

# Doctors say Mandia didn't suffer stroke

HERSHEY, Pa. (AP) — The recipient of the first Penn State heart suffered slowness of speech for 30 minutes Sunday, but doctors said the problem was not caused by a stroke like those that have plagued other artificial heart patients.

Anthony Mandia, who received the pump Friday, underwent some sort of "neurologic event," but did not suffer the brain damage and lack of physical mobility a stroke would cause, said Dr. John W. Burnside, a Hershey Medical Center spokesman.

Mandia's speech turned "slow and

thick" for about 30 minutes, but returned to normal over the following 30 minutes, Burnside said.

"We're still uncertain what this event was," he said.

The episode could have been caused by an old gunshot wound to the head or from fluctuating blood levels of an anti-seizure drug Mandia has been receiving, Burnside said. He had no details about the shooting that the 44-year-old Mandia suffered as a teen-ager.

The problem also could have been caused by a blood clot, which is a recognized

danger to heart implant patients, but Burnside said that was unlikely because there was no other evidence of a clot.

Mandia's slow speech occurred at about 7 a.m. and was immediately noticed, said Rosann Bezilla, one of the nurses attending him.

Mandia was "just taking it as one of those things" and said he's going to "keep fighting," she said.

Burnside said Mandia's condition was generally good but he was having some problem taking deep breaths or coughing for doctors.

## Federal workers take 'extravagant' trips, study finds

WASHINGTON (AP) — A congressional investigation uncovered "numerous examples of extravagant" trips on luxury liners by federal employees traveling at taxpayer expense to and from overseas assignments, a House committee chair says.

Rep. Jack Brooks, D-Texas, head of the Government Operations Committee, said trips on ocean liners at prices several times the cost of equivalent airplane trips were turned up by a study begun last year by the General Accounting Office, the investigative wing of Congress.

The chairman made the statements in a written announcement that his committee has called State Department and U.S. Information Agency officials to explain at a hearing Wednesday why their employees "travel in the lap of luxury on cruise ships rather than on coach-fare airlines."

Brooks also said officials would be asked to discuss a GAO finding that the two agencies "have been very lax in accounting for millions of dollars in travel advances provided their employees."

Copies of the GAO report have not been made public by the committee, but a source familiar with the document cited two examples, found by the GAO of ocean liner travel by State Department personnel.

In one case, an official and his family, returning to Buenos Aires, Argentina, from home leave in Los Angeles, flew to Cartagena, Colombia, and then took a 25-day cruise to Buenos Aires, according to the source.

The source, who spoke on condition he not be identified, quoted the GAO as saying the voyage cost \$18,156, compared to \$3,360 had the trip been made by air.

In the other case, an employee and his six dependents flew from New Delhi, India, for home leave in Spokane, Wash., and began the return trip by flying to New York. There they boarded the Queen Elizabeth II for a five-day crossing to England, where they took a flight back to India.

The cost of the ocean liner passage was \$18,407, nearly four times the \$4,732 for airfare from New York to England, the GAO reportedly found.

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