



## **NEWSLETTER** Volume 12 October 2004

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### **Message from the President**

#### **THE WORLD APHERESIS ASSOCIATION: A PROJECT FOR THE NEXT NEAR FUTURE**

**Loïc Guillevin, President**

Dear WAA Member,

The World Apheresis Association is now a well-established scientific society that federates 8 national, 3 continental and 4 international societies. All these societies play major roles in hemapheresis by stimulating research, participating in the elaboration of registries, collaborating to improve devices and many other technical aspects, and promoting education (basic instruction or continuing-education programs). Every 2 years, our international congress serves as a meeting place for physicians and technicians involved in apheresis. During their terms, our past presidents, Thomas Price then Peter Ivanovich, burnished the reputation and enhanced the renown and influence of the WAA, recruited new member societies and established tools for facilitating the international exchange of information on all the aspects of donor and therapeutic hemapheresis.

Although many goals were met over the past several years, the WAA has many other objectives that the new board will strive to accomplish within the next term.

- 1) Entice new societies to join the WAA and thereby cover all the areas of apheresis as well as the 5 continents;
- 2) Facilitate the organization of regional meetings, under the aegis of the WAA, in addition to our world congress, which should be an appointment for the presentation of the quintessence of research in the field of apheresis;
- 3) Ensure application of the congress procedural guidelines;

## Message from the President continued

- 4) Every 2 years organize a high-quality congress, which will further garner more respect for the WAA and accord it recognition as a reference scientific society for colleagues from every country;
- 5) Encourage the development of treatment protocols and stimulate the undertaking of prospective clinical trials to evaluate the indications of apheresis, including their cost-effectiveness compared to other reference therapies, and facilitate interactions between scientists and companies to develop more powerful technologies to help patients;
- 6) Improve the input of data into the WAA hemapheresis registry, based on the already existing registries prepared by different national societies;
- 7) Elaborate guidelines and indications for apheresis and, if possible, compile them in a reference book to be published under the auspices of the WAA;
- 8) Further develop the educational programs for technicians and physicians attending our congresses, and, through them, attract new participants in WAA activities;
- 9) Turn our website into a forum and the place where all contacts between the WAA members will be possible and easy;
- 10) Give the Cohn de Laval Foundation the responsibility to supervise, coordinate and sponsor our scientific endeavors, and international trials in the field of apheresis;
- 11) Make the WAA a reference for excellence in apheresis.

To accomplish this ambitious program, the board, subcommittee members and I will devote much time and energy to pursue our respective new and longstanding tasks, and you will be informed regularly of our progress.

*Loïc Guillemin, President*

*Paris, September 14, 2004*

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This is the 12<sup>th</sup> edition of the WAA newsletter, which was first published in February 1990. We encourage submission by any member of articles or data concerning the existence or results of clinical trials. This publication is assembled and distributed by the CAG. All submissions should be sent to the following address by July 2005 for publication in the next issue.

Gail Rock, PhD, MD, FRCP

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## **WAA Member Societies**

### **Organization**

American Society for Apheresis (ASFA)	<b>President/Representative</b> Patricia Golden
Australian & New Zealand Apheresis Association (ANZZA)	James Isbister
Canadian Apheresis Group (CAG)	Gail Rock
European Society for Artificial Organs (ESAO)	Raymond Vanholder
European Society for Hemapheresis (ESFH)	Paul Höcker
Grupo Latino-Americano de Hemaféresis (GLHEMA)	Leonel Szterling
Hellenic Haemapheresis Society (HHS)	John Dervenoulas
Indian Society for Apheresis (ISA)	Rakesh Srivastava
International Society for Apheresis (ISFA)	Thomas Bosch
International Society for Artificial Organs (ISAO)*	R.H. Bartlett
Japan Society of Apheresis (JSA)	Noritoshi Shibuya
Philippine Society of Hematology and Blood Tranfusion (PSHBT)	Ernesto R. delos Reyes
Société Francaise d' Hémaphérèse (SFH)	F. Schooneman
Società Italiana di Emaferesi (SiDE)	Francesco Mercuriali
Turkish Hemapheresis Society (TSH)	Osman İlhan

\*ISAO is now part of the International Federation of Artificial Organs.

## **World Apheresis Association Executive Committee**

<b>President</b>	<b>Loïc Guillevin (France)</b>
<b>President-Elect</b>	<b>Noritoshi Shibuya (Japan)</b>
<b>Past-President</b>	<b>Peter Ivanovich (USA)</b>
<b>Vice-Presidents</b>	<b>Gail Rock (Canada)</b> <b>Ghodrat Siami (USA)</b> <b>Bernd Stegmayr (Sweden)</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>David Sutton (Canada)</b>
<b>Asst. Secretary General</b>	<b>Annette Bussel (France)</b>

## **Councillors**

<b>ANZAA</b>	<b>James P. Isbister (Australia)</b>
<b>ASFA</b>	<b>Robert Weinstein (USA)</b>
<b>CAG</b>	<b>Gail Rock (Canada)</b>
<b>ESAO</b>	<b>Horst Klinkmann (Germany)</b>
<b>ESFH</b>	<b>Paul Höcker (Austria)</b>
<b>GLHEMA</b>	<b>Mario A. Figueroa (Argentina)</b>
<b>HHS</b>	<b>Konstantinos Markakis (Greece)</b>
<b>ISA</b>	<b>Rakeeh Srivastava (India)</b>
<b>ISAO</b>	<b>Wolfgang Ramlow (Germany)</b>
<b>ISFA</b>	<b>Thomas Bosch (Germany)</b>
<b>JSA</b>	<b>Noritoshi Shibuya (Japan)</b>
<b>SFH</b>	<b>François Schooneman (France)</b>
<b>SiDE</b>	<b>Giancarlo Isacchi (Italy)</b>
<b>TSH</b>	<b>Osman İlhan (Turkey)</b>

