

Regional News – September, 2010.

Annual Scientific Meeting News

A big hello to all potential delegates.

The Perth LOC is busy bringing together the final pieces of the 2011 programme. We are confident that this ASM will hold something for everyone. Our International Keynote speaker is Professor John Moxham (King's College London School of Medicine, UK). Professor Harm Tiddens (Sophia Children's Hospital, Rotterdam, Netherlands) will also join us to present at a comprehensive symposium focussing on Cystic Fibrosis.

Can I please remind everyone that as per 2010 there will be no registration brochures sent out via post (snail mail) for the 2011 ASM. So enter the dates, 1-4 April 2011 in your calendar now and keep your eyes posted for when **on-line registration** opens later this year. You can register your **interest** with the conference FCC Secretariat at [ANZSRS - 2011 Annual Scientific Meeting
1st - 4th April 2011 - Email registration of interest.](#)

We are happy to welcome on board Care Fusion and Niche Medical as Gold sponsors for next year's meeting and look forward to catching up with them, and all our other sponsors, in 2011 as we enjoy the views from Kings Park and the beautiful Swan River.

The call for abstracts will go out soon. The closing date will be 19th November, 2011.

More news soon.

Sharon

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**TSANZ and ANZSRS
Annual Scientific Meetings
1 – 6 April 2011
Perth Convention &
Exhibition Centre
Perth, Western Australia**

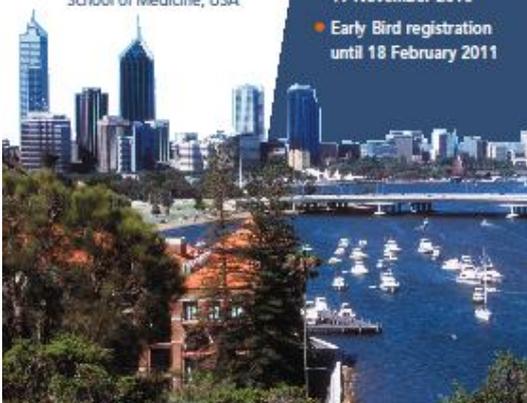
ANZSRS Invited Speaker

- Professor John Moxham,
King's College London School
of Medicine, UK

TSANZ Invited Speakers

- Professor Harm Tiddens,
Erasmus MC-Sophia Children's
Hospital, The Netherlands
- A/Professor Daniel Sterman,
University of Pennsylvania
School of Medicine, USA

- TSANZ abstracts due:
29 October 2010
- ANZSRS abstracts due:
19 November 2010
- Early Bird registration
until 18 February 2011



New South Wales / ACT

The busy schedule of Branch meetings in NSW/ACT continues... this time we got together at the Sydney Children's Hospital, for a lively discussion about reviewing lung volume reference values. Stephen West presented some recent papers on this topic, as well as covering historic reference sets currently in use in most hospitals. Some issues raised included transition of values in the elderly and also at the other end of the spectrum in the paediatric/teen population; types of lung volume measurement used in the reference set; and matching references on lung function reports between test types. These issues were discussed, and will be revisited with inter-lab data at the next meeting in October.

Following this, Jay Flack (occasionally assisted by Brigitte Mason) gave us a wrap-up of the recent Queenstown NZ conference. This sounded like a great physiology meeting, and raised some interesting points about some of the less common tests, such as Altitude simulation (Flight Fitness) and Eucapnic Voluntary Hyperpnoea.

This meeting was generously sponsored by Craig Abud from Niche Medical, who provided a delicious assortment of finger-food, fruit and drinks.

As expected, the discussion of lung volume reference values will continue and there will be updates given in coming emails, and also at the October Branch Meeting.

DIARY NOTE:

October Branch Meeting: 5.30pm Wednesday 27th October, 2010

Gosford Hospital

Yes, you did read correctly – GOSFORD HOSPITAL! Hopefully our Sydneysider members will make the journey to Gosford, and support their outer urban colleagues (who often trek into the big smoke to come to meetings)! This meeting will be kindly sponsored by Tim Boulton from Bird Healthcare.

