

# Hilarious PCR/CPR Mix-Up Leads to Failed Amplification, Patient's Death



(Stanford, CA) In one of the zaniest bio-medical bloopers ever reported, physician-scientist Dr. Winston Beardsley mistakenly administered cardiopulmonary resuscitation to a rack of 0.5 ml Eppendorf tubes, resulting in a side-splitting failure to obtain DNA product. “My bad!” admitted the easy-going Beardsley, “I mean, all these acronyms are just so easy to mix up, am I right?” In a related incident, Charles Dobson, aged 79, succumbed to complications associated with myocardial

infarction. Despite the unfortunate necessity of now having to repeat the thermocycler experiment, Beardsley is said to be taking the silly switcheroo in stride. “I think it’s important to maintain a certain degree of levity in these circumstances,” said Beardsley. “Research often fails to give us the results we might hope for the first time. That’s why they call it RE-search, right?” quipped the M.D. Ph.D. Beardsley, who runs a high-powered lab while simultaneously caring for the critically ill, admits to being “spread thinner than a deadly biofilm on one of his surgical instruments” – something Beardsley has had direct experience with. Still Beardsley emphasized the importance of finding humor in every situation. “I mean, if you could have just seen those tubes after getting zapped by the defibrillator... hysterical doesn’t even begin to describe it!” said Beardsley suppressing a good-natured chuckle. “Also, the look on poor Dobson’s face when we were trying to hot-start him on top of the thermocycler... absolutely priceless!” he added. This latest madcap lab blunder is considered to be nearly as funny as the time that Beardsley’s group attempted to carry out hair removal on a slab of 0.8% agarose, only to find out later that Beardsley’s hirsute patient had been accidentally subjected to debilitating 120-volt shocks for two hours on an electrophoresis rig. “This one’s definitely a close second to the electrolysis/electrophoresis debacle on the ol’ wacky-meter,” mused the lighthearted biomedical scientist, finally letting loose with a highly contagious belly laugh. “I mean, heck, if you can’t find humor in your own mistakes then you’re taking yourself way too seriously.”