



High Blood Pressure Research Council of
Australia

HBPRCA Enews May 2014



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E-News May 2014

Greetings from the e-news desk.

Apologies for the delay in receiving this e-news, as it has been a busy start to the year. I hope everyone is over their own grant and fellowship submissions, just in time for the review process to begin! This year will continue to be a busy one with our own Council firmly engaged with the biennial ISH/ESH, including 2 Joint Breakfast Workshops between the HBPRCA and the European Council for Cardiovascular Research (ECCR), as well as our own ASM meeting to be held in conjunction with other international and cardiovascular-related societies (see below).

The current HBPRCA Executive for 2014-2016 (except Karen Moritz) are captured in the photo below. Please don't hesitate to contact me or any member of the Executive with your views or suggestions for the HBPRCA.

Rob Widdop, Secretary



In this issue

- President's Message
- Ambulatory BP monitors available – request deadline May 30
- Membership renewal reminder
- ISH/ESH update – incl ISH NI Update, RAAS satellite

- Franco-Australian Exchange
- HBPRCA ASM 2014: State of the Heart, Adelaide, November 26-28
- Running – poster available for download Team Baker IDI Melbourne Marathon 2014
 - How to sponsor anyone (and I'm sending this e-news, so me! Me!.....)
- Meetings and other news

President's Message



A reminder that the 2014 Annual Scientific Meeting will be held in Adelaide as part of the International Cardiovascular Pharmacotherapy Meeting – again in conjunction with the Australian Atherosclerosis Society but also with the International Australian Vascular Biology Society and the cardiovascular interest group from ASCEPT (Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology and Toxicology). Please put November 26-28 in your diaries now and plan on attending **State of the Heart 2014**.

Young Researchers get together

As foreshadowed at the 2013 Annual General Meeting, we have formed a “Young Researchers” group to address the needs and interests of our student and early career members. Francine Marques has agreed to head this team and already has a number of up and coming younger members on the committee. To ensure you receive messages and the opportunity to network with your colleagues, please ensure you have joined the Student or Early Career interest group via our membership website. Please log in via this link and go to the members only tab.

And some run as far as they can

So far, more than 50 Baker IDI staff, students and friends have signed up to participate in the Melbourne Marathon Festival in October as Team Baker IDI this year. HBPRCA members include Geoff Head, Jennifer Seabrook, Joon Lim, Pam Davern, students Annas Al-Sharea, Benjie Barzel, Alike Rameisna and Waled Shihata and myself. Between us we will be running 2 X 3km, 3 X 10 km, 2 half marathons and 2 full marathons! I would like to invite all of you to join us or that failing, to sponsor the team in their collective effort (see below for details).

Ambulatory BP monitors available

A small number of ambulatory Welch Allyn BP monitors are available – donated by Bristol-Myers Squibb to HBPRCA, these are now free to a good home. Any member interested in receiving one or more should email the Secretariat by the end of May with a request outlining the desired number, who will be using them, what for and how often. Monitors will be distributed after review of all applications.

Jaye Chin-Dusting, President

Thanks if you have (about 100 so far..), but if you haven't

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS WERE DUE BY MARCH 31

Annual renewal for HBPRCA is due by March 31 – regardless of when you applied for membership or renewed in the previous year. Student members are required to renew their membership, even though no membership fee is payable.

Please renew now to:

- maintain your membership
- continue to receive e-news
- receive discounted registration fees at the Annual Scientific Meeting

- November 26-28 2014. Adelaide Convention Centre
Combined Annual Scientific Meetings of
 - High Blood Pressure Research Council of Australia
 - Australian Atherosclerosis Society
 - Australian Vascular Biology Society
 - International Society of Cardiovascular Pharmacotherapy
 - in conjunction with the Cardiovascular Interest Group of the Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists
- be eligible for awards and travel grants at the Annual Scientific Meeting

Full members: Annual Fee of \$125 (plus GST if Australian)

Student members: No fee payable, but you must renew

To renew, please [click here](#).

Want to join AAS or pay both fees together? Please select the option for both memberships and this will automatically submit your application or renew membership.