See you then!

Catherine

ably assisted by Phillip Munoz

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New Zealand

Welcome to my final branch news as regional Chair for NZ and what a month it has been for us over here, a branch meeting, and spring being sprung. Oh that's right there may have been a sporting triumph with the All Blacks retaining the Bledisloe Cup and the Tri-Nations trophy and at this stage still being unbeaten! Go you good things!

Branch meeting

Queenstown put on a magnificent 2 days for our branch ski trip. Flying into Queenstown over the Southern Alps seeing the bright blue lakes and then coming into land in the gorge is amazing and for those of you who are yet to make the trip it is worth it.

The meeting was held on the shores of Lake Wakatipu with an astounding 32 members attending the ANZSRS program on the Thursday afternoon. Members were from far afield including: Northland, Auckland, Bay of Plenty, Hawke Bay, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, Invercargill, Sydney and Brisbane.

The Thursday afternoon session saw a number of NZ members presenting on the “Adventurous” testing we can offer in the laboratory.

Ewan Morris from Greenlane gave a comprehensive and entertaining overview on the Hypoxic Inhalation Challenge and the physiological response to hypoxia.

Mike Brown from Royal Brisbane Hospital and ANZSRS president then gave a presentation on the Hypercapnic Ventilatory response test dating back to the good old days right up to what is currently done. It was an interesting talk for a test that is seldom done in our laboratories.

Kevin Ellyett from Greenlane Hospital took a different approach and presented some information on a more cardiac side with Autonomic Nervous System Stimulation. An enjoyable and enlightening presentation on a topic that we normally would not see in a clinical respiratory laboratory.

Hamish Collie then gave a “challenging” talk on the Eucapnic Voluntary Hyperventilation Challenge test running through the need for the EVH and how it is done.

Bob Hancox from the University of Otago presented some research on a water vapour issue he has been having with mass flow sensors. This stimulated a discussion amongst the members about what was happening and how to fix it.

All that before the end of the first session!!!

The session prior to dinner saw a robust discussion about the progress of the NZ national Pulmonary Function Testing Manual. As this is one of the few chances for all members to get together a game plan for where to from here was formulated. The branch is now considering the formation of a committee to continue this process.

Mike Brown the President of ANZSRS then gave an overview of what is happening in the society and reminded people it is our society. There was a call to arms for some of the younger members to step up and take a role in the society.

Dinner

The highlight of any NZ meeting is of course the “professional networking” dinner, located slightly up the road at threesixty restaurant, a marvellous dinner with some beautiful NZ wines on offer.

A guess who don’t sue moment ‘who was the NZ physiologist who had a penchant for table top dancing?’ Until the crashing of many glasses was heard.... Maybe we should just stick to respiratory physiology!

It was nice to have a large contingent continue the night out heading to some of the local bars and it was not just the “cool young members” another guess who don’t sue- ‘who was the former University of Otago Rugby player reliving the heyday of times in Queenstown outlasting many younger physiologists!?’

The next morning saw some red-eyed physiologists making it to the joint ANZSRS/TSANZ session. After some interesting research being presented by new investigators for TSANZ the combined meeting was treated to some marvellous presentations.

Leigh Seccombe from Concord presented the lungs under pressure. A review of the physiology of the free divers she has done a lot of work on, a pity that due to some technical

difficulties (PC and Mac not working!) we didn't get to see the videos but the physiology of the talk was amazing!

Leigh's partner in crime and our newest PhD, Paul Kelly presented on hypoxia.... How low can you go. Recapping some of his data from his hypoxic studies, thrown in with a few quizzes to keep those of us who were feeling under the weather on our toes.

After morning tea there were further presentations on Lung Transplantation in NZ and difficult to treat non-invasive ventilation patients

ANZSRS once again was represented with Chris O'Dea giving an overview of respiratory muscle strength assessment with a clinical overview from Dr Libby King from Christchurch.

The final session of the day allowed the expression of some "Rage" with Dr Phil Thompson presenting on molecular biology in the inflammation in asthma, for a very complex topic and the end of a busy meeting it was very thought provoking.

