

LOCAL/STATE

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Sibling surgeons form replantation team

WHAT TO DO

To save a body part amputated by traumatic injury:

- Wrap in sterile gauze.
- Seal in sterile, leak-proof bag.
- Transport the bag in ice chest.

Some don'ts:

- Never clamp bleeding limb.
- Don't place amputated part directly on ice or in a solution.
- Don't use an antiseptic on the part.

For more information, call (800) 622-5576 or (800) 543-3247.

■ Knight brothers partnership will reattach severed limbs.

By **BILL BOWEN**
The Times

Organ transplant programs are a high-profile, gee-whiz, heroic form of medicine that draws public attention with its life-saving, human drama.



**HEALTH
INDUSTRY**

But few people may be familiar with *replantation*, the surgical reattachment of body parts amputated through industrial or automobile accidents.

Brothers and doctors John T. and Daniel R. Knight will join forces in

Shreveport next week to head a team to do what all the king's horses and all the king's men could not: put Humpty-Dumpty back together again.

"Anything that is amputated with a sharp clean amputation, we can put back on," said Dr. Dan Knight, a plastic surgeon practicing at Highland Clinic.

The brother surgeons, sons of Shreveport surgeon Dr. Charles Knight Sr., will set up the area's first regional replantation center in conjunction with Schumpert Medical Center.

The medical duo will formally establish their partnership next week when John Knight returns from a fellowship in microvascular surgery in California.

Several replantation surgeries have been performed in Shreveport in recent years. But their success has largely been a

matter of luck: only when the accident victim was able to get the body part to the correct surgeon in time. The closest formal replantation programs are in Dallas, Houston, Little Rock, Ark., and Jackson, Miss.

By setting up a formal program at Schumpert, including a ready-team of surgical assistants, the surgeons hope that employers, emergency medical personnel and friends of traumatic amputation-injury victims will know where to take them when such an accident occurs.

Most replantations involve fingers. But hands, arms and even legs can be reattached under certain circumstances, John Knight said.

The brothers private practice will be called Louisiana Hand and Microvascular Surgery Associates and not be associated with any hospital, Dan Knight said.