



WE NEED YOUR INPUT ON PRESSING ISSUES AND QUESTIONS

1. Is SAMA still relevant for Private Practicing Specialists (PPC) or is it merely a General Practitioners Association? Should we still be members of SAMA?
 2. Does it make sense to pay a SAMA membership fee of R2 800 vs a SA Heart Membership fee of R500? – or should it be the other way round?
 3. Why did 80% of SAMA PPC resign and not get replaced? Is that why SAMA PPC was not able to take a single decision in the past 18 months?
 4. Should the South African Private Practitioners Forum (SAPPF) replace SAMA as representing Private Practicing Specialists? Do we really need SAMA to have a door to government? Does SAMA effectively influence government on health matters?
 5. Do you participate in your Society's SHARE project and do you know what SHARE stands for?
 6. Do you contribute to the academic meetings of your SA Heart Branch?
 7. Why should it be necessary to pay R4m to take the Department of Health to court because they ignore the practice cost studies which also cost your Association R250 000?
 8. Do you read your SA Heart Newsletter? Do you contribute to your Association's newsletter?
 9. Do you visit the websites of SA Heart; SASCI; CASSA; HeFFSA and other special interest groups?
 10. Will government be able to manage a National Health Initiative (NHI) if they cannot presently manage the existing public health care facilities?
- You may forward your opinion or more questions to the editor, Adriaan Snyders at asnyders@mweb.co.za.**

DR MOLEFI SEFULARO

The sudden and tragic passing of our Deputy Health Minister, Dr Molefi Sefularo, comes as a great shock to the entire cardiological community of South Africa. Dr Sefularo was a beacon of light in the Health Department, committed to improving the health of all our people. Colleagues who knew him held him in very high regard – as an individual as well as a colleague. He carried on his shoulders great hope for improving the function of the Health Department under President Zuma. His was a rational voice on the future of healthcare in South Africa. He was prepared to listen to others' opinions and this gave us, the South African Heart Association, great hope for the future of our specialty. His death is a great loss to not only his family, but to all health care professionals, and indeed all the people of South Africa.

It is with great sadness that we convey our deep and sincere condolences to his wife and 4 children.

Martin Sussman

President

South African Heart Association

POPULAR CONGRESSES FOR 2010

CONGRESS	DATE	CITY	COUNTRY
EUROPREVENT 2010	5-7 May 2010	Prague	Czech Rep
HEART RHYTHM 31ST SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS	15-20 May 2010	Colorado, Denver	USA
EURO PCR 2010	25-28 May 2010	Paris	France
HEART FAILURE 2010	29 May - 1 June 2010	Berlin	Germany
EUROPACE 2010	15-17 June 2010	Berlin	Germany
WORLD CONGRESS OF CARDIOLOGY	16-19 June 2010	Beijing	China
ESH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING 2010	18-22 June 2010	Oslo	Norway
CSI CONGRESS	5-10 July 2010	Frankfurt	Germany
15TH WORLD CONGRESS ON HEART DISEASES ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS 2010	24-27 July 2010	Vancouver, BC	Canada
SA HEART 2010	8-10 August 2010	Sun City	South Africa
ESC 2010	28 August - 1 September 2010	Stockholm	Sweden
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR CARDIO-THORACIC SURGERY	11-15 September 2010	Geneva	Switzerland
TCT	21-25 September 2010	Washington, DC	USA
ACUTE CARDIAC CARE 2010	16/19 October 2010	Copenhagen	Denmark
CHEST 2010	29 October - November 2010	Vancouver, BC	Canada
EUROECHO 2010	15-17 December 2010	Madrid	Spain

EXCELLENT SYMPOSIA AND PROGRESS WITH ACCREDITATION

This year has kicked off with a bang and the CASSA Exco has been involved in developing many exciting programmes for 2010. The three highlights for 2010 are:

Many faces of AF

The annual CASSA National Symposium will be held in October 2010 with Atrial Fibrillation (AF) as the central theme. Prof. Dr S Hohnloser from the Clinical Electrophysiology Department at the Gühte University in Frankfurt, Germany, together with local faculty, will discuss the different forms in which AF presents in patients, including:

- Asymptomatic AF;
- AF and stroke;
- AF and heart failure; and
- Case studies.

As always, the meeting will be of excellent academic standard, yet practical and interactive. Two major meetings will be held (Johannesburg and Cape Town) with the possibility of smaller symposia elsewhere. Do not miss this exciting event!

