

## **VOLUME 7(3) December 1987**

Below are short overviews of the articles that appeared in this last issue of VOLUME:

### **Pulse Oximetry in the Care of Critically ill Patients (K. Hambrecht, Critical Care Course Coordinator, Intensive Care Unit, Austin Hospital, Melbourne, Victoria).**

I recall that this review article by Mr Hambrecht (a critical care nurse) was well received by readers as it was written only a few years after the development of 'pulse' oximeters which had largely replaced the bulky and heavy ear oximeters (eg Hewlett Packard ear oximeter) that were in common use in respiratory laboratories. Apart from reviewing the history of oximetry, basic principles of measurement, and potential limitations, this article also reported data on accuracy by comparing pulse oximetry (Nellcor) with direct oximetry obtained from arterial blood gases (OSM2b). Eight intubated subjects (18-77 years of age) were included in his study which allowed precise control of inspired PO<sub>2</sub> and collection of arterial blood. The author reported that the 95% confidence interval between pulse oximetry (Nellcor) and direct SaO<sub>2</sub> measurements (46 paired samples) was  $\pm 1.3\%$  which was within the manufacturer's specifications of  $\pm 2\%$ . He also reported that this brand of pulse oximeter faithfully tracked pulse rate.

### **Back Issues of Volume**

The contents of all previously published issues were listed and reprints were made available at \$1.50 to members and \$2.00 to non-members, postage paid.

### **Mouth-Piece**

There was a report on the final 1987 meeting of the Victorian Branch, held on 24<sup>th</sup> November. Material was presented by Joan Green (exploration of the Morgan TLCO system), John Martin (examples of the output obtained from the CASPA sleep system), and Cathy Shield (measurement of VC in two patients who both had a VC >8 litres). A progress report was also presented on the "Minimum Guidelines for Spirometry" document prepared by Cathy Shield, David Johns and Peter Rochford. Finally, Rosemary Whitehead (Foss Electric) demonstrated the features of Radiometers' new oximeter, "Oxi". Jeffrey Pretto and Cathy Shield (Victorian Board Members) organised this meeting.

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### ***Final Issue of Volume***

*Sadly, this issue of Volume was the last to be published.*

*The writing of these short monthly reviews over the past two years has been a pleasure and I thank our present Editor, Kevin Gain, for inviting me to do them. I also thank members for enduring these reviews, and my occasional questions and anecdotes. I hope I have been accurate in my summary of material and apologise to authors and members if there have been any inaccuracies. Reading through Volume*

*has allowed me to revisit many memories that were lost or had become rather dim over the years. In particular, it has reminded me of the role Volume played in the professional development of our Society which was less than two years old when the first issue was produced. At that time and for the following six years, I believe Volume contributed to raising the profile and establishing the scientific and academic identity of the Society and members.*

*Even after all these years I am still very grateful to everyone who contributed material or assisted in any way to its production. I am particularly grateful to Peter Rochford (Sub-Editor) and Jeff Pretto (Distribution Officer) for their invaluable support and willingness to donate so many hours of their 'family' time to ensure production and distribution of Volume. Judy Roget (past President) and Margaret Smith (past member, and respiratory specialist) provided ongoing 'background' support that was so significant that without it I doubt Volume would have survived beyond the first issue. Many thanks also to the many companies who paid for advertising space and thereby allowed the production of Volume to be virtually cost neutral. Volume was printed by On-Time Press Pty Ltd, a family business located in Melbourne, and I thank the owner, Ron Tierney, for all the help and advice he freely provided.*

*Perhaps now is the time for the Society to look at ways to produce another Society publication, and today this could be in the style of an e-journal or even an e-magazine available on the ANZSRS website. Perhaps in the not too distant future the Society could also consider formally supporting Respiriology as the preferred journal for members to publish their research – the ANZSRS have already made a start by publishing ASM abstracts in this journal ..... and is now looking to increase membership in the Asia-pacific region.*

*Kind regards ..... and thank you for listening.*



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