

Tribute to Dr. Tenckhoff (1930-2017)



Born in 1930 in Bergisch Gladbach, Germany. He received his medical degree in 1955 from the University of Koln Medical School in Koln, Germany



1964

Standing on the shoulders of giants



University of Washington

Dr. Belding H. Scribner (shunt)

Dr. Fred Boen (peritoneal dialysis cyclor)

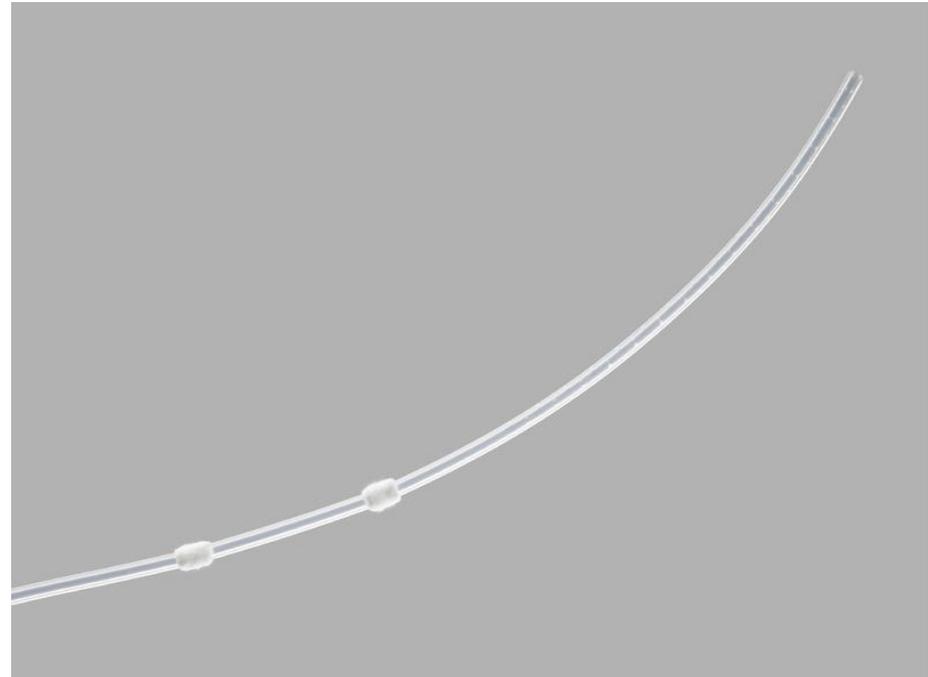
Dr. Russell Palmer (Vancouver)

Mr. Wayne Quinton (Palmer-Quinton catheter)

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He shortened the catheter and suggested two designs, straight and curled. In addition, he added Dacron felt cuffs to help seal the openings through the skin and abdominal fascia. He also developed an insertion tool, which is called a trocar, that was designed to provide easy placement of the catheter. Tenckhoff now had the complete system for doing chronic intermittent peritoneal dialysis.



Tenckhoff HA, Schechter HA.
Bacteriologically safe peritoneal
access device. *Trans Am Soc Artif
Intern Organs*.1973; **19**: 363–370.

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For each dialysis we had to put a new tube in the abdomen, which was kind of cumbersome,” Tenckhoff said in an interview in 2009.

“We had only three research beds and we couldn’t get any more; so, we had to take the patients home and put a catheter into their abdomen at home.

At the end of dialysis, initially I pulled the catheter out, and then we taught the patients to pull the catheter out and dress their wounds.”

Other contributions

- Development of the prototype automated home peritoneal dialysis delivery system using a large stainless steel tank in 1969.
- This was followed in 1972 by the first automatic peritoneal dialysis system using reverse osmosis to sterilize the dialysate, providing a simple relatively continuous low cost supply of sterile pyrogen-free dialysate from tap water and sterile concentrate for the dialysis center and for the homes of patients.

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On behalf of the ISPD we remember and honour the life and contributions of Dr. Henry Tenckhoff