

S.D. Man Dies After Donating Part Of Liver

BY IVAN MORENO
Associated Press Writer

DENVER — A Colorado hospital said Friday that it has temporarily suspended live donor liver transplants while it investigates the death of a South Dakota man who donated part of his liver to his brother.

The death would be Colorado's first of a live liver donor and the fourth in the country if it's ruled it was a result of the procedure, according to the United Network of Organ Sharing.

The University of Colorado Hospital, which performed its first successful live donor liver transplant in 1997, is continuing other transplants but is "taking a step back" from live donor liver transplants following the death of 34-year-old Ryan Arnold of Watertown, S.D., a hospital spokeswoman said Friday.

"If there's something that needs to be corrected, we will correct it," spokeswoman Erika Match said. The hospital has conducted 141 successful live donor liver transplants.

Ryan Arnold died Aug. 2, four days after the surgery in which he gave part of his liver to his brother Chad, 38, who lives in suburban Denver. Chad Arnold was home briefly but was readmitted to a Denver-area hospital to continue his recovery from a liver disease.

"I think overall his attitude is to make his life count," said Rod Arnold, 42, referring to how his brother Chad is holding up.

UNOS spokesman Joel Newman said the living donor liver transplants are relatively rare in the U.S., where the procedure has been conducted 4,126 times since 1989.

In addition to an internal investigation, the hospital has also requested that physicians who are members of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons review the case, Match said.

"Everybody at the hospital is very distraught, anybody who had anything to do with this wonderful family," she said.

Ryan Arnold went into cardiac arrest Aug. 1 and then fell into a coma, Rod Arnold said. The coroner hasn't determined a cause of death, he said.

"He was a man of uncommon character and someone I looked up to," Rod Arnold said. "What he did for Chad was really just an extension of how he lived his life."

Rod Arnold said his brother "never really wavered" in his decision to give part of his liver to help his brother battle an incurable liver disease known as PSC.

"From the beginning he just said, 'I gotta do this,'" Rod Arnold said.

Shortly before the procedure, Ryan Arnold told KDVR-TV he wanted to give his brother the chance to live a long life.

"I'm healthy and I know I'll stay healthy," Ryan Arnold told the television station. "I'll recover and I want to see him do the things he wants to do, and spend time with his family, and I want to have him around for a long time."

Rod Arnold said that shortly after the procedure, Ryan went to Chad's hospital room and told him, "I love you bro, you're worth it. I believe in you."

Ryan Arnold is survived by his wife, Shannon, and three sons, ages 1, 4, and 6.

Ryan Arnold was an orthodontist in Watertown and was planning to take over his father's practice there. He loved "pretty much anything outdoors" and spent nearly every moment with his children, going to the lake on a boat and tubing, Rod Arnold said. He enjoyed hunting and fishing and was committed to his church.

"Our desire, if possible, is that what comes out of this is an awareness of the kind of man Ryan was," Rod Arnold said.

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Dr. Kudera will provide care for a multitude of musculoskeletal conditions including joint replacement of the knee, hip, and shoulder, treatment of athletic injuries, adult and pediatric fracture care, rotator cuff repair, and treatment of carpal tunnel syndrome.

Please join with us in welcoming Dr. Kudera, his wife, Jennifer, and their son, Jackson, to Yankton.

Dr. Kudera will begin seeing patients at Yankton Medical Clinic, P.C. August 23, 2010. Appointments can be made by calling 605-665-1722.



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HOUSE

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we need is layoffs across the country."

On her support of the Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Herseth Sandlin said the state legislature used stimulus money to plug budget holes for the past three years.

"I want to know what cuts they would have made," Herseth Sandlin said of her opponents. "I want to know what decisions they would make."

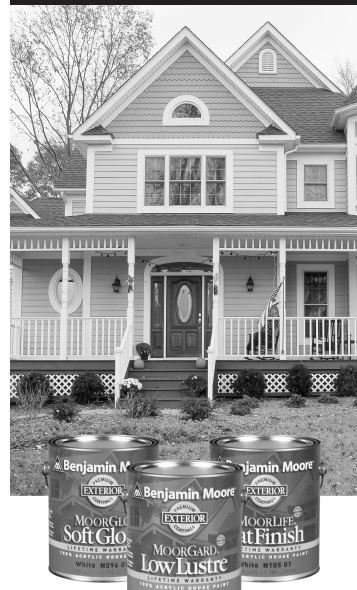
On the federal government's role in education, Noem said the best control is local control.

"Parents and school districts, school boards, school administrators make much better decisions than the federal government does," she said.

Herseth Sandlin said federal government's role is to facilitate and compliment the efforts of state and local officials.

"Every time we can make decisions closest to the children back home in our local school districts, the better off it is for our children and for their education," she said.

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