplant team. Dr. Othersen recalls his involvement in the surgery and describes the roles that each member of the team played in the preparation of the recipient, in the surgery itself, and in the recovery of the patient.

Collection: Waring Historical Library Oral History Collection

Contributing Institution: Waring Historical Library (MUSC)

Media Type: Oral Histories

Note: This interview is part of the MUSC's First Organ (Kidney) Transplant Oral History Project series. The transplant occurred on December 3, 1968 at the Medical College Hospital. These interviews document the experiences of the transplant team – made up of surgeons, laboratory technicians, and nurses – in preparing for the transplantation, performing the operation, and the organ recipient's recovery. Surgeons describe the operation while clinical engineering staff explain their research into the causes of organ rejection, the development of a procedure to address rejection, and the production of a device (the SCIRT pump) to remove lymphocytes from a patient's blood. In addition, an interview was conducted with the family of the recipient and donor; the recollections of the donor and family about the recipient's health and the impact of the transplant on his life. Six interviews were conducted between October 2008 and March 2009 in

preparation for the development of an online exhibit, "Overcoming the Rejection Factor: MUSC's First Organ Transplant." The online exhibit is available at <http://waring.library.musc.edu/exhibits/kidney/>.

Transcript has been edited.

In cases where the video and the transcript differ, the video is provided for background use only.

See also: Collection # OH 2

Language: English

Digitization Specifications: Video recorded on a NTSC disc using a Sony DVD Recorder. Audio recorded in Dolby.

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Citation: MUSC's First Organ (Kidney) Transplant Oral History Project, Waring Historical Library, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC.

Series Title: MUSC's First Organ Transplant Oral History Project, 2008-2009

Duration: 00:47:50

Transcript: 19 p.