

Life of Pediatric Cardiac Surgeon My Journey

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Department of Surgery - Medical College of Wisconsin
Milwaukee; USA

Comenius University; Bratislava; 1982



Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases; Bratislava; 1985 - 1991



Sometimes the road of life takes
an unexpected turn and you
have no choice but to follow it
to end up in the place you are
supposed to be.





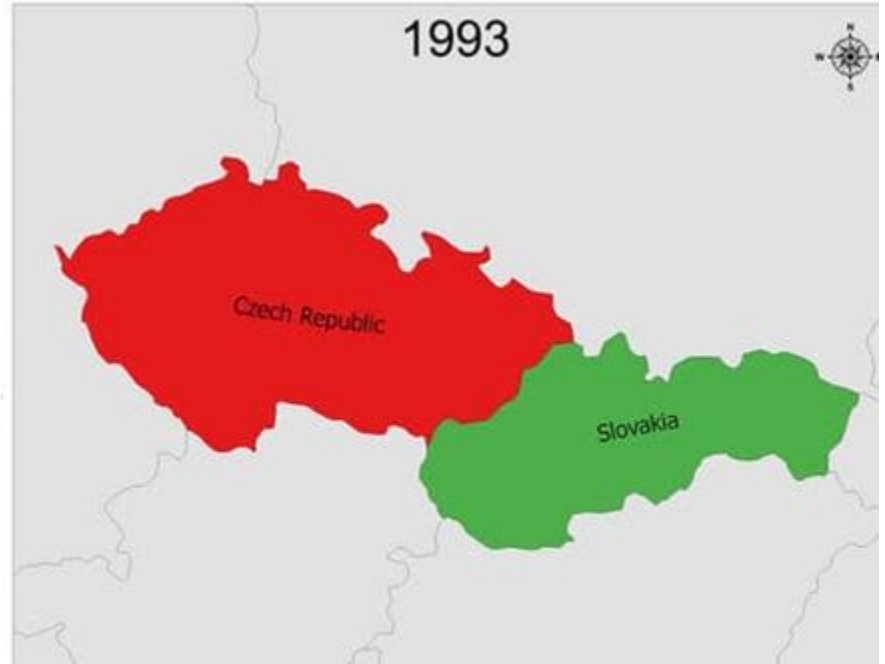
CAPITA
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80-90`ies in Slovakia

- Annually about 350 patients needed complex treatment
- Suboptimal infrastructure with lack of coordination & collaboration with cardiologists all across the country
- Limited resources; Lack of know-how
 - Complex CHD referred to Prague
- **New Pediatric Cardiac Center (PCC) established**

