

JOHN DIQUE: DIALYSIS PIONEER AND POLITICAL ADVOCATE



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John Charles Allan DIQUE

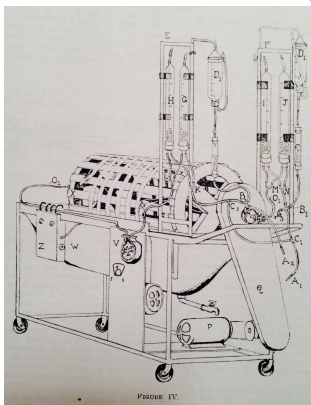
- 1915: born Mandalay, Burma
- *Father*: Indian Army surgeon. French ancestors in India since about 1800. *Mother*: German & Indian ancestry.
- Boarding school: Philander Smith College in Naini Tal
- Athlete. Spoke English; also some Hindi, Urdu & Tamil
- 1941: graduated MB BS from University of Madras
- 1941-48: Captain, Indian Army Blood Transfusion Service
- 1948: Emigrated to Australia
- No jobs in Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne or Sydney.
- Transfusion & Resuscitation Physician at Brisbane Hospital.



J.C.A. Dique

DIALYSIS WITH A KOLFF-TYPE MACHINE

- Revolving drum of wooden slats (52 ins long, 18ins diam.) rotated by a motor in a 150L heated bath
- Blood circuit: Cellophane tube (120 ft long, 0.75 ins diameter) wrapped around drum
- 'Sterilised' by washing with sterile saline.
- Dialysing fluid: Water + NaCl + NaHCO₃ +/- KCl.
- Vascular access: Surgical cut-down in leg with glass needles.
- Set-up took 4 hours, clean up 1 hour. Blood monitoring 2nd hourly
- 2 attendants. Many blood leaks.
- First treatment on 10th Feb 1954, last in Sept 1956.
- Results: - 9 patients with acute renal failure, aged 21-47 yrs
- 3 post-partum, 2 post-surgery, 2 post-trauma, 1 malignant hypertension, 1 acute-on-chronic renal failure.
- 4 survived & 5 died (all from underlying disease).



Kolff-Type Dialysis Machine

DIQUE'S SUBSEQUENT CAREER

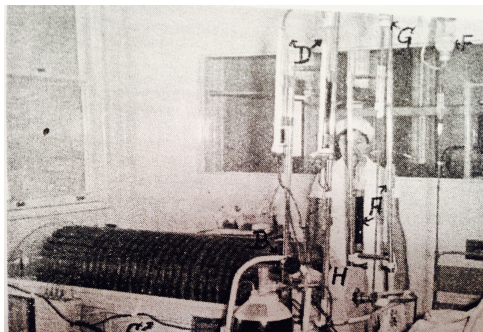
- 1956: A founding member of the College of Pathologists of Aust. (later RCPA)
- 1958: Established a private pathology practice in Brisbane
- 1958-74: Resuscitator at The Mater Hospital, Brisbane
- 1978: Retired due to ill-health
- 1958-95: Increasingly vocal in cultural & political affairs
- 1995: Died after refusing dialysis: 'It will waste money'



2nd Indian Army Blood Transfusion Centre, Poona 1947 (Dique 2nd from right in front row)

DIQUE'S RESEARCH PROJECTS

- 1951: Designed a simple blood transfusion set
- 1953: Designed a neonatal exchange transfusion set. Developed guidelines for exchange transfusion
- 1959-64: Did about 300 neonatal exchange transfusions & published results
- 1954-56: Built & used a Kolff-type dialysis machine. This was the first dialysis treatment in Australia.
- 1957-63: Built & used an Alwall-type dialysis machine.



Alwall-Type Dialysis Machine

DIALYSIS WITH AN ALLWALL-TYPE MACHINE

- Stationary translucent Perspex drum in a 150L Perspex tub
- Blood circuit: 100 ft of Cellophane tube wrapped around the drum
- Dialysing fluid circulated by an electrically-driven propeller
- Smaller, more portable, quieter, faster to set up, easier to clean & needed less supervision than the Kolff-type machine
- First treatment in Sept 1957, last in Sept 1963
- Results: - 11 patients with acute renal failure aged 19-59 yrs
- 3 post-partum, 2 post-trauma, 2 transfusion reactions, 2 drug reactions, 1 surgical removal of a single kidney, 1 chronic glomerulonephritis
- 5 survived & 6 died (all from underlying disease)

PROGRAMME SUSPENDED

- 1958: Dique retired from Royal Brisbane Hospital, distressed by the death of his 3-year old son from nephritis
- No other Queensland physician continued his dialysis programme
- 1958: Sydney Hospital bought & used a commercially-manufactured machine. The Alfred Hospital in Melbourne started soon afterwards
- 1969: Dr James Petrie started dialysis at Princess Alexandra Hospital to recommence the Queensland programme

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

INDIA

- 16th century: Europeans started trading
- 1608: British East India Company arrived
- 1857-9: Rebellion, then direct British rule
- 1947: Independence, partition into India and Pakistan. Civil war between Hindus and Muslims. Millions died.

BURMA

- 17th century: Europeans started trading
- 1885: British annexation
- World War II: Japanese occupation

AUSTRALIA

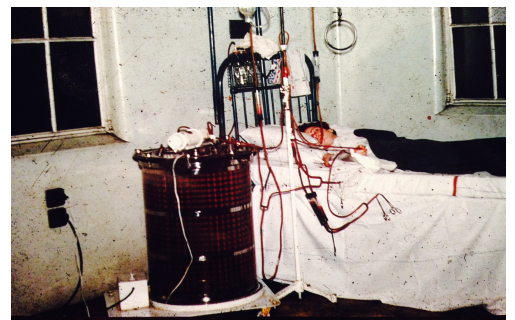
- 1885-1965: 'White Australia policy' minimised Asian immigration



Dique's Travels in Burma & India

CULTURAL & POLITICAL ADVOCACY

- His Indian experience suggested that communities with diverse racial & religious groups often end in civil strife
- He saw Marxism, socialism, multi-culturalism & untrammelled capitalism as failed political ideologies
- He favoured benign political leadership by a civilised minority over rule by ill-educated majorities
- He favoured hard work, thrift, education, large families, polite manners, & personal charity
- He opposed high taxation, promiscuity, & mass immigration
- He believed that ancestry & religion create culture, that it creates racial groups, & that disturbing racial harmony creates conflict
- His personal experience suggested that mixed-race people face particular social difficulties
- He predicted that the West's 1960-90 high immigration & multi-cultural policies would create social strife. But he favoured assisting aborigines
- He said 'I am a racist. Everybody is racist. Everybody likes the company of people of his own kind'
- He was consequently publicly vilified, ridiculed, & labelled as being among the most undesirable members of society
- If alive in 2015, he would claim that ill-advised ethnic policies have bred some of Australia's & the world's worst terrorists



Alwall-Type Dialysis Machine

- References:
1. J.H. Tyler, *History of The Brisbane Hospital* (Boonong Publications, 1993), p.318
 2. *The Times Atlas of the World* (Times Books, 1977), Plate 27
 3. "Australia India Locator". Licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikipedia - https://www.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Australia_India_Locator.svg#/media/File:Australia_India_Locator.svg
 4. J.C.A. Dique, "The Artificial Kidney in the Treatment of Severe Puerperal Infection due to Clostridium Welchii with Report of a Case", *Medical Journal of Australia* 1950; Vol. 1, p.787
 5. J.C.A. Dique, "Experiences with the Artificial Kidney", *Medical Journal of Australia* 1957; Vol. 1, p.507
- Acknowledgements:
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