With my very best wishes for a strong and vibrant society,

Janna Morrison, Membership Secretary



Annual Scientific Meeting 2014



STATE OF THE HEART 2014 26-28 November 2014- Adelaide Australia

We are delighted to announce that for the first time the annual scientific meetings of the International Society of Cardiovascular Pharmacotherapy (ISCP), the Australian Atherosclerosis Society (AAS), the High Blood Pressure Research Council of Australia (HBPRCA), and the Australian Vascular Biology Society (AVBS) will be held as one, in conjunction with the Cardiovascular Special Interest Group of the Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists (ASCEPT CV-SIG).

Website: www.iscp2014.com

Confirmed speakers

Wednesday 26th November

- Jennie Gamble, Grant Drummond, Jaye Chin-Dusting, Yi Zhu, Yunzeng Zou, Wei Kong (China-Aus Vascular Biology)
- Tom Marwick (HBPRCA Colin I Johnston Lecture)

Thursday 27th November

- John Horowitz (ISCP Henry Neufeld Lecture)
- Veronique Angeli (AVBS Session: Angiogenesis)
- Harvey White (ISCP Plenary Lecture)
- Oliver Soehnlein (Joint Session: Inflammation)

- John Chalmers (ISCP/HBPRCA Session: Treating High Blood Pressure)

Friday 28th November

- Brian Schmidt (HBPRCA Austin Doyle Lecture)
- Rhian Touyz (HBPRCA RD Wright Lecture)
- Laurent Yvan-Charvet (AAS/AVBS/HBPRCA Joint Session: Immunity)
- Kasey Vickers (AAS Session: Lipids)



Anne Barden, Program Secretary

Franco-Australian Travel Grants

Congratulations to Emilio Badoer on being awarded a 2013 Franco-Australian Travel Grant for travel during 2014. A small grant remains, applications should be submitted via the link below.

Elisabeth Lambert returned to a French lab after 15 years

I am very grateful to the HBPRCA for granting me the Franco-Australian Exchange Award that supported my mini sabbatical in September of last year at “le Pôle Cardiovasculaire et Métabolique, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Toulouse /Rangueil” with Prof. Atul Pathak and his team.

Pr Pathak is consultant in Clinical Cardiology focusing on a diverse patient mix but with an emphasis on the role of the sympathetic nervous system in disease development. Pr Pathak was himself the recipient of the Franco-Australian Exchange Award in 2010 and spent 3 months with us at the Baker IDI Heart & Diabetes Institute where we began our collaboration. The focus of my visit was to collaborate on a project examining the sympathetic activity in patients with aortic stenosis. In developed countries, aortic stenosis is the most prevalent of all valvular heart diseases and symptomatic patients have a dire outlook. While surgical aortic valve replacement is currently the gold standard treatment, around a third of patients may not be suitable candidates for surgery. In this context, transcatheter aortic valve implantation (TAVI) is an emerging therapeutic option. I was able to establish a variety of new analytical methods in Athul's lab and to record single unit sympathetic nervous activity in patients with severe aortic stenosis before and 2 days following TAVI procedure. At this juncture our results are encouraging with the TAVI procedure seemingly associated with a reduction in sympathetic drive and an improvement in baroreflex function. This project is ongoing and I am hoping it will necessitate a few more trips to France!

It was extremely exciting for me to be back in a French laboratory after 15 years. It took me a few days to remember all my vocabulary and cope with the grammar. I was pleased to be able to deliver a seminar in my native language and didn't get stuck too many times putting the adjective the wrong way around. I found out that in 15 years, not much had changed, French people still take hours for their lunch break, have many “pause café”, “pause cigarette”, speak a lot about food and leave the lab at around 10pm.....despite long days, I managed to visit the area and enjoyed the town of Toulouse. Although it is an old town with magnificent medieval architecture, churches and grand private mansions, Toulouse is a modern city, home to the European aerospace industry (where all the Qantas A380 are built) and has a large student and arts community. The city is vibrant with a bustling “Place du Capitole” and marvelous shopping areas. Within France, Toulouse is famous for its gastronomy, and I would say (because I am still French) that “le cassoulet” and “la saucisse de Toulouse” are dishes you certainly should not miss if you happen to pass by this way..