University Children's Hospital 1992-2002



USAID PROJECT HOPE for Pediatric Cardiac Center



Overall investment \$ 2.5 mil

Duration of project - 3 years

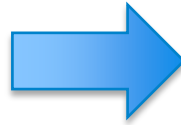
USAID - Project Hope



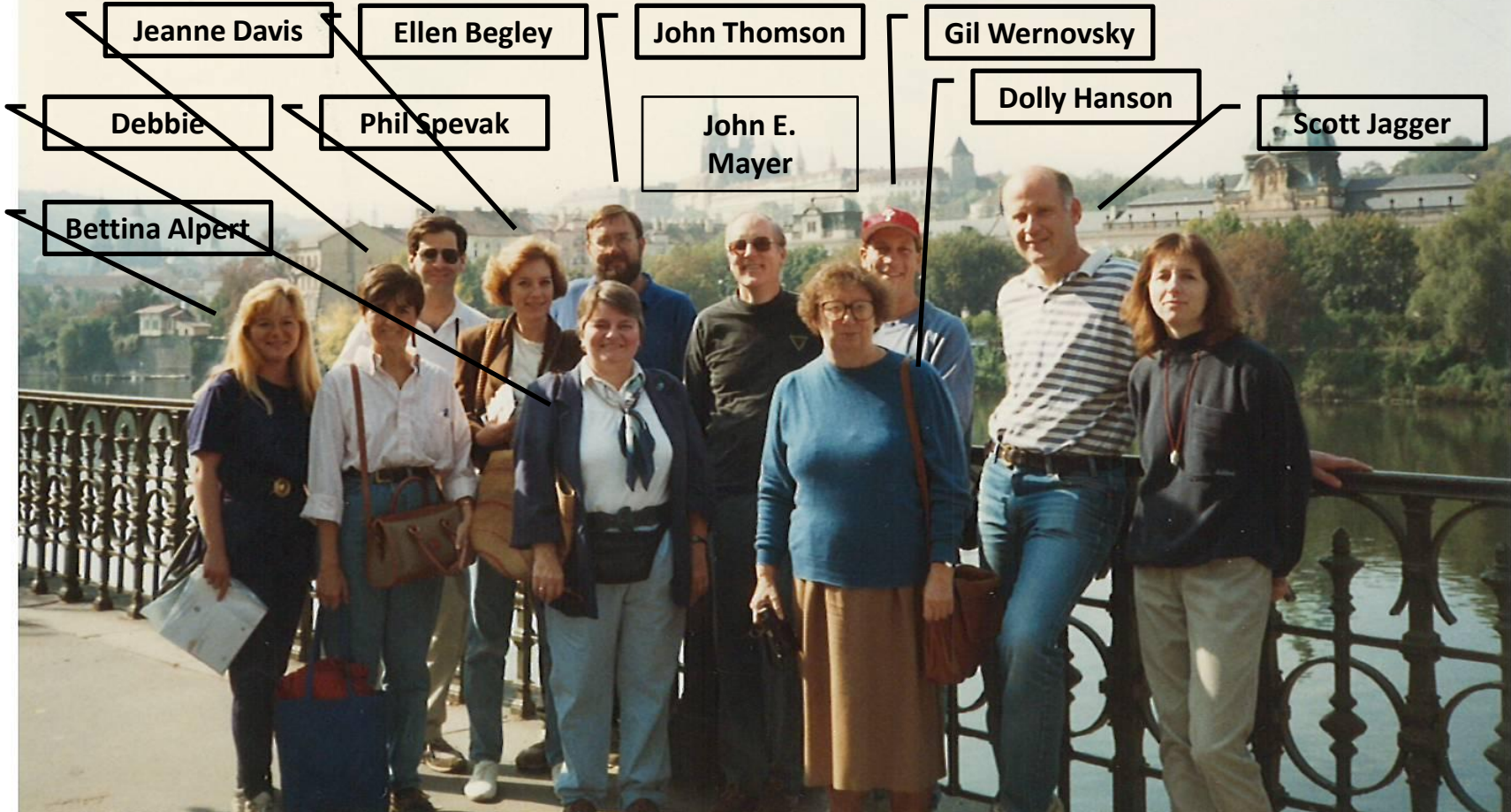
**Boston Children's
Hospital**



**HARVARD
MEDICAL SCHOOL**



**Children's Hospital Bratislava
Pediatric Cardiac Center**



Jeanne Davis

Ellen Begley

John Thomson

Gil Wernovsky

Debbie

Phil Spevak

John E. Mayer

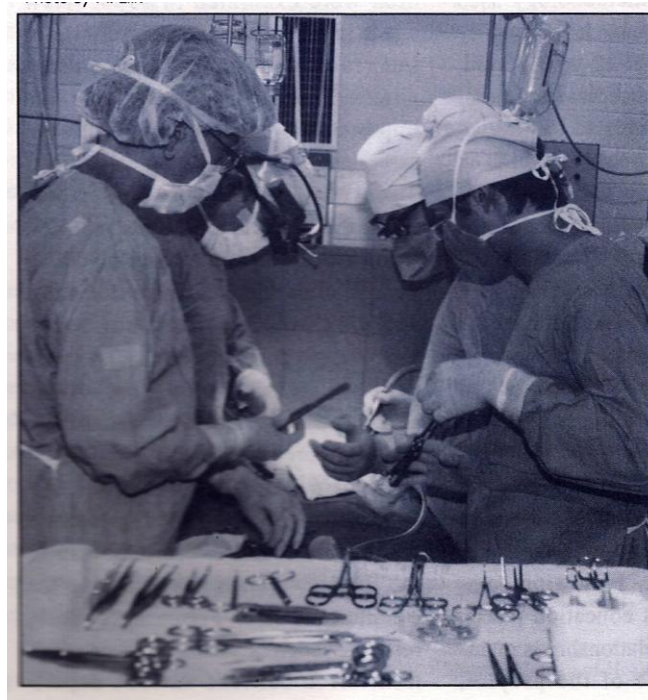
Dolly Hanson

Scott Jagger

Bettina Alpert

Operative Management

- Gradual Implementation of complex operations across the age spectrum
- Changing philosophy from palliation to correction



