



on the pulse

Volume XXIV No 2
June 2012

Your Society and Indigenous Cardiovascular Health

*Editorial by Dr James Cameron, CSANZ President;
Prof Alex Brown, Co Chair Organising Committee ICHC,
Chair Indigenous Council and
Prof Len Kritharides, Co Chair Organising Committee ICHC,
Chair Scientific Committee CSANZ*

It is timely to bring our members up-to-date on Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand initiatives into Indigenous cardiovascular health. The Society decided to embark on an increased involvement in this area some years ago, and this culminated in the first Indigenous Cardiovascular Health Conference in Sydney in August 2009, held subsequent to the Annual Scientific Meeting. Following on from the success of this meeting, a second meeting was organised and held in Alice Springs in June 2011. Both meetings were notable for a wide-ranging involvement from many in the field of Indigenous cardiovascular health, including Researchers, Physicians, Nurses, and other Allied and Indigenous healthcare workers. The conferences focused on recognition of the scope of the problem, but also sought wide-ranging views on how to identify and progress solutions. A series of articles summarising the first meeting were subsequently published in *Heart Lung and Circulation*, with results from the second conference currently being collated to be published shortly in *Heart Lung and Circulation*.

Following the second meeting, the Cardiac Society resolved to implement specific proposals from the two meetings. Feedback from our members involved in Indigenous cardiovascular healthcare was unanimous in recognising that the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand did have a role to

play, including a support role for training, education and research, along with advocacy in approaches to government and interaction with other providers and interest groups.

The CSANZ is hosting the World Congress of Cardiology in Melbourne in 2014 and anticipates that this meeting will draw a range of experts, both locally and internationally, with common interests, and that this may bring an additional focus and perspective to the problem.

As one of the key platforms for action over the coming years, the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand has restructured its Indigenous Cardiovascular Scholarship Program, with creation of an annual scholarship worth \$70,000.00 for one year for Indigenous healthcare workers undertaking a research project in the area of Indigenous cardiovascular health. We have awarded a scholarship for the current financial year and a further scholarship for the next financial year. Applications for subsequent scholarships will be sought at the end of 2012.

The successful applicants were Ray Mahoney, from QUT in Queensland, who is exploring methods to better identify Indigenous people in routine healthcare datasets. The second recipient was Roy Hoerara, from Massey University, New Zealand, whose project "One Heart Many Lives – A Comparative Discourse Into

Cardiovascular Disease and Indigenous Men" seeks both to use a family centred approach to identify attitudes and risks that confront Indigenous men with cardiovascular disease and also to locate culturally appropriate solutions which might contribute to better health and wellbeing. We wish both of these recipients all the best in this endeavour and look forward to their report back to the Society.

Relating to our proposed focus on capacity development, training and cultural awareness, we have applied for and were granted a Rural Health Continuing Education Grant, which, in partnership with the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, will be used to develop an online web-based teaching program for Indigenous cardiovascular health which will be applicable to our Advanced Trainees, Fellows and will also provide education resources for the RACP. Other groups might also benefit from this such as the RACGP. The Cardiac Society will develop this project in parallel with its current initiative in developing Continuing Professional Development for Cardiologists, under the leadership of Professor Richmond Jeremy, President Elect.

Another key platform relates to improving our ability to track and report on outcomes for Indigenous Australians

(Continued on page 3)



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505

145 Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000

Tel: +61 2 9256 5452

Email: info@csanz.edu.au <http://www.csanz.edu.au>

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More information

Christine Boyle

christine.boyle@csanz.edu.au

Tel: +61 2 9256 5453

Fax: +61 2 9247 7916



Views expressed in “on the pulse” are not necessarily the views of the Cardiac Society or its Board.

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undergoing cardiac procedures and the Society is in the process of developing a National Procedures Registry, to be owned by the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand. Importantly, this registry will identify Indigenous people as part of the demographic data which will allow us to more accurately measure outcomes for procedures for Indigenous people in Australia and New Zealand. We are hopeful that this will become a reality in the second part of 2012.

The Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand is also involved in a collaborative venture with Baker IDI and the Department of Health and Ageing along with a number of other contributing parties in a project called ESSENCE (Essential Service Standards for Equitable Cardiovascular Care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders), which is in the process of developing a set of essential minimal standards for cardiovascular care for Australia in both metropolitan, regional and rural areas. The project will help set a framework for future development of equitable cardiovascular care and will be an important platform for development of future initiatives in this area. This project, which was developed through a grant from OATSIH under DOHA, is now moving to completion having been underway over the past year. All members who have received requests to complete grading of these proposed standards are asked to put aside a few moments to assist in this process. For those who are interested in contributing please contact Tony Lawson on tlawcons@bigpond.net.au

The Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand and the Australian and New Zealand Society of Cardiac and Thoracic Surgeons are also collaborating on development of a registry to document outcomes of Indigenous patients who undergo valve surgical therapies for rheumatic valve disease. This project has been initiated by Warren Walsh who, through his extensive experience in outreach medicine, has raised questions about differential outcomes in Indigenous patients particularly in regional and rural communities, undergoing valvular surgery for rheumatic heart disease. This group has commenced with an initial review of existing data housed within the ANZSCTS Surgical Registry Database, managed by Monash Department of Epidemiology. We are hopeful that this review will set the scene to develop a complete prospective national picture of RHD interventions and long term outcomes for Indigenous people.

The Cardiac Society in the past six to eight months has also been involved in collecting and collating information on current Indigenous cardiovascular specialist outreach services in Australia, through both approaches to the statewide funders, utilising federal funding such as MSOAP, and also from information from our own members involved in Indigenous outreach care. The feedback from all these groups, but particularly our members, has been positive and encouraging and we are grateful for these responses to this point. At the beginning of the year we conducted a survey, which had a good response rate, which

identified both practitioners involved in Indigenous cardiovascular care and also importantly those who were not involved but might be interested in contributing. The Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand does not believe it has a role in direct health service delivery, but does have a role in recognising inequities in service and helping rectify these by involving its membership, by the development of appropriate guidelines and clinical pathways and by strengthening its advocacy role in supporting provision of capital equipment and allied health workers to help our members working in this sphere.

The breadth of these activities is currently carried out by a relatively small number of members who are passionate in their wish to correct what is a national (Australia and New Zealand) disparity of care. In detailing our activities, our hope is that further members will become involved and give their time to these important initiatives. Please feed back to us your own thoughts on these issues; your involvement as all levels of support in these projects is critical and appreciated. The Society strength is its involvement by its members and this is an ideal opportunity to get involved and contribute in this critical area.

Members' comments can be emailed to Lynne Portelli, CEO, lynne.portelli@csanz.edu.au



The Cardiac Society of
Australia and New Zealand



Named Lecturers



RT Hall Lecturer
Renu Virmani
CV Path Institute,
Gaithersburg, MD, USA



Kempson Maddox Lecturer
David Kilpatrick
University of Tasmania,
Hobart, TAS, Australia



Victor Chang Memorial Lecturer
Joseph Bavaria
Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine, Heart &
Vascular Center, Philadelphia, PA, USA



Basic Science Lecturer
Henry Krum
Centre of Cardiovascular Research & Education in
Therapeutics, Monash University, Melbourne, VIC, Aust



Cardiovascular Nursing Lecturer
Linda Worrall-Carter
St Vincent's Hospital, Fitzroy,
VIC, Australia



Gaston Bauer Lecturer
Michael Stowasser
University of Queensland School of Medicine, Greenslopes
& Princess Alexandra Hospitals, Brisbane, QLD, Australia



14th WCC Research Investigatorship Lecture
James L Hare
Alfred Hospital, Prahran,
VIC, Australia



www.anzet.com.au



J Aaron Grantham
University of Missouri,
Kansas City, MO, USA



Pieter Kappetein
Erasmus MC Rotterdam,
The Netherlands



Saibal Kar
Cedars-Sinai Medical Centre,
Los Angeles, CA, USA



2012 Louis Bernstein Lecturer
Gregg Stone
Columbia University Medical Centre,
New York, NY, USA



E Murat Tuzcu
Cleveland Clinic,
Cleveland, OH, USA



Renu Virmani
CV Path Institute
Gaithersburg, MD, USA



Nicolo Piazza
German Heart Center,
Munich, Germany

R T HALL PRIZE 2013



Call for Nominations

Nominations are invited for the 2013 R T Hall Prize of the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand (CSANZ). The Prize is the most prestigious research award of the CSANZ and recognises the achievements of senior and established investigators. The Prize is awarded in open competition and is directed towards recognition of sustained and outstanding research achievement.