Branch Manual

As previously stated there is discussion about the formation of a committee to help continue the forward motion of the branch manual initiative. I am proud that the NZ branch has taken on this challenge to come to a consensus and give the interest shown for this process I am sure it will continue to develop.

Congratulations!

A big congratulations to Paul Kelly who had his PhD conferred this month for all his work on the hypoxic response. The amount of data he has managed to get and the publications are a tribute to his hard work. Well done Dr Kelly!!!

Big Birthdays

During the course of the meeting a few wines managed to loosen some lips so a big Happy Birthday to Ewan Morris from Auckland who has reached the milestone of 3-0! Only 10 more years until one of us can embarrass you again!

New Regional Chair

As I said at the beginning I am no longer continuing as the regional chair for NZ. I will be taken on a new adventure and moving west to Perth. It is a bitter-sweet goodbye. A new adventure may be calling me, but it will be sad to leave NZ behind with the magnificent scenery and what I can only describe as a very supportive branch.

I want to thank each and every member of the NZ branch for the firstly allowing an Aussie to take on the role! And also for the help, enthusiasm and willingness to say yes when I asked for some help. In my time here the NZ branch has grown and developed and hopefully will continue with the great networks that have been formed. I of course will be keeping a close eye on the branch manual process with a great deal of interest and know it will continue on.

The new regional chair was announced in Queenstown and is Hamish Collie from Wellington. I know the branch will help Hamish in his new role and will answer the numerous calls for information when they come through!!!

Well that is all for this month's very full branch news!

That's all from me

Chris

Christopher O'Dea

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Queensland

Spring has sprung!

Bi-Monthly Meetings

Queensland members had their bi-monthly meeting on August 25th. First of all, I must say thank you to all members that could attend. It was a great turnout! The theme for our meeting was based on our country's indecisiveness at electing a leader. So, in light of this, the meeting was named, "*Respiratory Science - Moving Australia Forward, Standing Up for Australia, Standing Up for Real Action*". Unfortunately no members dyed their hair red and (fortunately), I did not wear any budgie smugglers!

We had three presentations which included Janet Shaw (TPCH) talking about her Masters (which she has completed) involving Pulmonary Hypertension Genes and COPD. Congratulations to Janet for her hard work at completing such an in-depth topic. Janet used 'Moving Forward' once! Nice!

Our second speaker was Irene Schneider (TPCH) who gave us an update on the Clinical Measurements Clinical Capability Framework. She let us know there is still plenty of work to do which, in the end, will benefit us all in one way or another. Janet used 'Moving Forward' three times! Very Julia!

Our final presentation was by Rikki Mills from Masimo. She showed us the Pronto 7 Non-invasive Hb Monitor. Members got to have a play with the monitor and as far as I know, no one was anaemic!

A big thank you to GSK for sponsoring our catering and room hire for the evening and for their continuing support of our meetings and thank you to Masimo for sponsoring car parking.

October Meeting

Our next meeting is Wednesday 20th October 2010, same time and place. RBWH have the job of finding the main speaker. Lucy Keeling (TSGQ) and Kaylee Lamb (Greenslopes) are presenting their research and Ryan Harle (Logan) is presenting a very interesting case he tells me! That will be our last meeting before our end of year do!

End Of Year Do!

As mentioned at the last meeting, we are planning on having a trivia night for our end of year send off! After a little investigation, we are looking at either Princess Alexandra Hospital (PAH) or Brisbane Private (our normal meeting place). The benefit of PAH is free room hire which means funds for the evening can be "better spent" *wink wink!* If ALL members could get back to me (via email) prior to/or at our October meeting with the answers to the following questions, that would make the organisational process that much easier –

Will you be attending?

- Yes or No

If Yes, which hospital suits you better?

- PAH or Brisbane Private

Which date?

- Wed 17/11/2010, Fri 19/11/2010
- Wed 24/11/2010, Fri 26/11/2010
- Wed 01/12/2010, Fri 03/12/2010
- Wed 08/12/2010, Fri 10/12/2010
- Wed 15/12/2010, Fri 17/12/2010

Our upstate members are more than welcome. If you can be there, it WILL make the night!