Neonatal Repair of dTGA

Gil Wernovsky wrote

*Joseph, (TGA)
sp. ASO
look how
pink she is*

- January 1993
 - The 1st ASO
- OR Team
 - V. Hraska
 - J. Mayer
 - E. Begley



29 Years Later...



Summary – Project HOPE

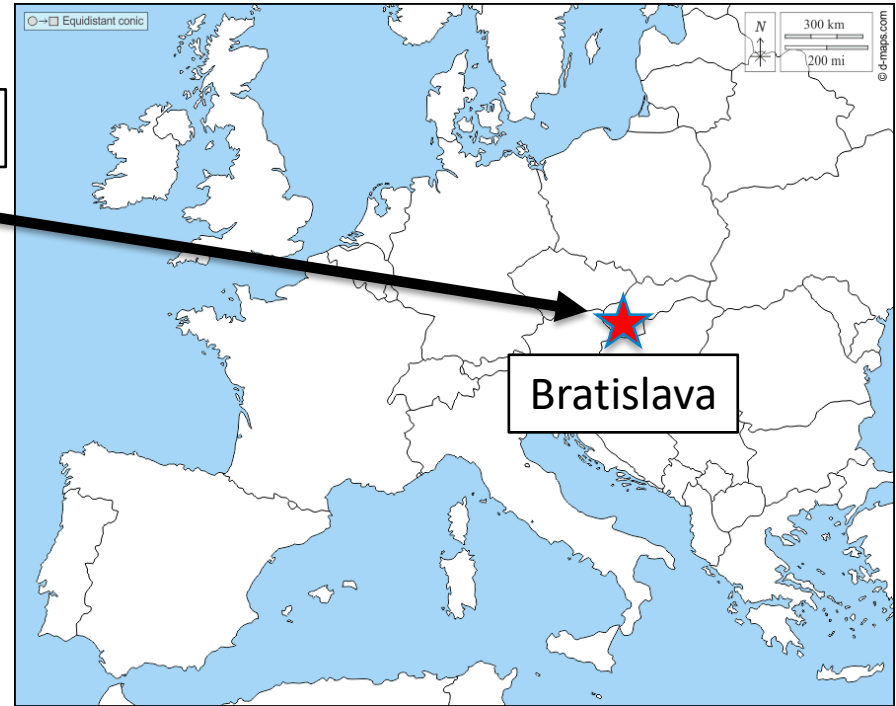
- Project HOPE/USAID has established program with long term impact on all providers involved in treatment of CHD in Slovakia



And One More Thing ...Friendship



Boston Children's Hospital; 1994 - 1996



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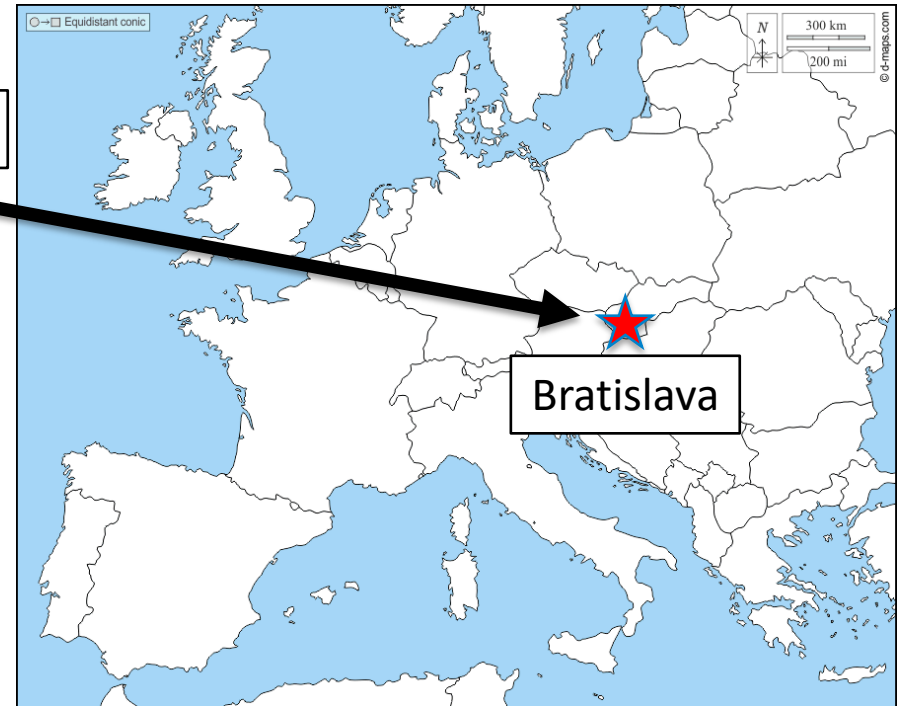
BCH 1994