Elisabeth Lambert



Will it be your turn in 2014? Franco-Australian Travel Grant Applications remain open

To apply you must be a current member of HBPRCA and complete the online application form. Please be sure you have agreement of the host laboratory before you apply.

- The deadline for applications is 30 June 2014 – for travel during 2014
- Click [here](#) to sign in, renew if needed, and complete the online application form
- Applications will be judged by a panel of the HBPRCA Executive Committee and notification expected to be made within 4 weeks of the application deadline.
- The maximum support is AUD\$2,000 towards expenses
- The successful applicant(s) will be required to write a feature article (in English) with photos for the e-news!!

The online application requires:

1. Applicant details – a short CV, including current position, year of PhD award, research experience, publications in the last 5 years
2. CCR meeting – research area/topic, potential title of presentation
3. Host laboratory – details of host researcher(s) and your anticipated activities at host laboratory
4. Outcomes – description of potential outcomes (immediate and longer-term) if awarded funding

We would like to thank Servier Laboratories for their continued support of this program. **Karen Mortiz, HBPRCA International Liaison**



Run, Run, Run

Running is the theme of the poster HBPRCA recently developed for public use to encourage blood pressure measurement. We have had several requests for posters to be placed in work places, and surprisingly, there are very few available! So, our own copyright free version is available to all via the HBPRCA website. If you know of others, please let the Secretariat know so that links may be added to the HBPRCA website.

Do you know your numbers?

- High blood pressure is a silent killer, causing heart attack, stroke and kidney disease
- 1 in every 5 adult Australians has high blood pressure
- What are your blood pressure numbers?
- Have your blood pressure checked by your GP, pharmacist or workplace health professional

More information at www.hbprca.com.au

Perhaps it was this subliminal message, but check out who is running in the Melbourne Marathon for Team Baker IDI. <http://everydayhero.com.au/event/teambakeridi2014>.

- Do more than that, support someone! Moral or financial support welcome. To sponsor the team click on donate now in the home page or to sponsor one of the individuals, eg, me, me, me . . . click on Sponsor a Friend!

Meetings/Grants/Special Events/News of interest

Putting the A back into RAAS – June 10-12 Santorini

Are you going to Hypertension Athens 2014 (ESH/ISH). The Aussie-organised official satellite runs immediately before the Athens meeting on the island of Santorini. For an unsurpassed opportunity to meet and mingle with international experts in angiotensin and aldosterone research, register now! Early bird registration has been extended for ALL delegates (just AUD450). To register, please [click here](#). For more info, [click here](#)

Hypertension Athens 2014 – ISH ESH meeting

XXVI Congress of the International Union of Angiology 10-14 August 2014 in Sydney, Australia

In keeping with the three rings of the IUA logo, Red for Arterial, Yellow for Lymphatic and Blue for Venous, there will be major components related to Cardiovascular disease, Haemostasis and Thrombosis, Vascular and Endovascular Surgery, Vascular Imaging, Lymphatic disorders and Phlebology. The 2014 program will bring together internationally renowned keynotes from Australia and overseas. All of the speakers are internationally recognised for their expertise in research and practice related to the conference theme.

AHMRC CONGRESS 2014

Registrations and abstract submission are now open for the 53rd ASMR National Scientific Conference. The ASMR NSC with its theme of "Transdisciplinary Research" is being held within the Australian Health and Medical Research Congress from Sunday 16th to Wednesday 19th of November 2014 at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.



ASCEPT 2014

A joint venture between the Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists (ASCEPT) and the Molecular Pharmacology of GPCRs (MPGPCR) meeting. The theme for the meeting will be "Therapeutic Agents and Drug Targets: GPCRs and Beyond".

The conference will bring together world-class experts, early career researchers and students all actively engaged in either academic or industrial pre-clinical and clinical pharmacology with a large number focussed on GPCR research – we anticipate that there will be approximately 350-400 attendees at the meeting from Australia, New Zealand as well as Asia, Europe and the United States.



SALT REDUCTION

For all the latest news about salt reduction – research, public awareness campaigns, activities, click [here](#) for the George Institute for International Health website.

Acknowledgements

Corporate Members



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