

# Extracorporeal Circulation System

*DeWall Oxygenator (1955)*

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*I received the e-mail and photo below from friend Paulo Prates. I appreciate the thought and the relevance of the equipment for the development of cardiovascular surgery, and I share with readers.*

**Domingo Braile**  
**Editor-in-Chief**  
**BJCVS**



At the Congress of the American Association for Thoracic Surgery (AATS), I came across this machine so important to us. According to the receptionist who was on the Mayo Clinic's stand, it was found in the shed of Dr. Lillehei after his death. Restored, it is now part of the Mayo Clinic museum. I do not think many felt the same thrill that I felt, touching the machine developed by DeWall, under the command of W.

Lillehei. With this device, Lillehei performed about 80 surgeries in the years 1955 and 1956. The first feeling was of excitement and, the second, was reminded of Dr. Braile.

My warmest regards,

**Paulo Prates**