To Victor with my very best wishes
for a successful career in Pediatric
Cardiac Surgery. You have the talent,
intellect and dedication; I enjoyed
very much working with you in Boston.
and hope to visit you in Bratislava.

Alfred Blumhagen

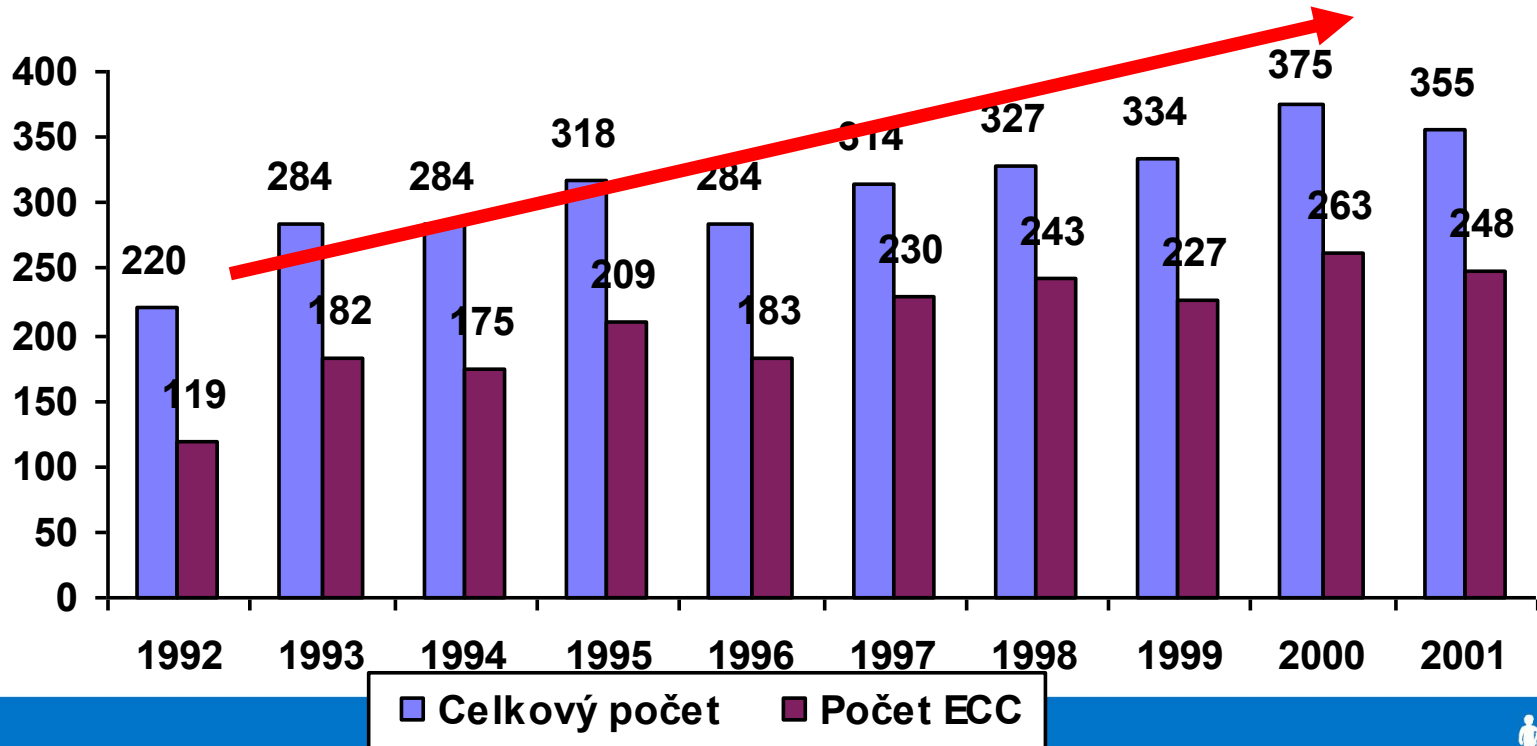
6/30/94
Boston.

