

**November
is National
Diabetes
Month**

*Islet cell transplants cure
Type 1 diabetes...interested?*

**ALL TYPE 1
DIABETICS:**

**This event is not to
be missed by Type
1 diabetic patients,
care-takers, and
family members.**

PLEASE JOIN US TO
MEET ISLET CELL RECIPIENTS IN A
SPECIAL PRESENTATION OF OUR:

DIABETES TRANSPLANT SUMMIT

All in one evening...

find out everything you ever wanted to know about islet cell transplantation.
Join us to hear firsthand from patients who have undergone the islet transplant procedure
and are today living insulin-free.

Also, hear the leading researchers and surgeons in the field discuss this topic.



Thursday, November 11, 2010
6:30 pm Registration • 7:00 pm Session Begins

Bethesda Marriott (Near NIH)

5151 Pooks Hill Road • Bethesda, Maryland

*** ADMISSION FREE ***

Reservations are required for admittance

RSVP: rjjeremiah@diabeteswellness.net

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DISTINGUISHED PANEL (PARTIAL LISTING OF PATIENTS)

**Mary Buche**

Mary Buche was diagnosed with diabetes at age 11. For most of her thirty-six years with diabetes she struggled with fluctuating glucose levels. Five years before Mary's transplant, she lost the symptoms of low blood sugar—known as hypoglycemia unawareness. No more sweats, shakes, etc. She was checking her glucose levels constantly to avoid this situation. Mary received her one and only islet cell transplant in June 2007, and has been free from insulin injections since that time. Mary can now live life to its fullest and she states, "I feel healthier than I ever have." As a registered nurse in a local hospital, she continues to be a huge advocate for the University of Minnesota's islet cell transplant research program to her diabetic patients.

**Karla Edge**

Karla Edge became a type 1 juvenile diabetic at age 6. Her diabetes was always considered by her doctors as very brittle. Karla had many life threatening episodes with her diabetes. At the young age of 21 Karla woke up in the emergency room with a blood sugar of 10. The doctor told her she was very lucky to be alive. Karla began having unaware hypoglycemic episodes.

On September 19, 2005 Karla received her islet cell transplant at the Diabetes Research Institute. Her pancreas started working immediately. By October 2, 2005 Karla was completely off insulin.

She feels wonderful now and is enjoying every minute of her busy life with her beautiful family.

**Randi Fibus-Caster**

From the time of her diagnosis with type 1 diabetes at the age of 5 forty-seven years ago, Randi's life has never been normal.

Since the day of her transplant, Randi's diabetes has stabilized. Those severe hypoglycemic reactions that caused her to black out, numerous calls to 911, the EMT's breaking down doors regularly, and extended hospital stays are gone.

She continues to maintain a very rigid schedule of diet, medication and exercise. Unfortunately

the islet cells she received have begun to lose their potency. On June 29, 2010 Randi was transplanted with islet from another donor. As of July 2, 2010 her life as a diabetic changed. She is no longer taking insulin after 48 years.

**Gary Kleiman**

was diagnosed with diabetes at age six; he developed diabetic retinopathy by age 18 and was among the first to be treated with argon laser, which has become the standard treatment for this eye disease. At age 28, he required a kidney transplant and was again among the first to use a new immune suppressive drug—cyclosporine, to prevent rejection of his mother's kidney. In 2001, a second transplant was needed. His brother, Glenn, donated one of his kidneys. On November 1, 2002 Kleiman received an infusion of insulin-producing islets, which for the first time since 1960 freed him of insulin injections. Today, Kleiman continues to lead as the Executive Director of Medical Development at Diabetes Research Institute in Miami.

**Dave Thoen**

was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes at age 23—which he considered to be the "prime of his life." The diagnosis was a huge surprise that brought many changes to his life. Dave was extremely diligent at trying to take the best possible care of his self. This diligence had many positive effects, but at the same time there were significant negative consequences.

In 2006, Dave qualified for a clinical trial at the Schulze Diabetes Institute. He was the recipient of islet transplants in 2008 and 2009. The transplants changed his life, and that of his family, significantly—as it relates to the care taken, the treatment of, and living in general with diabetes.

**Kathryn White**

had had diabetes for twenty-five years when she received an islet cell transplant on July 21, 2008. Now, insulin-free since September 20, 2008, Ms. White will discuss her journey through diabetes. Kathryn also writes about her journey on her blog.

**Bernhard J. Hering, MD**

Professor of Surgery at the University of Minnesota; Scientific Director of the Schulze Diabetes Institute (SDI), Director of the Islet Transplant Program. Dr. Hering is widely regarded as the foremost expert on islet transplantation. SDI is one of five centers in the world selected by the NIH to conduct and analyze studies of islet transplantation in patients with Type 1 diabetes.

**David E.R. Sutherland, MD, PhD**

Director of the Schulze Diabetes Institute for Immunology and Transplantation, Head of the Transplant Division in the Department of Surgery. Dr. Sutherland performed the world's first transplant of insulin-producing islet cells from a deceased human donor to a living person in 1974. He also developed specialized surgeries to prevent the onset of diabetes upon the removal of a pancreas in the case of chronic pancreatitis.

**Walter Bortz II, MD**

has been traveling near and far spreading the word about healthy aging, diabetes, and exercise. He is the Chairman of the Diabetes Research & Wellness Foundation's Medical Advisory Board, and writes a monthly column for the foundation's publication, Diabetes Wellness News. He will moderate the Diabetes Transplant Summit.

**The Diabetes Research & Wellness Foundation®**

DRWF's mission is to help fund the cure for diabetes, and until that goal is achieved, to provide the care and self-management skills needed to combat the life-threatening complications of this terrible disease. DRWF has been funding research into the causes, prevention, treatment and cure of diabetes since 1993. The foundation is the publisher of Diabetes Wellness News, a monthly newsletter read by diabetic consumers nationwide.