CASSA Medical Aid Symposium

Due to many questions lately from private funders on the correct use and reimbursement of device therapy, CASSA has decided to host a full-day symposium for all major medical aids to discuss international guidelines, accreditation, cost-

effectiveness of device therapy when implemented correctly as well as other pressing issues.

GP road shows

General practitioners can again look forward to the annual CASSA ECG workshops. These meetings will kick off in George on the Cape South Coast in April. Similar meetings will be held in Gauteng later in the year.

Visit www.cassa.co.za or contact Franciska du Toit at 082 806 1599 or franciska@cassa.co.za for details.

Accreditation

Accreditation has been a much-debated issue, as it has in many other countries where it become standard practice. CASSA has already started with accreditation but wishes to expand this while assisting individuals with the necessary training at the same time. Accreditation will be done on at least three levels:

- Accreditation as an EP;
- ICD accreditation for practitioners who have already done a minimum number of cases; and
- ICD accreditation for naïve implanters and fellows in training.

Interested parties can visit the CASSA website for the accreditation guidelines and criteria or contact Prof Rob Scott Millar or Franciska du Toit at the CASSA office at 082 806 1599 or franciska@cassa.co.za.

A society like CASSA can only function successfully if the members are involved.

Visit the website regularly to ensure that you are informed of CASSA events in your area.

SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIETY OF CARDIOVASCULAR INTERVENTION

SA Heart Congress 2010

This year the congress coincides with Women's Day and the theme is holistic cardiac care. There will be a significant component dedicated to heart disease in women – an often neglected aspect of medicine in general. Sessions will be on a broad range of subjects and, in keeping with the holistic theme, material relevant to all subspecialties will be included.

Every session will contain a significant element of interventional material. Our international speaker is Prof Bernhard Meier from Bern, Switzerland. He is widely known and has been involved in PCI since the first balloon angioplasty in 1977 by Andreas Gruentzig. Subjects that will be covered are cardioembolic stroke and device therapy, antiplatelet therapies and acute coronary syndromes and lessons learned by an invasive cardiologist.

A number of local speakers will also contribute interventional material including the radial approach, acute stroke intervention and revascularisation in ACS. SASCI members are encouraged to attend as there will be interesting lessons in how to integrate intervention into general cardiology.

A pre-congress echocardiography symposium organised for Sunday (8 August) with the Mayo Clinic Group from Rochester, USA, will again be held.

Members can register at www.saheart.co.za and receive a substantial early bird discount for payment received before 31 May. Abstracts can also be submitted electronically on the website (closing date 17 May).

Farrel Hellig

SASCI representative SAHA10 COC

Feedback: SCAI Fall Fellows Course 2009 (7-11 December 2009, Las Vegas)

Thanks to the efforts of SASCI and generous sponsorship by industry partners, four registrars in cardiology training recently had the opportunity to attend the Fall Fellows Course of the Society for Cardiac Angiography and Intervention (SCAI) in Las Vegas. Farouk Mamdoo, Rahim Khan, Agostinho de Silva and Lou Hofmeyr made the most of the opportunity and gained knowledge and experience along with 250 other delegates from 21 countries.

The 4-day course was presented by leaders in the field and comprised an up-to-date overview of the entire syllabus of interventional cardiology. A fascinating selection of cases was shown and the simulator sessions were exceptionally life-like. Emphasis was placed on the history of interventional cardiology and many role players in the origin of the specialty gave firsthand accounts of the research and development process.

“Gained knowledge
and experience.”

Apart from the extensive review of current best therapy in the field of complex PCI and related issues, eye-catching topics discussed were post-CABG angina treatment, percutaneous mitral valve repair, intravascular ultrasound and FFR and percutaneous valve replacement. This training opportunity was a unique chance to learn from the best in the field.

Our sincere thanks go to all who made our trip a success.

Lou Hofmeyr

Senior Registrar Cardiology, Tygerberg Hospital and University of Stellenbosch

SASCI continued

Feedback: 6th Annual SASCI Fellows Workshop (6th March 2010)

Dr A. Horak at Vincent Pallotti Hospital hosted the workshop. SASCI executive members who made valuable contributions were Dr Graham Cassel, Dr Tom Mabin, Dr Clive Corbett and Dr Farrel Hellig. 21 Cardiology Fellows from across South Africa attended as well as 3 young cardiologists from Mauritius.