Back to Bratislava; 1997 - 2002



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PCC - Referral Centre for Slovakia



Development

- 39 new surgical operations introduced to clinical practice including Htx
- 95% of all pts underwent primary correction

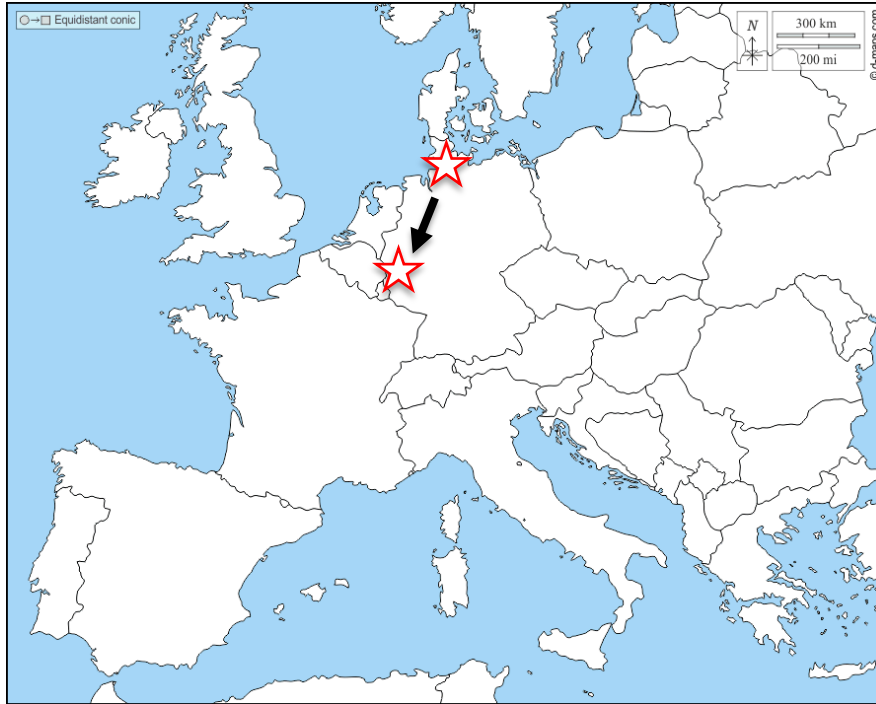
New Pediatric Cardiac Center; Bratislava; 2021



University Medical Center Hamburg - Eppendorf, Germany; 2003-2005



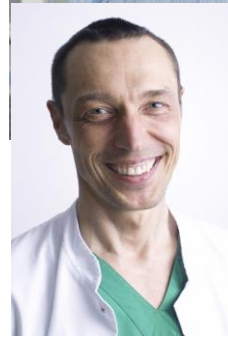
Deutsches Kinderherzzentrum St. Augustin, Germany; 2005 - 2016



