
Ambulance. She's been shot.
The drive—
Let him have it.
Lin Wen. She stopped the trial. She writes to Ruth too.


His name is Brandt. He works for Elias Voss.
Mr. Voss says he employs many people.
One of them just shot a woman.
RUTH'S BUNDLE. POSTMARKED HANGZHOU.
HANGZHOU
Yours?
Some of it.
Sato survived surgery. They don't know how much use of her arm she'll get back.
She was helping me.


He can't fly commercial like this. And I'm only here because Voss pays the clinic.
Your man shot her.
Brandt acted alone. He's no longer employed.
Then you won't mind me giving the police his home address.
The plane leaves at six.
If I was riding with the devil, I was keeping receipts.


There are seats.
He likes the floor.
Brandt was supposed to retrieve property.
She was holding it.
I offered to buy exclusive rights. Four times. They refused.
So you sent the man who wrecked my shoulder.
I know what it feels like to be dying while someone else owns the answer.


And your solution was to become that someone?
I'm paid by you, Mr. Voss. I'm not yours.
Noted.
His care continues. No matter what you do next.
Of course. I'm not a monster.
You keep telling people that.

DR. LIN WEN / Trial researcher



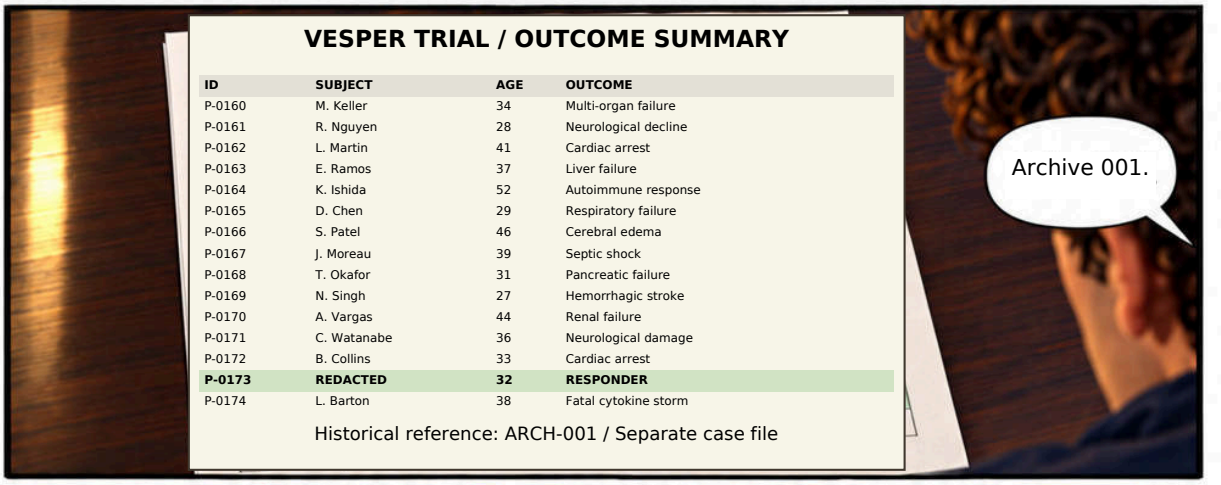

Who are you really?
I'm the result they stopped talking about.
TRIAL
P-0173
This matches Dr. Sato's evidence. She was shot two days ago.
I was there.
SATO, E.
P-0173
No more government story. Tell the researchers what happened.
Gladly.

