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## Food Services - The Other Professionals

# Dietary Department Uses Variety of Skills

By Ina Fried

Roscoe Graham came to Duke in 1940 to work a couple of months during the off-season at the tobacco factory. He's been here ever since. Roscoe is one of the 208 employees of the Dietary Department in the hospital.

Staff, visitors and patients see the final product of the department — the food — but they probably don't realize how many different kinds of skills are involved in producing that food.

A patient's meal begins with Communications Control, where information is received from the Medi-Data computer system, giving the physician's orders for each patient.

### First Hospital Meal

A diet assistant uses that information to plan the patient's first hospital meal, explained Parker Lee McDonald, a diet assistant for about five years.

A dietitian then develops a pattern card based on the doctor's orders and the patient's preferences. The diet assistant follows this pattern in planning specific menus for the patient.

Parker Lee, known as "Gramps" by staff and patients alike, has worked in most areas of food services since she came to Duke in 1941. She took an inservice education course to train as a diet assistant and is currently enrolled in a course on nutrition.



**QUICK WORK**—Lugenia Jenkins, supervisor in Tray Unit 2, quickly straightens dishes and inspects patient trays as they move by her on the assembly line. If everything is in order, the

trays go on the truck for delivery to patients. If not, the tray is put on the counter by the coffee machine to be completed. (Photo by Sally Herndon)

"I'm not a great cook," she said, "but I enjoy fixing food for other people."

### Over 1 Million Served

Based on patient orders and predictions of cafeteria demand, food is ordered five days a week. The average housewife planning three meals a day for her family might be overwhelmed by the department's

quantities. In a year about 682,000 patient meals are served, and 1,648,000 persons go through the cafeteria and Ambulatory Dining Room (ADR).

Hamburgers are among the most popular food items, with 34,000 pounds of hamburger meat, 26,000 dozen hamburger buns, and 48,000 pounds of French fries used each year. Eggs — about 64,000 dozen of them — are another major food item.

From the dietary storeroom, food goes to the kitchen for preparation.

Minnie Petty arrives at work at 5 a.m. to bake cakes, cookies, salt-free

bread and dinner rolls for the day. When she started work in food services 27 years ago, she did relief work in many different areas of the department. She's been baking for about 16 years and says coconut and pineapple cakes are her favorites.

Others in the kitchen prepare meats, salads, vegetables, and sandwiches. The prepared food then goes either to the cafeteria and ADR serving lines or to the tray assembly area for patients.

### Quick and Accurate

In the tray assembly area each tray (Continued on page 2)



**HEART PATIENT**—One of the Rhesus monkeys taking part in the coronary artery vein graft research project under way at the medical center poses for the photographer. The operation he will undergo will be similar to the one done in humans.

## Artery Grafts in Monkeys Help Doctors Help Humans

By Charles Young

In some instances, the monkey rather than the dog may be man's best friend.

Witness the circumstances surrounding a research project here, in which doctors are trying to find solutions to problems of people suffering from coronary artery disease.

Over the past three years dogs have served as the principal experimental animals in the study, undergoing open heart surgery and a multitude of related tests in an effort to provide information that doctors could apply to humans.

Now the doctors are turning to monkeys, because their arteries and veins more closely resemble those of man.

Supported by a four-year, \$366,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health, the project will involve combined research in

biochemistry, pathology and surgery.

"With monkeys we're getting about as close (to humans) as it's possible to get in an animal preparation," says Dr. Per-Otto Hagen, associate professor in the Department of Surgery and chief investigator in the research project.

Coronary artery bypass — a surgical procedure in which a segment of vein is grafted as a substitute conductor of blood around a narrowed portion of the coronary artery — is the focal point of the study.

In such a malfunction, the natural blood flow is inhibited, and the result is intense pain in the heart region. The narrowing of the coronary artery is caused by an accumulation of fatty material on the interior wall.

Part of the study is designed to determine whether this buildup can be identified as a characteristic (Continued on page 4)