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*The details of Dorrie's life and death were obtained from 138 pages of medical records acquired via the Michigan Freedom of Information Act from Wayne State University.*

## **The Life of Dorrie**

Dorrie was a medium-sized, black-and-brown, Shepherd-mixed-breed dog. In August 2010, Michigan's Mecosta County Animal Control released her to Cheri-Hill Kennel & Supply in Stanwood, Mich., which then sold her one month later to R&R Research in Howard City, Mich. (pp. 131, 135, 137). Both Cheri-Hill and R&R are classified as Class B "random source" animal dealers by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Four months after arriving at R&R, Wayne State University purchased Dorrie to use in experiments conducted by Donal O'Leary, Ph.D., at which time she was assigned ID #D9000 and named Dorrie (sometimes referred to as Dory).

At Wayne State, Dorrie underwent general anesthesia twice for a total of three surgical procedures in order to artificially induce her to have high blood pressure (pp. 38, 46, 119, 125). Before the surgeries she was trained to run on a treadmill, and after the surgeries she was forced to run on the treadmill while in a state of hypertension (p. 46). Sometimes she would either jump off the treadmill (p. 36), pull against the experimenters who forced her to run on the treadmill (pp. 35-37), fall off the back of the treadmill (pp. 34, 38), and even vomit while being forced to run on the treadmill (pp. 43, 60).

Prior to her first surgery Dorrie had a healthy appetite and would eat all of the food she was fed (pp. 1-7). However, after her second surgery she frequently had a decreased to poor appetite (pp. 16, 25, 26, 34, 36, 38, 39, 42-44, 46-58), and some days she lost her appetite completely and refused to eat at all (pp. 20, 22, 52). She developed diarrhea (pp. 16, 20, 21) and had several episodes of fever (pp. 20, 21, 31, 51, 61). Loss of appetite, diarrhea, and fever can be signs of infection and/or pain and distress in dogs. In fact, Dorrie was exhibiting signs of being in pain on March 6 when she tried to bite the lab technician during her wound care as the technician noted in her medical records: "incision-area sensitive" (p. 18). However, according to her medical records, Dorrie did not receive any pain medication after March 6—the day she showed signs of being in pain—despite orders for medication to be provided through March 8 (pp. 17 and 18).

Dorrie also experienced postoperative complications of persistent soft tissue swelling (pp. 10-13, 15, 20), excessive fluid drainage from her surgical wounds (pp. 12, 13, 15-20), and discolored fluid drainage from one of her surgical sites (p. 55). Swelling, drainage, and discolored fluid drainage are often associated with pain and infection following surgical procedures. In the end, this once "very playful" (p.10) dog was

reduced to a lethargic, febrile, shivering, and vomiting dog (p. 61), at which point the experimenters at Wayne State University killed her.

### **Timeline**

- 1/20/11: One day after her arrival at Wayne State, Dorrie is trained to run on a treadmill.
- 2/3/11: Dorrie is described as “ready to play” (p. 3).
- 2/9/11: Dorrie’s first surgery has to be rescheduled due to the sudden death of another dog (Jessie, #D9001) used in the same experiment (p. 5).
- 2/14/11: Dorrie undergoes general anesthesia for her first invasive surgery, a left thoracotomy (p. 119). This surgery involved splitting her ribs apart and implanting devices into her aorta (the biggest artery in her body) and another artery that supplies blood to the heart itself. Then a “stab incision” was made by stabbing a scalpel into her heart’s largest chamber so as to insert another device directly inside her left ventricle in order to monitor blood pressure inside her heart. All of these devices have cables that have to exit her body so they can be attached to a computer. The cables were tunneled through her body tissues from her heart and its blood vessels all the way up to the space between her shoulder blades on her back. Dorrie’s medical records indicate that this exit site, a surgical wound where all of the cables leave her body, could never heal closed. According to daily entries in her medical records, this site required daily wound care and bandage changes and drained excessive amounts of fluid (pp. 12, 13, 15-20). Months after this surgery, the exit site was still draining fluid (p. 51).
- 2/16/11: Dorrie develops her first of several bouts of diarrhea (p. 9). Wayne State staff record soft tissue swelling at the surgical implant site (p. 10).
- 2/19/11: Dorrie is described as “very playful” (p. 10).
- 2/24/11: A “large amount” of drainage is recorded coming from the exit site (p. 12).
- 2/28/11: A “copious amount” of drainage is noted draining from the exit site, and her temperature is rising, all possible indications of infection and/or pain (p. 13).
- 3/2/11: Dorrie undergoes her second round of general anesthesia for two more surgical procedures, one in her abdominal region and the other in her neck (p. 125). During these surgeries eight devices were surgically implanted inside her body. For the procedure involving her abdominal region the experimenters cut through her flank and placed adjustable pinching clamps around the large blood vessels that take blood toward her leg muscles and her right kidney. Another device was placed downstream to the clamps to monitor the rate of blood flowing to these vessels as the clamps are tightened over the following months by the experimenters. For the procedure in her neck the experimenters implanted a catheter inside her jugular vein, a major blood vessel that takes blood from her head back toward her heart. Just as in the first surgery, the cables and catheters attached to the devices implanted in this surgery were tunneled through the tissues over

her back to exit out a hole in the skin between her shoulder blades. This point of exit is referred to as an “exit site” by the experimenters and it drained excessive amounts of fluid for days after the surgery (pp. 15-20).