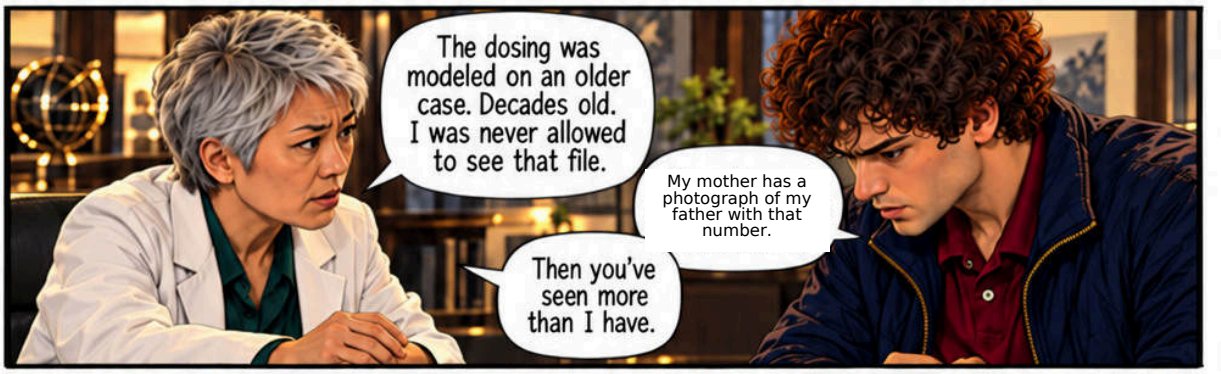


VESPER TRIAL / OUTCOME SUMMARY

ID	SUBJECT	AGE	OUTCOME
P-0160	M. Keller	34	Multi-organ failure
P-0161	R. Nguyen	28	Neurological decline
P-0162	L. Martin	41	Cardiac arrest
P-0163	E. Ramos	37	Liver failure
P-0164	K. Ishida	52	Autoimmune response
P-0165	D. Chen	29	Respiratory failure
P-0166	S. Patel	46	Cerebral edema
P-0167	J. Moreau	39	Septic shock
P-0168	T. Okafor	31	Pancreatic failure
P-0169	N. Singh	27	Hemorrhagic stroke
P-0170	A. Vargas	44	Renal failure
P-0171	C. Watanabe	36	Neurological damage
P-0172	B. Collins	33	Cardiac arrest
P-0173	**REDACTED**	**32**	**RESPONDER**
P-0174	L. Barton	38	Fatal cytokine storm

