

Organ Transplant History

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Any innovation which changed the world always begins with an idea. The idea may be a type of maddens at its time. But with more efforts done on the same idea, the image become compete after many years. But still we must remember the reason for idea spark.

The story of transplantation started with a Spiritual idea by Chinese physician Pien Chi'ao who thinks about exchanging hearts between a man of strong spirit but weak will with one of a man of weak spirit but strong will (trying to get two balanced men).

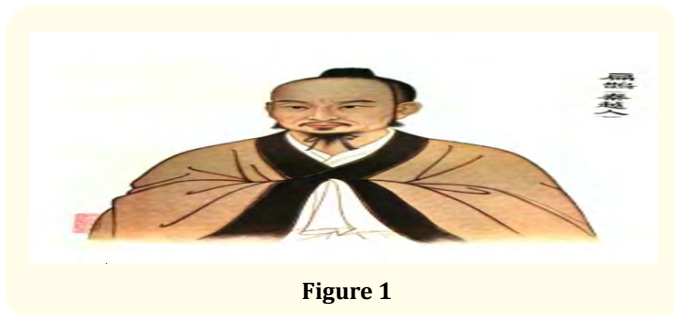


Figure 1

Another mad idea is to exchange organs between two men. But with using black leg to white man (which raise the question why from deceased Ethiopian man? Why not from white man?). This done by saints Damian and Cosmas in the third century.

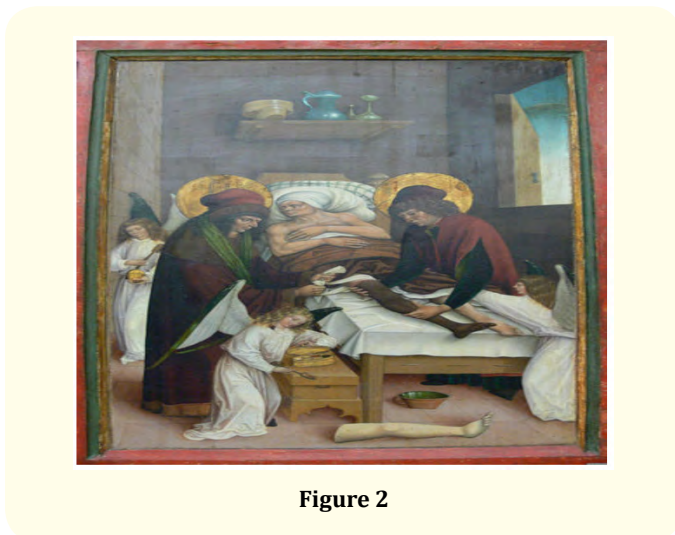


Figure 2

The Indian surgeon Sushruta in the second century BC, was responsible about the first reasonable trial. He used autografted skin transplantation in nose reconstruction rhinoplasty.



Figure 3

Then trials continued until 1905 in Austria, when a keratoplastic operation, performed by Eduard Zirm. This was the first successful human corneal transplant.



Figure 4

Sometimes you feel that you are very close to the right idea. But still there is something missing. That was found by Peter Medawar who think about the idea of rejection, who complete the frame of liver transplantation in late 1940s. in 1951 Medawar suggested the immunosuppressive drugs, to overcome the host immunity.

One message, I want to tell. God creates us, and gifted us with brain, which the cause of superiority over other creatures. So our mission in life is to think and think and think and

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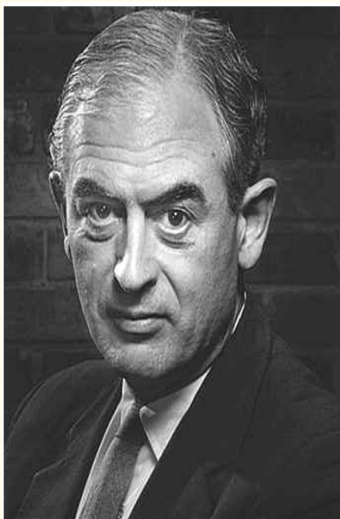


Figure 5

Brain storming trails continued via centuries until 1967. The First successful liver transplant by Thomas Starzl (Denver, U.S.A.)



Figure 6