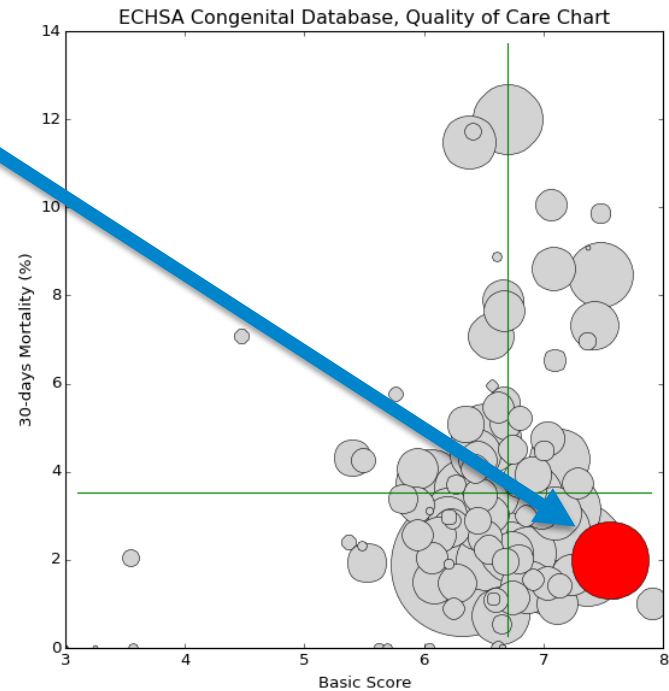
Horizontal Leadership



Co-workers



DKHZ

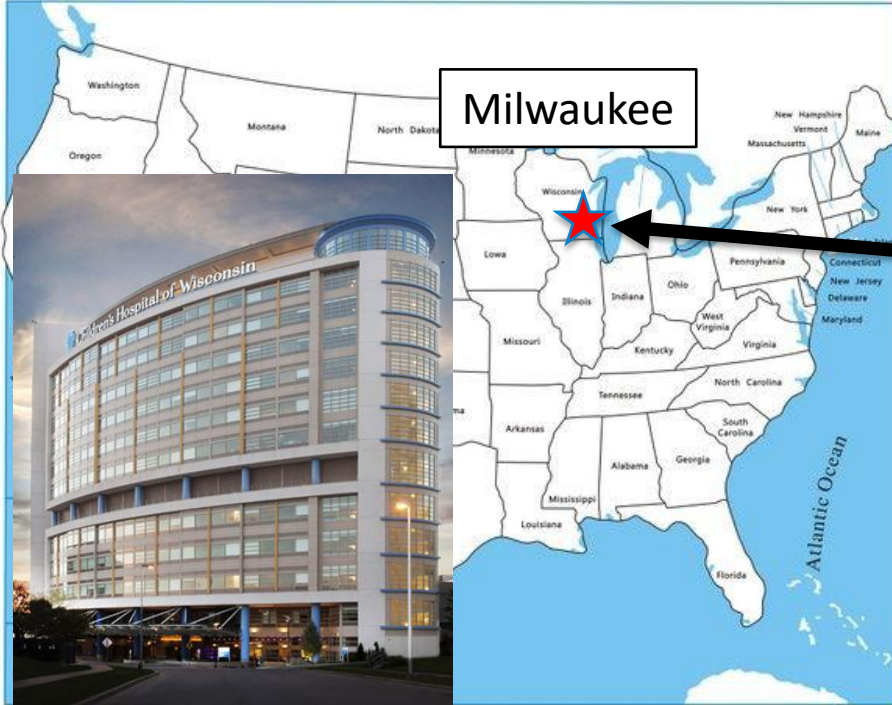


Split by Hospital, No Time Split, No Procedure Split



**IF YOU WANT TO
MAKE EVERYONE
HAPPY,
DON'T BE A LEADER,
SELL ICE CREAM.**

Children's Wisconsin – Herma Heart Institute 2016 - 2021



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Herma Heart Institute

Children's Wisconsin Herma Heart Institute

The Herma Heart Institute at Children's Wisconsin is made up of a multidisciplinary team of specialists. Our goal is to provide the highest quality fetal, pediatric and adult congenital heart care possible. We care for all cardiac conditions with expert diagnostic and treatment options and consistently report some of the best surgical outcomes for even the most complex types of heart disease.