Historical reference: ARCH-001 / Separate case file



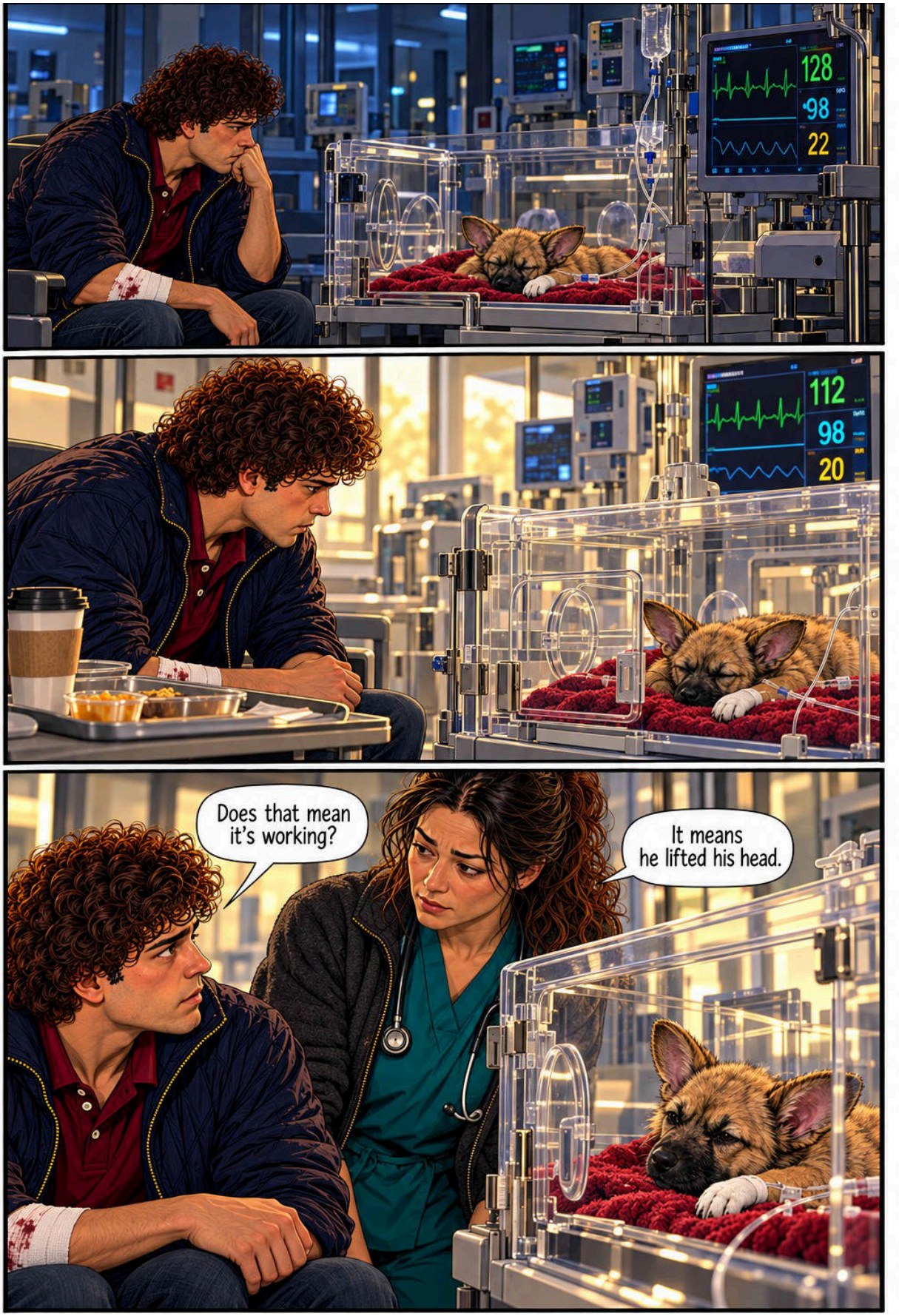





I stopped the trial because they buried the deaths. Not because it never works.
We've revised the treatment for dogs. It may still fail him.
We need your complete records. They may help assess risk. They don't establish safety for a dog.
I preserved your file. We could not trace you after the clinic closed. Authorize sharing it with the team.
And the investigators.
P-0173
COMPLETE TRIAL RECORDS
SEALED
My company financed that trial. You could destroy something very valuable.


So could doing nothing.
Then pay for his care yourself. And your flight home. The jet leaves tonight.
研究所
动物医院
INSTITUTE
VETERINARY WARD
The institute will treat him. Someone has to cover it.
Turns out I can finish one project.
GAME DEVELOPMENT FUND
TRANSFER CONFIRMED


The veterinary review has authorized experimental care.
Do you think it will work?
We have a reason to try. We don't have a promise.
112
98
20
I'm here.


128
98
22
112
98
20
Does that mean it's working?
It means he lifted his head.


SEVERAL DAYS LATER.
HANGZHOU INSTITUTE OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES
I gave the police Brandt's name.
Good.
You stayed.
The investigators want another interview.
KESTREL RIDGE LABS




You look better too.
He does that. No idea how.
FOLLOW-UP APPOINTMENT


I settled the bill. Your game money will be refunded. Now you owe me.


He paid for treatment. That's all he bought.
END.

A note to the reader

Vesper syndrome, VSP-9, the revised treatment, Kestrel Ridge Labs, and the institutions and events depicted in this comic are fictional.

Human and canine responses in this story are invented; they are not evidence about any real medicine or veterinary treatment.

For mature readers. Contains violence, injury, medical peril and strong language.

Story developed for Church of Peptides. Artwork created with AI assistance.

Patient One's personal accounts are fictional adventures, separate from the website's documented medication journeys.