CONDITIONS:

- The R T Hall Prize will be awarded to **an individual investigator** for a coherent body of work, which advances knowledge of the cardiovascular system and its diseases. In exceptional circumstances, the Prize may be awarded to a small group for an outstanding contribution in the field of cardiology. The work must have been published in a scientific journal or journals. Work published in book-form and thesis, which have been accepted for higher degrees, may also be submitted.
- The investigator need not be a Member of The Society, however, the work must have been substantially undertaken in Australia or New Zealand.
- Submissions for the R T Hall Prize will consist of a nominating letter by a Member of The Society plus copies of the published manuscript(s), as well as, confirmation from the nominee(s) that they wish to be considered for the Prize.
- The R T Hall Prize will be decided by the Board after review by the Scientific Committee.
- The winner of the R T Hall Prize will be announced at the Annual General Meeting of The Society. The names of the judges will also be announced.
- The value of the R T Hall Prize will be AU\$10,000.

Submissions should be forwarded to the Honorary Secretary, The Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand, 145 Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

Closing date:

5pm (EDST) Wednesday, 24th October 2012

The Society reserves the right not to proceed with an appointment for any reason. Applicants requiring further information are requested to contact the CSANZ at info@csanz.edu.au

Please note: If email confirmation of receipt of the nomination is **not** received within 1 week of submission, please contact the Secretariat at info@csanz.edu.au

Travelling Fellowships to the AHA / Update

Applications are called for the **CSANZ Travelling Fellowships** for travel grants to enable investigators to attend the **Scientific Sessions 2012 of the American Heart Association** to be held in Los Angeles, California, 3-7 November, 2012. The Fellowships are intended to provide an opportunity for investigators in the early stage of their research career, to present at a major international conference.

The conditions are:

1. The Fellowships are valued at AU\$3,000 each.
2. The top ranked candidate will be awarded the CSANZ McCredie/Wilcken Travelling Fellowship.
3. Applicants must be FCSANZ, Associate Members or Affiliate Members of the Cardiac Society, with preference given to those attending their first meeting.
4. The work must have emanated from Australia or New Zealand.
5. Applicants must have an abstract accepted for presentation at the AHA meeting.
6. Applications must be accompanied by a letter from the supervisor or Director of the laboratory or service from which the work has emanated, clearly detailing the specific contribution made by the applicant towards the work being presented.
7. Preference will be given to those who have not previously been awarded CSANZ travelling scholarships.
8. Conditions apply to successful applicants **not domiciled in Australia or New Zealand**.*
9. Late applications will NOT be considered.

Applications should be sent to the Honorary Secretary (CSANZ 145 Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000 AUSTRALIA), together with -

- (1) copy of submitted abstract(s) and AHA notification of acceptance
- (2) brief curriculum vitae
- (3) supporting letter from the supervisor or Director

Closing Date:

5 pm Monday

27th AUGUST, 2012

* Contact the Sydney Secretariat to obtain a copy of the conditions (info@csanz.edu.au)

Please note: *If applicants have not received email confirmation of receipt of their application within 1 week of submission, they should contact the Secretariat at info@csanz.edu.au*

Dr Ingrid Hopper, from Monash University received a CSANZ Travelling Fellowship to attend the 2012 American College of Cardiology Scientific Sessions in Chicago, USA.

I was the fortunate recipient of a Cardiac Society Travelling Fellowship to attend the American College of Cardiology Scientific Sessions in Chicago this March. The meeting was great - substantial enough to attract some excellent speakers, but compact enough that over-crowding was not an issue.

I followed the heart failure stream, and there were some first-rate updates on important heart failure topics, as well as entertaining and impassioned discussions when a panel of experts were assembled.