The emphasis of the SASCI Day is to demonstrate advanced angioplasty techniques through live cases with moderators. All in all six patients underwent PCI with lesions of varying complexity. Total occlusions, bifurcations, calcified lesions and a main-stem lesion were demonstrated. In all cases the emphasis was on the appropriate use of various techniques. The importance of decision-making in angioplasty, as well as the appropriate techniques and choice of equipment during a procedure were emphasized. The panel of experts gave various short lectures including Primary PCI in Acute Myocardial Infarction, FFR and its uses in between live cases.

“In all cases the emphasis was on the appropriate use of various techniques.”

SASCI would like to thank all the staff at LIFE Vincent Pallotti Hospital for their dedication and hands-on contribution to making this workshop a huge success. We also thank our corporate sponsors for their financial support.

SASCI used the Fellows Workshop to also announce the recipient of the 2010 RC Fraser International Fellowship Award in Interventional Cardiology. The award will allow recipient Dr Neil Hendricks from University of Cape Town to travel to the UK for 4 weeks to work with Prof Martyn Thomas from St Thomas Hospital during 2011.

Adie Horak

SASCI Fellows Programme Director



SASCI

South African
Society of
Cardiovascular
Intervention



South African
Heart Association

HOLISTIC HEART CARE

SA Heart Congress 2010

Clinical & Interventional Cardiology

Enhancing your day to day care, expanding your horizons

8-11 August

Sun City • South Africa



TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIPS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

The travel scholarship is available to all members and associate members living in South Africa and primarily aims to assist junior colleagues. In doing so, continued future participation in local or international scientific meetings/workshops is encouraged.

REQUIREMENTS

- ▶ Applicants must be fully paid-up members/associate members in good standing for at least one year.
- ▶ Applications need to include:
 - ▶ Full details of the meeting/workshop;
 - ▶ The applicant's abbreviated CV; and
 - ▶ A breakdown of the anticipated expenses.
- ▶ Applications must reach the Association a minimum of 3 months before the event.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- ▶ Acceptance of an abstract submitted by the applicant at the scientific meeting/workshop. (Should acceptance be pending, the application need still be submitted 3 months prior with a note stating expected time of approval.) In such a case the scholarship might be granted conditionally: that proof of the abstract being accepted is submitted afterwards);
- ▶ An invitation to participate as an invited speaker at the meeting;
- ▶ Publications in a peer reviewed journal/s in the preceding year;
- ▶ An applicant from a member of a previously disadvantaged community; and
- ▶ An application from a member younger than 35 years of age.

ADDRESS APPLICATIONS TO:

The President
South African Heart Association
PO Box 19062
Tygerberg
7505

**A MAXIMUM OF FOUR SCHOLARSHIPS WILL BE AWARDED ANNUALLY.
GRANTS FOR INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS WILL BE A MAXIMUM OF R20 000
AND LOCAL MEETINGS A MAXIMUM OF R7 500.**



HOLISTIC HEART CARE
SA Heart Association Congress 2010

WELCOME



Dear Colleagues

The Annual SA Heart Association Congress 2010 (Sun City 8 – 11 August) has been entitled 'Holistic Heart Care'. The first 200 delegates to register for the congress will receive a R1000 discount courtesy of an unrestricted educational grant from Medtronic Africa. We envisage an exciting, innovative academic programme that will attempt to provide an overall cardiological perspective. The cast of invited local and international speakers is stellar; many are first time visitors and others we welcome back to our shores for repeat visits.

New academic sessions with topics not previously discussed at our Annual Congresses will be included. Women's Day will be celebrated on the opening day of the congress and a session devoted to cardiovascular disease in women will be a highlight. A pragmatic medical ethics session is an additional innovation and one covering cardio-oncology is presented for the first time. Interventional cardiology will be an integral part of the congress. The paediatric cardiologists, cardio-thoracic surgeons, basic scientists and allied professionals will run parallel sessions. Oral abstract and poster presentations will be included.

There will be pre-congress symposia organised for the Sunday preceding the congress. Mayo clinic from Rochester, USA return for Part II of the highly successful echocardiography workshop that was run initially for the 2009 congress and there will be a cardiology update for non-cardiologists too.

An exciting social programme is planned. The ideal nature of the Sun City holiday/congress complex offers a lot for the attendee and their families. Come join us! Large discounts on congress registration are available for those who register early!

We look forward to welcoming you to the congress.

