

CONVERSATIONS UNLIMITED - Monday, Feb. 11, 1985

INTRO UP AND UNDER

Hi, everybody. This is the time of year when we observe St. Valentine's Day. That means affairs of the heart. The heart is the legendary source of love. But it is, of course, so much more. It is the primary source of life. Without a heart, none of us can survive.

Today we'll be talking with a surgeon who is an international leader in replacing human organs so that life can go on. He is Dr. Felix T. Rapaport, the transplantation surgeon at the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Later in the program, we'll talk about heart transplants with a specialist in that field, Dr. Constantine E. Anagnostopoulos.

Felix Rapaport heads the Transplantation Service in the Department of Surgery at Stony Brook. He is serving as the recently elected president of the Regional Transplant Program of Greater New York Inc. Previously he served as president of the International Transplantation Society. Dr. Rapaport, let's begin with some history. When did surgeons claim the first successful human transplant?

INTERVIEW RAPAPPORT:

- History: new drugs, instruments, knowledge as aids
- Run down organs, other "parts" being transplanted
- Detail networks, esp. in New York region
- New federal Office of Organ Procurement and Transpl.
- How are local MDs plugged in?
- What advice for patients, parents?

14:00

We'll be back in a minute to talk about heart transplants, including Baby Fae with the baboon heart and William Schroeder with the mechanical heart.

BRIDGE MUSIC UP AND UNDER

MORE MORE MORE

Hi. I'm Al Oickle. I'm at the State University of New York at Stony Brook with Dr. Felix Rapaport, who heads the University's Transplantation Service in the Department of Surgery. Joining us is Dr. Constantine E. Anagnostopoulos. Dr. Anagnostopoulos earned his doctor of medicine degree at Georgetown University and his doctor of science degree at the University of Athens in Greece. He also is a member of the Department of Surgery in Stony Brook's School of Medicine. And he is a specialist in heart surgery. Dr. Anagnostopoulos, I suppose most of us think of Christiaan Barnard's 1967 work as pioneering heart transplants. Does this history go back farther?

INTERVIEW ANAGNOSTOPOULOS AND RAPAPPORT:

- In broad terms, what's involved in heart replacement?
- Background: how many in history, survival rate
- Alternate sources of organs: animals (baboon)
mechanical/artificial
- Societal questions: -- costs
-- choice of patients
- What's ahead: other body parts?

29:00 OUTRO