- 3/4/11: For the first time since arriving at Wayne State, Dorrie’s appetite is decreased and she has diarrhea for the second time (p. 16). A lack of appetite and diarrhea can be signs of stress and/or pain in dogs. The drainage from her exit sites is described as “heavy” and the area around her abdominal incision is red and draining fluid (p. 16). Hours later, copious amounts of fluid are recorded draining from the exit sites.
- 3/5/11: Her decreased appetite, soft stool, and fluid drainage continue (p. 17).
- 3/6/11: Dorrie exhibits signs of pain when she tries to bite Wayne State staff while they are treating her abdominal incision (p. 18), and the staff describes the area as “sensitive.”
- 3/7/11: No pain medication administered today (p. 18), despite orders for it to be given (p. 17).
- 3/8/11: Second day in a row of no pain medication (p. 18), despite orders for it to be given (p. 17).
- 3/10/11: Heavy drainage continues from exit sites (p. 19).
- 3/11/11: “Large” soft tissue swelling is observed at site of neck surgery (p. 20).
- 3/12/11: “Heavy” drainage continues from exit site, and her temperature begins to rise (p. 20).
- 3/13/11: Dorrie has no appetite, spikes a fever of 106.7 degrees Fahrenheit, vomits several times, and is described as “not like herself today” (pp. 20 and 21). Despite these problems it appears she was used in an experiment, developed diarrhea, and was diagnosed with an intestinal parasite (pp. 20 and 21).
- 3/15/11: She has no appetite today (p. 22).
- 3/23/11: Dorrie is “visibly uncomfortable” during manipulation of one of her catheters (p. 24).
- 3/29/11: Dorrie’s appetite is poor and she vomits (p. 26).
- 4/18/11: Dorrie spikes another fever of 104.6 degrees Fahrenheit and vomits (p. 31).
- 4/19/11: Dorrie continues to vomit (p. 31).
- 4/26/11: She is “not moving much” (p. 34).
- 4/27/11: Despite being “a bit subdued” today and only eating one of the six cups of food she was fed the night before, Dorrie is forced to run an experiment on the treadmill during which she falls off the treadmill (p. 34).
- 4/28-30/11: Dorrie’s appetite is decreased for three days in a row (p. 34).

- 5/2/11: During an experiment during which Dorrie is forced to run on the treadmill at a 10 percent incline she “pulled most of the time” (p. 35).
- 5/4/11: Dorrie only eats one of the six cups of food she was fed and vomits again. Despite these signs of illness she is forced to run on the treadmill at a 10 percent incline. During the experiment she jumps off the treadmill and “pulled quite a bit” (p. 36).
- 5/5/11: Her appetite continues to be poor. She is forced to run on the treadmill at a 15 percent incline during which she jumps off the treadmill, breaking the head off the cable connected to the device implanted in the artery supplying blood to her heart (p. 36).
- 5/9/11: Dorrie is forced to run on the treadmill during which she “pulled a lot today” (p. 37).
- 5/11/11: During an attempted experiment, Dorrie “fell off the back of the treadmill” (p. 38).
- 5/13/11: Experimenters begin reducing the amount of blood flowing to her right kidney “to induce hypertension” (p. 38).
- 5/14/11: Dorrie only eats three of the six cups of food she was fed and vomits. The experimenters reduce the blood flowing to her right kidney down to 20-25 ml/min (p. 39).
- 5/21/11: Experimenters reduce the blood flowing to her right kidney down to 5-10 ml/min (p. 40).
- 5/31/11: Dorrie vomits during an experiment on the treadmill (p. 43).
- 6/1/11: Dorrie continues to vomit (p. 43).
- 6/3/11: Dorrie only eats one-half cup of the six cups of food she was fed (p. 44).
- 6/9/11: Dorrie is subjected to two experiments on the treadmill during which it is determined she is hypertensive (p. 46).
- 6/28/11: The rate of blood flowing to her right kidney is reduced to 0-4 ml/min (p. 50).
- 6/29/11: Fluid is noted draining from an exit site again and the next day she spikes a fever again (p. 51).
- 7/12/11: The rate of blood flowing to her right kidney is decreased to 0 ml/min (p. 54).
- 7/16/11: During wound care of her exit sites, a “brownish fluid discharge” is noted (p. 55).
- 8/8/11: Dorrie vomits while being forced to run on the treadmill (p. 60). By 4 p.m., she has vomited several times and is “drinking copious amounts of water, lethargic, shivering” (p. 61). She has a fever of 104.3 degrees Fahrenheit. She “may be done with study” (p. 61).
- 8/12/11: Dorrie is euthanized (p. 62).