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Australian and New Zealand Society of Respiratory Science Ltd
Leading Respiratory Science in Australasia through the 21st Century

Regional News

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New South Wales & ACT

At the NSW Branch Meeting held on the 23rd of August at RPA Dr John Brannan and Ms Clair Lake presented an overview of the mechanisms of cough to osmotic stimuli. Dr Brannan presented work from a number of his studies that have been in collaboration with colleagues in Finland, studying the mechanism of cough to inhaled mannitol. They have so far demonstrated that cough can differentiate asthmatics from non-asthmatics, as asthmatics significantly cough more. The mechanisms are thought to be a combination of; 1. a 'sensoneural' cough due to the stimulation of sensory nerves and 2. in those that bronchoconstrict, cough results from the mechanical stimulation of smooth muscle contraction. They are soon to commence a study using a novel cough monitor to see if cough can be counted easily and accurately in a clinical laboratory setting and hope to present this work at the 2012 ANZSRS meeting.

Congratulations to Peter Rogers who was the lucky door prize winner for the night, and many thanks to the evenings sponsor Bird healthcare.

Phillip

New Zealand

Queensland

Meeting – 24/8/11

Last week we held our "Great Bird Raffle". We had a great turn out and Sonia Diaz was the lucky winner of the Bird Healthcare \$200 travel grant for next year's ASM in Canberra. Congrats Sonia! Thanks to Tim Boulton and the Bird Healthcare team for sponsoring not only the travel grant but the room hire, catering and car parking for the evening.

Our first guest speaker was John Serginson, respiratory nurse practitioner from Caboolture Hospital. John gave us a great insight on what exactly a nurse practitioner

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does and how his role developed at Caboolture Hospital. He showed how his role had improved the respiratory service the hospital was able to offer and illustrated quite nicely how nurse practitioners can add enormous value, particularly in a non-metropolitan setting.

Our second guest speaker was Helen Beeley, physiotherapist and joint co-ordinator of the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital's pulmonary rehabilitation program. Helen spoke to us about the ins and outs of pulmonary rehab and how it benefits patients with various chronic respiratory diseases. She gave us some great anecdotes from her experiences at the Royal, and even had us doing some exercises!

Being my first meeting as the new Regional Chair, I gave everyone a bit of background information on myself. I also showed how "relaxed" our Vice Chair, Jarrod Warner, has been since handing over the reigns with a few photos courtesy of an anonymous member! Speaking of our Vice Chair, he has come up with a great idea to encourage more local members to present at our meetings. The inaugural 'Warner Award' will be handed out at the end of the financial year for the best presentation given by a local member at one of our meetings. The award will be chosen by the Regional Chair and Vice Chair (myself and Jarrod – and yes we are open to bribes!).

Tim Boulton briefed us on the latest from Bird Healthcare and then was on hand to help draw the lucky winner of the \$200 ASM travel grant. Congrats again Sonia!

Our next meeting will be held on October 26th (note the change of date from the original date of the 19th), same place and time. The Prince Charles and Logan Hospital labs will be providing the guest speakers, and GSK will be our room hire and catering sponsors for the evening.

Don't forget the next CRFS exam will be held on November 25th with applications closing October 28th.

Mark

South Australia

Victoria & Tasmania

Western Australia

Hello everyone,

Spring has sprung people! It seems mother nature has had enough of the wet stuff and it has been gorgeous weather here in WA. Everything is looking that little bit brighter- but perhaps that's because some of us have holidays on our minds.....

On Thursday 25th August Dr Jeanie Leong from Royal Perth Hospital spoke to us on Lung Cancer and Thermal ablation. She gave us a great overview of a new technique which gives hope to patients with lung cancer who previously were told they were unable to be treated. The basis of the procedure is quite simple, a probe is inserted into the tumor where it effectively heats the cells surrounding it to a point where the cells are killed, and a scar is left in place of the cancerous cells. Patients deemed as being unfit for surgery can be offered thermal ablation of their malignant tumors and unlike surgery they do not need a minimum FEV1 to undergo the procedure. The technique is also used in debulking tumors in palliative patients. This talk was extremely interesting and was attended by nurses and scientists.

Bird Healthcare generously sponsored this event and held a raffle to win a \$200 travel award. Ashvin Isaac was the recipient of this award to use for conference travel. Congratulations Ash!

Dates for your diary

22nd/23rd October.

The 2011 WA ANZSRS/TSANZ ASM will be held in Mandurah at the Performing Arts Centre. The theme for the weekend meeting is:

“Inflammation and remodelling in respiratory disease”

Brigitte Borg is the ANZSRS invited speaker for the weekend, and will be speaking on

“Pathophysiology of Oxygen Toxicity in the Lungs”

There is a travel grant available to members who are staying

We would like to encourage all of you to attend this meeting, as it is a combined ANZSRS/TSANZ meeting so please show your support of this in attendance numbers! Mandurah is a lovely place to go for a weekend getaway so take advantage of this great location, and apply for a travel grant.

Monday 24th October

The weekend ASM will be followed by the annual ANZSRS Respiratory Symposium at the Telethon Institute of Child Health Research, at 1.30pm.

Our invited speaker Brigitte Borg will be presenting

“Oxygen: The good, the bad and the ugly”

Dr John Mclachlan and Karla Logie will also present on the topic of Oxygen:

Attendees will walk away knowing all about misuse of oxygen, what arterial blood gases, oxygen content and oxygen saturations mean, and oxygen administration in adult and paediatric settings.

November

The next branch meeting will be held in November. Details will be circulated closer to the date.

Until next time,

E & C

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