

Library Corner – July 2005

Another bumper month for the journals. Also sees the introduction of a new dimension for Library Corner with the first of what I hope will be many book reviews. I urge any readers who have recently found a new text or bench book that would be useful to put a few words down sharing their impressions with the rest of us. Those studying for CRFS, those trying to keep up to date, and those with teaching commitments, ie all of us, need to know what good resources are out there but often have a hard time discovering new ones. Sharing is what being part of a Society is all about.

Thorax 60, 2005

Craniofacial profile in Asian and white subjects with obstructive sleep apnoea. B.Lam *et al* pp504-510.

Sleep • 8: Paediatric obstructive sleep apnoea. G.M Nixon and R.T. Brouillette. pp511-516.

MJA 182(12), 2005

Adult domiciliary oxygen therapy. Position statement of the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand. C.F. McDonald, A.J.Crockett and I.H.Young. pp621-626.

Chest 127, 2005

Prospective evaluation of nocturnal oximetry for detection of sleep-related breathing disturbances in patients with chronic heart failure. F. Sériès *et al*. pp1507-1514

FEV₁/FEV₆ and FEV₆ as an alternative for FEV₁/FVC and FVC in the spirometric detection of airway obstruction and retraction. J Vandevorder *et al*. pp1560-1564.

End tidal PCO₂ abnormality and exercise limitation in patients with primary pulmonary hypertension. Y Yasunobu *et al*. pp 1637-1646.

Silent upper airway resistance syndrome: prevalence in a mixed military population. DA Kristo *et al*. pp1654-1657.

Alveolar Nitric Oxide and effect of deep inspiration during methacholine challenge. C.Delclaux *et al* pp1696-1702.

Chest 127(6) June 2005

Bronchial hyperresponsiveness, airway inflammation and airflow limitation in endurance athletes. S Vergès *et al* pp1935-1941.

Long-term effects of nasal continuous positive airway pressure therapy on cardiovascular outcomes in sleep apnea syndrome. LS Doherty *et al* pp2076-2084

Treatment adherence and outcomes in flexible vs standard continuous positive airway pressure therapy. MS Aloia *et al* pp2085-2093

Comparative impact of morbid obesity vs heart failure on cardiorespiratory fitness. MJ Gallagher *et al* pp2197-2210.

Using barrier filters to protect spirometer sensors from droplet deposition. Y Zhang p2294. With reference to the paper: Is my lung function really that good? MC Townsend *et al* Chest 125: 1902-1909, 2004.

From Graham Hall came the following offerings:

Coming together: the ATS/ERS consensus on clinical pulmonary function testing. V. Brusasco, R. Crapo, and G. Viegi. Eur Respir J 2005;**26** 1-2

General considerations for lung function testing. M. R. Miller, R. Crapo, J. Hankinson, V. Brusasco, F. Burgos, R. Casaburi, A. Coates, P. Enright, C. P. M van der Grinten, P. Gustafsson, R. Jensen, D. C. Johnson, N. MacIntyre, R. McKay, D. Navajas, O. F. Pedersen, R. Pellegrino, G. Viegi, and J. Wanger. Eur Respir J 2005;**26** 153-161

Brigitte Borg offered the following web-site reference

Just doing a search on elastic recoil properties of the lung and this chapter came up.
<http://www.fleshandbones.com/readingroom/pdf/825.pdf>
(Looks like an excellent resource. KG)

and from Andrew Coates came the following offerings:

For those interested in the Rint measurement, here is a recent paper that puts forward Rint as a useful measure during bronchoprovocation testing. I had previously thought that Rint was not applicable to bronchoprovocation tests for safety reasons. It suggests that this might be useful for testing young children, but the study does not include children. Click on the title for a link to Pubmed Central for free full text...

Panagou, P., I. Kottakis, et al. (2004). "[Use of interrupter technique in assessment of bronchial responsiveness in normal subjects.](#)" BMC Pulm Med 4(1): 11.

A recent publication outlines recent research of the pathogenesis and genetics of interstitial lung disease in children. Full text is also freely available for this journal...

Hartl, D. and M. Griese (2005). "[Interstitial lung disease in children -- genetic background and associated phenotypes.](#)" *Respir Res* 6(1): 32.

The following recent article gives reference values for Indian children, that sadly include regression coefficients for socio-economic status. I have never seen this done before. The poorer the family, the lower the reference values. This may need to be an approach taken in other communities in the future, including Australia.

Raju, P. S., K. V. Prasad, et al. (2005). "[Influence of socioeconomic status on lung function and prediction equations in Indian children.](#)" *Pediatr Pulmonol* 39(6): 528-36.

Occasional Book Review.

Book Review

Title: ‘The Conference Chairperson and Conference Speaker . . . A Winning Team: A detailed guide to the duties and disciplines of conference chairpersons and speakers that will ensure the success of any conference’

Authors: Bill Smith & David Mead

Published by: WD Publications

Cost: \$19.95rrp (multiple sales discounts available) Discount for ANZSRS members.

Contact Details: WD Publications. Email: wdpublications@messagedesign.com.au

Both authors of this book have extensive conference chairing and award winning public speaking experience. Bill Smith is well known to the respiratory community in Western Australia as he is a respiratory scientist at Fremantle Hospital.

It would be easy to take a look at the title of this book and just go “Oh yeah, I’ve presented and chaired, I know how to do that.” However, we have all been part of an audience where there has been

- that deathly silence stretching on during question time when the chair(s) should be asking questions as a means of supporting the speaker and encouraging questions from the floor.
- a less than effective presentation, due to
 - the failure of the speaker to project enthusiasm and conviction for his/her topic
 - the failure of the speaker to engage the audience
 - the speaker’s inability to deal adequately with awkward questions
 - the speaker being allowed to run over time.

The authors of ‘The Conference . . .’ address these issues and many more, offering guidelines and suggestions drawn from their considerable experience. The information is concise, well set out, logical in format and progression, and has been set in an easy-on-the-eye font. The suggestions are practical, informative and well founded. Seasoned and new presenters/chairs alike would learn from reading material

such as this. The information is relevant to a wide variety of presentation and chairing situations. Whilst the book does not directly address conference speaking and is not specifically aimed at scientific presentations, it is highly relevant and applicable to the scientific conference setting.

If you read the book from cover to cover, as I did, you may find some of the material repetitive. However, I think that it is more likely that a reader would approach and use the book as a reference manual, 'dipping –into' different sections as required. This book is not a 'how to' guide on public speaking techniques or styles. The authors do not tackle this specialised area.

The authors target conference organisers as their primary market with the proposal that each chairperson and speaker at a conference receive a copy of the book, essentially as a reference manual. The format, content, physical structure, and pricing of the book appear to make it appropriate for that purpose. This is an interesting marketing concept and worthy of consideration by meeting, workshop and conference organisers. A tremendous amount of effort and angst goes into the planning and execution of meetings by the organising committee and individual effort in the form of presentation preparation. However, as the authors point out, there is a third integral part of conference preparation that may not always receive due attention and assistance, namely the role and duties of chairing. The authors expand on this component of a successful meeting and provide guidelines and suggestions for both meeting organisers and individuals to help ensure effective chairing.

This book provides sound advice and would be an excellent resource at lab level. There are tips in it that would enhance lab meetings as much as formal presentations. Now where was that section on containing that sinking feeling when the most experienced expert in all of the known universe in your area of research stands up to the microphone at the conclusion of my presentation?

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