Baby-time!

Congratulations to Joe Prichard (John Flynn Private) and his wife, Mrs Prichard, on the recent birth of their first child, Harry! Little Harry was 6 weeks premature but recent reports indicate he is doing well. Word on the street is he has inherited the devastatingly good looks of his father! Well done Joe!

Lab Profile

It appears all labs in Queensland have submitted a lab profile. It has been decided that rather than bore the rest of Australia, New Zealand and the world (*I know this branch news goes international!*) with re-runs of lab profiles, we will now profile.....Scientists! They do not have to be life stories but if we could aim for something along the lines of the Ben Cousins documentary, I think we'll be onto a winner! To do this effectively, I will contact a colleague of the person to be profiled and it will be the responsibility of the profiler to "dig up the dirt". We will aim for the first profile to be ready for the October regional news.

CRFS Exam

A reminder to those wishing to sit the CRFS exam this year that registration closes 24th September 2010 with the exam date being 29th October 2010. Please contact Andrew Coates (Mater) for further information on how the pre-exam tutorials are to be run from now on (Andrew.Coates@mater.org.au).

TSQ Physiology Day and Annual Scientific Meeting 2010

The Thoracic Society of Queensland (TSQ) is running their physiology day and annual scientific meeting in November 2010. Last year, members Annette Dent (TPCH) and yours truly (PAH) presented at the ASM to a captivated scientific audience. There is a date reminder on the TSQ website for Friday 12th November (Physiology Day) and Saturday 13th November, 2010. Keep an eye on www.tsq.asn.au/annual-scientific-meeting and www.tsq.asn.au/physiology-day for updates.

Until next month! And don't forget the only *real* grand final being played the last Saturday of this month.....the AFL Grand Final!

Jarrold

and his off-sider Debbie Z

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South Australia

Nothing received.

Mel

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Victoria / Tasmania

The Victorian branch recently convened at the Austin Hospital for our third branch meeting of the year. A lovely dinner accompanied by a glass of vino and a beer was enjoyed by all, and a big thank you must go to our friends at Ascencia for their sponsorship. The meeting focused on the very topical issue of predicted equations, most notably those used in spirometry. It's fair to say the topic generated quite a bit of interest and a thank you to those members who attended in what was an excellent turnout.

Pam Liakakos was more than happy to speak on the topic after being volunteered by our branch representative. Pam mentioned that her first presentation at a state meeting was actually on predicted values, 15 years ago, almost to the day. Pam outlined the importance of using a correct prediction equation set and expanded on the joint ATS/ERS directive in the use of prediction equations. Pam then went on to discuss the recent approach taken by Stanojevic et al, which has supplemented the NHANES III data set with the addition of four large population surveys. The extended model created has the advantage over the original NHANES study in that the reference range extends down to four years of age, and it provides a smooth transition in predicted values between childhood and adulthood. Importantly, Pam then presented a recent Australian study that has investigated whether this new modified NHANES approach fits the Australian population. The findings of this study showed a statistical difference between this contemporary dataset and the “all age” equations, but these differences were small and clinically irrelevant. This is an important and pertinent finding for our society and was a keen discussion point at the meeting.

Danny Brazzale then presented on the effect of changing predicted values on the interpretation of spirometry. More precisely, he discussed the potential impact of changing from Knudson or ECCS to NHANES III or the Health Survey of England (HSE), a study first presented at the Darwin ASM by Allyson Upward. In short, the study illustrated that changing to NHANES or HSE from ECCS or Knudson will impact on interpretation, especially when classifying a potential restrictive defect (NHANES and HSE have a much higher LLN in VC than the Knudsen or ECCS), and the potential change in rates of obstruction classification. It was also interesting to see how closely the HSE (with an N > 6000) matched up with the NHANES set, further validating the ever popular NHANES data.