A distinct highlight was listening to and meeting the authors of various papers I have closely studied. The poster presentation allowed for amiable discussions with other authors, leading to a deeper understanding of my research area, and further refinement of my research question. It was also a

wonderful opportunity to see what other research centres are up to. An excellent Women in Cardiology session was run, with a panel of very inspiring women discussing the ubiquitous issue of time management, and I took part in the 5km fun run on the banks of Lake Michigan early one morning, wearing two jumpers, a beanie and gloves to protect me from the icy forces of the Windy City.

All-in-all, an outstanding experience, and I am very grateful to CSANZ for providing me with this opportunity. Thank you.

CSANZ Research Scholarship for 2013

Guidelines for Applicants



The CSANZ Research Scholarship is intended to provide support for Members of the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand who wish to pursue a career in cardiovascular research.

1. The Scholarship is open to **all Members of CSANZ**.
2. The value of the Scholarship will be equivalent to that of the NHMRC Postgraduate Scholarship and will be payable for one year.
3. Research must be conducted in Australia or New Zealand.
4. Only those applicants who are enrolled as full time students (eg. for PhD or MD) will be eligible to receive the Scholarship as a tax-free stipend.

5. Deadline for the receipt of applications and referees' reports is 21st September, 2012.
6. Applications will be graded by a selection panel appointed by the Scientific Committee of the CSANZ. No interviews will be undertaken.
7. Successful applicants will be notified in January.

Note: Previous recipients of the CSANZ Research Scholarship are not eligible to apply for a second scholarship.

In addition to the above information, you will **also** require a copy of the Application Form and Application

Instructions available from either the Society Secretariat or from the website at www.csanz.edu.au, Education, Scholarships/Fellowships.

Closing Date:

5 PM FRIDAY

21st SEPTEMBER, 2012

Please note: *if applicants have not received email confirmation of receipt of their application within 1 week of submission, they should contact the Secretariat at info@csanz.edu.au*

Updated Guidelines

The following guidelines have been updated and can be accessed at www.csanz.edu.au under the Education tab.

Clinical Practice Guidelines:

- *Marfan Syndrome*
- *Reducing Risk in Heart Disease*
- *Rheumatic Fever and Rheumatic Heart Disease in Australia*
- *Rheumatic Heart Disease—Quick Reference Guide for Professionals*

Performance of Investigations and Procedures Guidelines:

- *Ambulatory ECG Monitoring*

Membership Changes and Additions / Chair in Cardiology

The following changes and new admissions to Membership occurred from the beginning of 2012 to the present time. The Society extends a warm welcome to all.

Affiliate Members:

Ms C Blanton, Miss A Evans, Mr C Ferguson, Ms C Gough, Miss M Jolic, Ms P Jones, Ms N Koizumi, Mrs V Krog, Miss A Kwon, Ms S Matthewson, Miss C Orum, Ms L Thomson Mangnall and Ms C Wright.

Associate Members:

Dr P Jogia, Dr B King, Dr B Kneale, Dr B Kuepper, Dr M Liang, Dr T Naguib Badie, Dr V Manins, Dr K Prados, Dr T Tan and Dr D Thomson.

FCSANZ Members:

Dr B Chan, Mr R Costa, Dr J Deague, Dr A Driscoll, Dr A Kanthan, Dr P Koloth Narayanan, Dr D McClean, Dr S Patel, Dr P Rametta, Dr P Ruchin, Dr M Sherwood, Dr G Sivagangabalan, and Dr J Weaver.

CHAIR IN CARDIOLOGY

(Ref: 3990)

**ROYAL PERTH HOSPITAL
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND PHARMACOLOGY**

Applications are invited for appointment to the position of Chair in Cardiology in the School of Medicine and Pharmacology at The University of Western Australia, and the Department of Cardiology at Royal Perth Hospital. The position provides a challenging opportunity for a suitably qualified person who has a record in leadership in an area of clinical cardiology and research.

Applicants must hold appropriate higher qualifications and be registered or eligible for registration in Western Australia. The appointee will take a full range of academic responsibilities for undergraduate and postgraduate teaching, supervision, research and clinical responsibilities in an area of cardiovascular medicine.

