

Branch News – June, 2007.

Executive Musings

Following the acceptance of the change in governance at the AGM this year we are starting to see the new model being implemented. Paul Guy has been elected interim Chair of the ANZSRS Board. Paul will be working with Kevin to update members on the issue of Society governance and this will be placed in the Member's only area as it becomes available. Paul has stepped down as Chair of the Governance committee and has been replaced by Brigitte Borg.

A summary of registration both in Australia and New Zealand is also in the Member's only area and the Executive would encourage all members to make sure they are familiar with this information.

APSR is rapidly closing in on us with abstracts due by June 18 and applications for ANZSRS travel grants closing on June 25. This conference is an excellent opportunity for members to be exposed to respiratory science at an international conference and as it is applied in the Asia Pacific region. We would encourage all members to consider attending.

As you are all aware, the CRFS working party has been reviewing the content of the CRFS study guide, exam questions and other issues relating to the ANZSRS CRFS qualification. Following this review there have been a number of suggested changes to the range of topic included in the study guide. These changes have been endorsed by the Board. On behalf of the Board and the Executive I would like to thank the co-chairs of the working party, Stephen West and Peter Rochford as well as the other members of the group, Andrew Coates, Maureen Verheggen, Jeff Pretto and Bruce Graham. The revised study guide will be posted on the web-site when it is available.

Graham, Rob and Derek

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New South Wales

Greetings from NSW, we are into the first week of winter and it has only just started to cool down! (Of course, it never cools down in the NSW labs!!!!).

The branch meeting was held at POW Hospital and another good show of support from members with 15 attending. The meeting was a good forum for discussion on the ATS/ERS paper on TL,CO with most labs reporting they are now incorporating the 2 minute wait between tests as presented by Lauren Wallace of New Zealand.

There was also a lot of discussion concerning the reference values for TL,CO and how to choose the right ones for the population being served. The same issues seemed to surface with differing raw values obtained for biological controls using different pieces of equipment but the same reference values. Some of these differences amounting to over 10% change in transfer function!

It was great to be able to tap into how other labs deal with these different situations and learn some more trouble shooting skills from those who have had much experience. The food was great as well! Thanks to Mayo for providing the nibbles and thanks to Sandra and team for their hospitality.

Also...

Congratulations to Sandy Anderson who has by now been inducted as a Life Governor of Asthma NSW!!!!

Debbie and Alison

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New Zealand

Nothing to report.

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Queensland

May has been a busy month for the Qld branch. We started with a very interesting and stimulating presentation given by Dr Sam Kim, a Respiratory Physician from the Wesley Private Hospital, who presented research from his PhD on chronic suppurative lung disease. Our next meeting will be held on 27th June and our guest speaker is Helen Petsky who will present her research on Nitric Oxide levels in Asthma. Helen is completing her PhD with Prof Anne Chang at the Royal Children's Hospital in Brisbane.

The QLD branch also established a CRFS study group which had its first meeting in May. We will be meeting at 11.00am on the first Saturday of the month at The Mater Children's Hospital, South Brisbane. Various areas of the CRFS syllabus will be covered at each meeting. Thanks to Mike Brown for presenting at this first meeting, Andrew Coates for providing the venue and Craig Abud from Niche Medical for providing financial support. For our next meeting on the 7th July Mike Brown will continue on the topic of instrumentation and equipment. All those members who are interested in attending the next meeting please let Pauline or Leanne know as we cater for lunch.

The Asia Pacific Society of Respiriology will hold its conference on the Gold Coast from 30th November to 4th December 2007. Qld Branch has been asked to man a stand at this meeting to encourage new membership from the Asia Pacific region. Queensland members and others, who would be interested in volunteering their help for this stand, please let us know.

Cheers

Leanne and Pauline

Leanne Rodwell and Pauline Lynn

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South Australia

Nothing received

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Western Australia

Registration Meeting

'Professional Registration for Respiratory Scientists'

Gary Nolan, in his capacity as Chair of the Professional Registration Sub-Committee, ANZSRS, was invited to present at a specially called meeting on the above topic, at the request of the local membership. A summary document on professional registration was circulated prior to the meeting. Gary gave an excellent presentation on:

- the history of professional registration
- the methodology for ANZSRS developing and pursuing professional registration
- the current status of professional registration in NZ with the CPRB (Clinical Physiologists Registration Board)
- the current situation in Australia with particular reference to:
 - a) importance of a national registration body, and
 - b) the unique position of WA's legislation with regards to referencing to a national body
- why professional registration is important
- potential industrial benefits flowing from professional registration
- how and when application for registration is envisaged to occur.

Discussion followed, with Graham Hall and Gary answering the majority of questions posed. This proved to be an excellent meeting and the WA members are now well informed on the issue and current status of professional registration in Australia and New Zealand. Gary Nolan has recommended that members keep themselves abreast of professional registration matters by referring to the ANZSRS web-site.

Kevin Hick from Niche Medical generously sponsored this meeting. We were fortunate to have Kevin demonstrate the new 'LiteAir' cardboard spacer, prior to the scheduled meeting. Clinical trials of the spacer will be undertaken towards the end of the year, with results published as soon as available. The TGA guidelines now state, that items labelled as 'single patient use' or single use only' are not to be reprocessed and this has led to all laboratories re-evaluating spacer use.

Next Clinical Presentation Meeting:

Wednesday 13th June, 2007 to be held by Dept Respiratory Medicine, Royal Perth Hospital. Dr Grant Waterer will be presenting on "Bioterrorism".

Diary Reminders

June 13: Clinical presentation, Respiratory Medicine Seminar room, RPH
"Bioterrorism" – Dr Grant Waterer.

Please note the following change to the clinical presentation meeting schedule:

Wednesday 21st November has been changed to Wednesday 28th November

Suggestions/requests for topics and/or speakers are encouraged. Please contact Chris/Sally if you wish to make a clinical meeting suggestion.

That's the news from WA.

Chris & Sally

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