These excellent presentations were met with significant discussion on the issue, ranging from the logistics of changing predicted values in the lab, the potential for a unified state or national approach, to changing interpretation paradigms and the potential of Z scores. It was mentioned that a Position Statement from the ANZSRS on this issue may be an important step in unifying Australia and New Zealand. It certainly was food for thought. A thank you to Danny and Pam for their presentations and to Brigitte Borg who also presented briefly on the appropriate predicted values for the Australian population.

On a lighter note, congratulations go to;

- **Kris Southwell** and **Adam Thomas** on their marriage earlier this year in April
- **Mahesh Dharmukarma** and **Joelle Dodin** and to **Vanessa Kelly** and **Scott Sands** on their marriages in June.

I would also like to extend our best wishes to Vanessa Kelly, a member of our society and good friend to all at the Alfred Hospital, who is finishing up her PhD this month and is taking up a post doctoral position at Massachusetts General Hospital in sunny Boston. Just in time to catch the lovely winter over there, where temperatures drop to as low as minus thirty degrees Celsius – enjoy.

Our next scheduled branch meeting will be held at St Vincent’s Hospital in November, our traditional Christmas get together. Stay tuned for more details.

Matthew

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Western Australia

Hello again from WA, where the wild flowers are out, and we are all busy little bees...

Clinical Meetings

The clinical meeting held last week was our last actual branch meeting for the year, and was very well attended! Thanks again to Rob Tagliaferri, Joanne McLauren and Bird Healthcare for their speaking, hosting and sponsoring efforts.

Funbun Meeting and Respiratory Symposium

October is almost upon us, and it is time to get your registrations in for the joint WA TSANZ meeting in Bunbury (held on **16-17th October**). The deadline for registrations is the **30th September**. Members should have received registration applications and the program for the weekend. Registration is free for all ANZRS members, however you will need to pay \$15 towards the Saturday night dinner. I would like to encourage all members to attend the whole weekend, and to apply for an accommodation grant, applications due by the **1st October**. The Bird travel award (applications also due by 1st October) is definitely worth applying for if you are looking at presenting at the Perth meeting or an international respiratory meeting next year.

Respiratory Symposium

The annual WA Respiratory Symposium is on the Monday after the Bunbury weekend (**18 October**), and promises to be exciting one this year, the theme being "The Respiratory System Under Stress." The presenters will be speaking on the pressure effects of diving on the lungs, the cardio-respiratory transition at birth, lung transplantation and using NIV during exercise.

ERS Barcelona

All the best to Liz Salamon and Karla Logie, who are both presenting at ERS this month. If you are attending, look out for Karla's e-presentation on exhaled breath temperature, and Liz's oral presentation Nitrogen washout wait time.

Cheers,

E

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ANZSRS important dates 2010

Don't forget to
pay your ANZSRS
membership fees
for 2010

September	15	Early Bird Rego for APSR closes
	18 - 22	ERS meeting - Barcelona
	24	Application for CRFS exam due
October	12	SA branch meeting
	14	World Spirometry Day
	16-17	WA branch combined TSANZ meeting (Bunbury)
	18	WA branch Respiratory Symposium (Perth CCRF)
	20	QLD branch meeting
	21-23	ASTA meeting (Christchurch)
	27	NSW/ACT branch meeting (Gosford Hosp.)
	29	CRFS exam
November	29	TSANZ Abstracts due for Perth ASM 2011
	3	Abstracts due for ATS 2011
	12	TSQ Physiology Day (Prince Charles Hospital, Chermside)
	19	TSQ ASM (Prince Charles Hospital, Chermside QLD)
	17	World COPD Day
	19	ANZSRS Abstracts due for Perth ASM 2011
	22 - 25	APSR meeting - Manila
30	SA branch meeting	
December	6 - 9	AARC meeting - Las Vegas
	10	NSW branch Christmas dinner
January	1	New Year's Day
February	18	Early Bird Rego for Perth 2011 due

Meetings on in 2011

ANZSRS: Perth: April 1 -6
 ATS: Denver: May 13-18
 ERS: Amsterdam: Sept 24-28
 APSR: Shanghai: Nov 3-6
 AARC: Tampa: Nov 5-8