The appointment will be fixed-term for five years in the first instance with the possibility for further periods and includes limited rights of private practice or election to a private practice allowance. The appointee will be offered an attractive remuneration package that includes professorial and hospital salaries and a clinical loading. Benefits will also include eligibility for sabbatical leave and generous leave provisions, superannuation and relocation assistance (if applicable) for the appointee and dependants.

For information regarding the position contact Winthrop Professor Gerald Watts, Head of Royal Perth Hospital Unit, School of Medicine and Pharmacology, on +61 415 698 140 or email gerald.watts@uwa.edu.au. Alternatively contact Dr James Rankin, Head, Department of Cardiology, Royal Perth Hospital on +61 8 9224 2067 or email james.rankin@health.wa.gov.au.

Closing date:

Friday, 20 July 2012

The *Information for Candidates* brochure which contains details to lodge your application may be found via a link at <http://jobs.uwa.edu.au/> or at <https://www.his.admin.uwa.edu.au/Advertising/3990CandidateInformation.pdf> or by contacting Ms Toni Pilgrim, Human Resources, email toni.pilgrim@uwa.edu.au

Go RED for Women this June



As a health professional, you'll know the importance of raising awareness of heart disease and its risk factors to allow for early detection and prevention.

You may also know that many Australian women don't realise the importance of clinical risk factors, such as high blood pressure and high cholesterol in increasing the risk of heart disease. It is an alarming fact that 90% of Australian women have at least one risk factor for heart disease and 50% have two or three.

Through its annual Go Red for Women campaign, the Heart Foundation is seeking help from health professionals to raise awareness of heart disease as the No. 1 killer of Australian women.

This year, there is a strong focus on raising awareness about the clinical risk factors of heart disease. This focus includes encouraging women to have a heart health check and adhering to advice on how they can manage their risk factors. Participating in our Healthy Heart Challenge is also one practical way that women can learn to make simple every day changes to their lifestyle that will help improve their heart health. This free online Challenge runs for 6 weeks and encourages women to focus on one of four goals: improve everyday nutrition; be active everyday; lower high cholesterol levels; or lower high blood pressure. Women are then supported to achieve their goal with tips, tools and healthy recipes.

As a health professional, you can support the campaign by:

- Downloading or ordering free resources for health professionals and consumers, including brochures, posters, articles and imagery to use on your website, display in your office or include in your newsletters.
- Encouraging your patients to join the free Healthy Heart Challenge, which starts on 4 June (hurry - registrations close 17 June).
- Joining the conversation to beat heart disease by following the Heart Foundation on Facebook and/or Twitter.

Wearing red during June to raise awareness about women and heart disease.

With only 3 in 10 Australian women aware that heart disease is the number one killer of women, there is much to do in raising awareness. We look forward to your support in helping us do this.

Visit goredforwomen.org.au for more information, to register for the Healthy Heart Challenge or to order/download resources.

NORTH AMERICA

AHA Scientific Sessions 2012
November 3-7, 2012
Los Angeles, California
www.scientificsessions.americanheart.org

EUROPE

ESC Congress 2012
25-29 August 2012
Munich, Germany
www.escardio.org

ASIA PACIFIC

Combined 2012 Meeting of The Cardiac Society (NZ) and the Royal Australasian College of

Physicians (NZ)
June 15-17, 2012
Auckland, New Zealand
www.csanz2012.co.nz

ANZET12
August 15-16, 2012
Brisbane, Queensland
Secretariat:
The Conference Company
Phone: 64 9 360 1240
www.csanz.edu.au

CSANZ 2012
60th Annual Scientific Meeting
August 16-19, 2012
Brisbane, Queensland
Secretariat:
The Conference Company
Phone: 64 9 360 1240
www.csanz.edu.au

Hypertension Sydney 2012
September 30 - October 4, 2012
Sydney, NSW
www.ish2012.org

Evolving concepts of the renin angiotensin system
September 26-28, 2012
Hunter Valley, NSW
www.rassatellite2012.com.au

A more comprehensive list of meetings and events can be viewed on the Society's website
www.csanz.edu.au



www.csanz2012.co.nz



www.worldcardiocongress.org