With A Skin Bank & Hi-Tech Device, Will Mum Fare Bette

now take MRIs will store tissue

Doctors can New skin bank uring surgery for three years

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Mussbait Twenty-seven-yearold Ajay Mehra (name changed) recently underwent a brain operation for epilepsy. What made his surgery unique was that even as he was being operated upon, doctors sought the below an MRI machine to confirm that they were on the right path. The scan showed exactly how much needed to be worked on; an affected area-barely a few mm long-was still left behind.

Welcome to the age of hitech assisted surgeries. Even a few years ago, an MRI scan while the patient is at the OT was unheard of, in May, Kokilaben Ambani Hospital in Andher! (W) installed this new system, called the intraoperative MRI system (IMRIS). So far, the advanced technology has been used on nine patients, undergoing neurosurgery

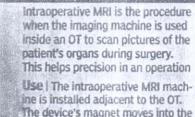
Inthis system, we have three adjucent rooms divided by automatic doors. The middie room has the MRI machine and the other rooms are used at OTs for neurosurgeries. So a hile a surgery is on, if the doctor wants to be sure that, for example, no tumour is left behind, he/she can perform the MRI on the patient and continue with the operation.

sald Dr Bhaskar Rao, neurosurgeon at Kokilaben Hospital. Dr Anandh Belasubramaniam, another neurosurgeon at the hospital, said during surgery, the brain might let out wa-

ter, which might render pre-surgery MRI scans inaccurate. Earlier, doctors would perform surperses relying only on their skills. Many a time. the patient would come back with a tumour or a fit of epilepsy and would have to go for another surgery But now, before getting over with the surgery, we can do the MRI and be sure about its success," said Rao.

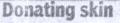
But some are not so hopeful. "An MRI only gives a picture of the brain. But the intraoperative ultra sound machines show real-time images, and that may leave IMRIS behind," said Dr Ravi Ramakant, head of radiology, KEM Hospital.

What is an Intraoperative MRI



Without disturbing the patient and scans the images of the organs Benefit | The machine helps a

surgeon to precisely locate a tumour and identify areas to be avoided. It aides in minimising the clamage to healthy tissues



A skin transplant team, in a specialised burns ambulance, will reach the home of the deceased within two hours

The skin will be harvested from thichs and back in about 45 minutes

Use | Donated skin can be used to temporarily cover a burnt area of a patient. awaiting grafting procedures. The donated skin functions as the patient's own skin for a short time, reducing pain and decreasing the risk of infection

Source |Transplant organs come from two sources; People who have died suddenly (cadaveric donors) and live donors

MIRACLES IN

MEDICINE WORLD



TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Blogs may see an unusual medium to m ket the cause of skin do: tion, but as the countr most sophisticated sk bank opens on Saturd this is exactly what its p ponents will do.

"The hi-tech skin ba can store tissues up to thr years, as compared to t current four-week period said Dr S Keswani, the pla tic surgeon, who along t Rotary Club of Mumb North, is setting up the 40-lakh facility at Nation Burns Hospital in Airoli

Given the poor score skin donation in the city present-an average eight every month Keswani feels the need get together with a soci marketing firm to pop larise the concept. "Peop need to know that there as two banks in Mumba (civic-run Sion Hospital an the Airoli hospital). W need to create awarenes through campaigns an blogs," Keswani added.

Considering that one bu ns victim needs two donat ons, the average monthly or unt will barely help four pa tients. "But Mumbal need

five donations daily and about 2,000 a year to benefit the 1,000 odd patients who need skin grafting," said the doctor

The new bank has been set up in collaboration with th

Euro Skin Bank in Beverwijk, Netherland the busiest facility in the world that export tissues across the world. The bank will hav a biosafety cabinet, sealer and walk-in fridg among other features. Skin from a cadave

will be stored in glycerol at a near-zero temperature. "The idea is to transport skin to other cities in near future." Als on the anvil, are banks in Pune and Nashik

For details, call Sion Hospital (24076381) or the Nation al Burns Centre, Airoli (27606660)