



Lennox Jack Lapsley Foundation Lennox Lapsley's Running for Healthy Hearts Half Marathon

Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO)

Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) is an advanced technology that acts as a child's heart and lungs to support a child who is recovering from surgery or disease, or during a surgical procedure. ECMO is similar to heart-lung bypass machines used during open-heart surgery. While a child is on ECMO, blood gets oxygenated, by an artificial lung, and gets delivered to the whole body, using an external mechanical pump. The machine maintains the blood flow and oxygenation to the body's vital organs while the child recovers, by allowing the heart and lungs to "rest" over several days to weeks.

How Will This Help, And How Can I Help?

The University of Michigan has a long tradition of being leaders, and the ECMO program at Michigan Medicine is no exception. Our program was established in 1980 by one of the founding fathers of ECMO in the world, Dr. Robert H. Bartlett. Our first patient was in 1981, with a total of eight patients that year. Currently we average 100+ patients per year. In November 2010, we placed our 2,000th patient on ECMO. Internationally recognized as a leader in extracorporeal life support research, the program serves as an educational resource to other health care centers.

Your participation in this year's Running for Healthy Hearts Half Marathon will direct important funding to the ECMO research project, to further the reach of patient and family-first care, and make the ECMO technology more successful and more available to children and adults, globally.

First Successful ECMO Baby



Thank you!
The Lennox Jack Lapsley Foundation