Cardiothoracic surgery



Viktor Huska, MD, PhD, Surgical Director
Michael E. Mitchell, MD
Ronald K. Woods, MD, PhD
Jennifer L. Ingie, PAC
Aaron M. Kleinert, PAC
Michael R. Madrzak, PAC
L. Eliot May, PAC

Cardiothoracic surgery con'd



Lana C. Michel, PAC
Colton D. Pugh, PAC
Ryan G. Smith, PAC
Peter J. Bartz, MD, Medical Director
Daniel R. Beachler, MD
Joseph R. Block, MD
Joseph R. Cava, MD, PhD

Cardiology con'd



Raymond T. Fedderly, MD
Susan R. Foerster, MD
Peter C. Frommelt, MD
Benjamin H. Gott, MD
Todd M. Gudausky, MD
Daniel I. McLennan, MD
Margaret M. Samyn, MD

Cardiology con'd



Kelly L. Baker, PAC
Jennifer E. Rauscher, APNP
Nancy A. Rudd, APNP
Ann E. Scott, APNP
Jana B. Tanam, APNP
Rebecca A. Bertrand, MD
George M. Hoffman, MD, Interim Medical Director

Cardiac intensive care con'd



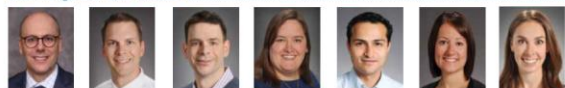
Robert A. Niebler, MD
Jake P. Scott, MD
Nathan E. Thompson, MD, PhD
Martin K. Waksalam, MD
Richard J. Berens, MD
George M. Hoffman, MD
Lindsay M. Loveland Baerlin, MD

Cardiac anesthesiology con'd



Lester T. Proctor, MD
Frank J. Ruiz, MD
Jake P. Scott, MD
Astrid G. Stucke, MD
Eckehard A. Stuth, MD
Todd J. Trzastynski, MD

Adult congenital heart disease



Peter J. Bartz, MD
Matthew W. Buelow, MD
Scott B. Cohen, MD, MPH, Program Director
Jennifer F. Gerardi, MD
Sally Grinde, MD, MPH
Lindsay M. Katzmark, APNP
Heleena M. Parent, APNP

Cardiac intensive care



Rebecca A. Bertrand, MD
George M. Hoffman, MD, Interim Medical Director

Cardiac anesthesiology



George M. Hoffman, MD
Lindsay M. Loveland Baerlin, MD

Developmental follow-up program



Laurel M. Bear, MD
Pam J. Schulz, DO

Electrophysiology



Anwer A. Dhala, MD
Joshua R. Kovach, MD
Anoop K. Singh, MD
Nicole L. Hunker, APNP
Candace S. Morton, APNP

Fetal heart



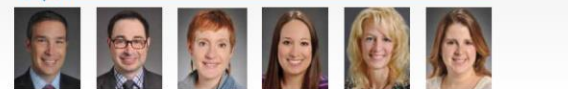
Sara E. Creighton, MD
Michele A. Frommelt, MD, Program Director

Pulmonary hypertension



David E. Soudak, MD
Stephanie S. Handler, MD
Edward C. Kinkaid, DO, Program Director
Kathryn A. Tillman, APNP

Transplant



Steve J. Kindel, MD, Program Director
Alexander Raskin, MD
Molly M. Bricker, APNP
Alyssa S. Pollow, APNP
Gail L. Stendahl, APNP
Elizabeth M. Weber, APNP

Psychology



Cheryl L. Bross, PhD
Kirstin H. Kroll, PhD

Research

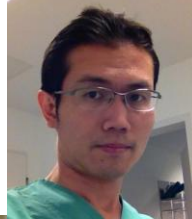


John E. Baker, PhD
Joy Lincoln, PhD, Research Director
Janette F. Straubinger, MD
Andrew D. Spearman, MD
Aoy Tomita-Mitchell, PhD

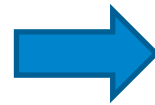
Last 25 years...Summary

- In charge of 4 different pediatric cardiac programs; in 3 countries; on two continents
- Operated on >5000 patients w CHD
- Published 159 papers; 13 books/chapters; delivered >280 international invited presentations on 6 continents
- Serving for ECHSA, EACTS, WSPCHS, AATS

My Fellows -Trainees



My Retirement



My Team



Michael E. Mitchell



Ronald K. Woods



Elyan Ruiz-Solano





**In Life,
Every Ending Is a New Beginning**





LIFE

ENJOY all the

Twists and Turns.

That's what makes life so

BEAUTIFUL!