Eric Klug
Congress Chairman
South African Heart Association

INVITED GUEST SPEAKERS



HOLISTIC HEART CARE
SA Heart Association Congress 2010

Europe

Professor Manuel Antunes
Professor John Cleland
Professor Gerd Heusch
Professor Bernie Meier
Professor Celia Oakley
Professor Steve Westaby

USA

Dr Ben Eidem
Professor Michael Ewer
Professor Michael Ezekowitz
Dr William Freeman
Dr Robert McCully
Professor Lewis Rubin
Dr Nkomo Vuyisile
Professor Nanette Wenger
Professor Gill Wernovsky

Canada

Dr Andrew Pipe

Africa

Professor Ames Dhai
Professor David McQuoid-Mason
Professor Albertina Damasceno



GP PROGRAMMES MAJOR FOCUS IN 2010

The year has kicked off at a tremendous pace and it is hard to believe that we are already drafting the Autumn Newsletter.

GP Workshops

HeFSSA's key focus for 2010 will be Heart Failure training at General Practitioner level. Dr Pro Obel, who is the director of this exciting academic programme, will develop three modules consisting of two lectures each. These will be rolled out from April to October in the six major metropolitan areas of Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban, Pretoria, Bloemfontein and Port Elizabeth.

Historically, HeFSSA GP programmes were predominantly driven by our individual pharmaceutical partners. These meetings were advertised by the company and the latter was heavily involved in deciding on the areas in which these meetings were to be held.

By running the program centrally from the HeFSSA office we will be able to ensure that all major areas across South Africa will be covered and all GP's who would like to learn about HF will get the opportunity to do so this year.

The content of the Heart Failure meetings will include the following:

Module 1

Lecture 1: An Introduction to Heart Failure – Epidemiology (it affects all people of all ages, cause of death, good management improves outcomes).

Lecture 2: Pathogenesis of HF – Introduction to the four typical presentations of heart Failure i.e.

- The man being chased by a bull (heart rhythm)
- The weightlifter (pressure)
- The overloaded taxi (volume overload)
- Tug of war (Primary disease of muscle)

In all of these cases we will discuss the basic mechanism and why things get worse, signs, symptoms and typical patterns.



Module 2

Lecture 1: Diagnosis of each of the four patient types mentioned above.

Lecture 2: Treatment of each of the four patient types mentioned above.

Module 3: Case studies of all four profiles to determine whether GP understands the following:

- What is out there?
- Why is it out there?
- What do I (as GP) need to look for?
- How to watch for things going badly?
- How can I (GP) be part of the interim?

Certification dinner

SAHA 2010

HeFSSA will again host pre-conference workshops on echocardiography (in association with the Mayo clinic US) as well as a cardiology update for non-cardiologists.

To learn more about these events visit www.hefssa.org regularly or contact Franciska du Toit at 082 806 1599 or franciska@hefssa.org.

Karin Sliwa

President HeFSSA

THE SOUTH AFRICAN HEART ASSOCIATION RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP

The research scholarship is available to all full and associate members of SA Heart living in South Africa. It is primarily intended to assist colleagues involved in much-needed research to enhance their research programmes.

REQUIREMENTS

- ▶ Applicants need to be fully paid-up members/associate members in good standing for at least one year.
- ▶ Applications must include
 - ▶ The applicant's abbreviated CV;
 - ▶ A breakdown of the anticipated expenses; and
 - ▶ Full details of the research.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- ▶ Publications of related work in a peer reviewed journal in the preceding year;
- ▶ Applicants from a previously disadvantaged community; and
- ▶ Applicants younger than 35 years of age.

ADDRESS APPLICATIONS TO:

Education Standing Committee
South African Heart Association
PO Box 19062
Tygerberg
7505

THE SELECTION PANEL WILL REVIEW APPLICATIONS ANNUALLY AND THE CLOSING DATE IS SEPTEMBER 30.

One scholarship to a maximum amount of R50 000 will be awarded annually.

APPLICATIONS WILL BE ASSESSED ACCORDING TO THE ACCOMPANYING RESEARCH PROTOCOL WHICH SHOULD INCLUDING:

- ▶ An abstract (maximum 200 words);
- ▶ A brief review of the literature (maximum 200 words);
- ▶ A brief description of the hypothesis to be investigated (maximum 100 words);
- ▶ A detailed methodology (maximum 500 words); and
- ▶ References.