## **SOCIETY REPORTS**

### **American Society for Apheresis 2004**

The American Society for Apheresis (ASFA) held its 25<sup>th</sup> annual meeting May 5 – 8, 2004, in Miami Beach, Florida. ASFA hosted the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the World Apheresis Association (WAA) during the 2004 annual meeting. Attendees from many countries attended presentations on topics related to new applications of therapeutic apheresis, donor apheresis, and several abstract sessions. Our thanks go out to the many people in the field of apheresis across the world that participated in the 2004 meeting, planning, attending, and presenting. Special thanks go to Dr. Alvaro Pineda, the Congress President, Dr. Peter Ivanovich, President of the WAA, and Dr. Wolfgang Ramlow, Organizing Committee.

As a society, ASFA members continue to gather together for the purpose of creating opportunities to learn from each other's experience, develop new and lasting partnerships, and promote scientific advancement and safety in the application of apheresis technology with donors and patients.

ASFA is in the process of planning for the 2005 Annual Meeting to be held in Chicago, Illinois, April 27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2005 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago.

President, Patricia Jost Golden, RN, HP, (ASCP)

President Elect, Mark Brecher

Treasurer, Zbigniew M. Szczepiorkowski    Secretary, Christine Anderson,

For further information on the ASFA organization please contact:

Email: [asfa@dakotacom.net](mailto:asfa@dakotacom.net)

### **The Australian and NZ Apheresis Association (ANZAA)**

ANZAA formally completed its successful amalgamation into the Australian and New Zealand Society of Blood Transfusion (ANZSBT) in 2003. There is now an apheresis special interest group within ANZSBT. The ANZSBT is also expanding its nursing membership which is closely related to the apheresis group.

There were several reasons for the amalgamation including:

1. Closer relationships with transfusion medicine, haematology and thrombosis/haemostasis as all the societies meeting together at the same time for their annual scientific meetings.
2. Economies of scale from the financial, secretarial and bureaucratic perspectives.

Finally, the ANZSBT and the apheresis interest group in particular are reviewing their relationship with the WAA and should make a decision before the end of 2004.

ANZAA Prerepresentative, Prof. James Isbister

For further information on the ANZAA organization please contact:

Email: [jisbiste@med.usyd.edu.au](mailto:jisbiste@med.usyd.edu.au)

## **Canadian Apheresis Group (CAG)**

The CAG currently has two large-scale clinical studies underway. The myeloma study will determine whether 5 to 7 plasma exchange procedures in patients with rapidly progressive renal failure secondary to myeloma will reduce renal failure and dialysis dependency and the Viral Surveillance Study, in which all apheresis patients have samples taken pre and 1 and 6 month treatment to determine exposure to viruses. Unfortunately the TTP study which was comparing SDP and CSP is on hold due to the lack of SDP.

The CAG annual meetings, in which data is reviewed and plans are made for further trials and assessment of new approaches and equipment, have had a positive impact on the rational use of apheresis and replacement fluids across the country. Since our first meeting, the CAG has collected information on every plasma exchange carried out in the country.

In April 2004 the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Symposium of the Canadian Apheresis Group was held in Val David, Quebec, Canada. The symposium focused on Staph A Columns and Immunoabsorption. Ms. Lisa Gustofson of Otsuka American Pharmaceutical, Inc., was the principal guest speaker and spoke on "Leukapheresis in Inflammatory Bowel Disease". We are presently planning a special celebration for our next annual general meeting which will be the 25<sup>th</sup> annual assembly of the group.

An important part of the AGM is the Canadian Apheresis Association Nurses (CAAN) sessions. This dedicated group of nurses, who are the backbone to the success of the apheresis program in Canada, is the key link in the data collection process, and is responsible for keeping the studies on track in the respective centres.

The CAG is lead by members of the executive planning group who represent the physicians and nurses from the forty-two Canadian institutional health science centres that make up the CAG:

- G. Rock, PhD, MD, FRCP  
Chairman, Canadian Apheresis Planning Group  
University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario
- D. Anderson, MD, FRCP(C)  
Dalhousie University Halifax, Nova Scotia
- N. Buskard, MD, FRCP(C), FACP  
University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C.  
Ronan Foley, MD, FRCP(C)  
McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario
- P. Leblond, MD, FRCP(C)  
Laval University, Quebec City, Quebec
- B. Benny, MD, FRCP(C)  
University of British Columbia Vancouver, B.C.
- W. Clark, MD, FRCP(C), FACP  
University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario
- D. Sutton, MD, FRCP(C)  
University of Toronto Health Network, Toronto, Ontario

For further information on the CAG group please contact the CAG office:

Email: [cag@ca.inter.net](mailto:cag@ca.inter.net)

## **European Society for Artificial Organs (ESAO)**

The activities of the European Society for Artificial Organs will be presented at the society's 31<sup>st</sup> congress to be held in September. The congress will be held at the Polish Academy of Sciences, 4 Trojdena Street, Warsaw, Poland between September 9 – 11, 2004. Specific topics include: Cell Transplantation; Regenerative Medicine; Genotyping and Genomics; Heart Support; Peritoneal Dialysis; Anticoagulation; Liver Support; Uremic Toxins; Artificial Pancreas and Apheresis. The symposia on Liver Support, Uremic Toxins, Regenerative Medicine and Apheresis are organized and endorsed by the working groups of the ESAO the focus of this year's congress themes. In addition, all the usual topics regarding research in the area of artificial organs will be covered.

The executive for the ESAO comprises:

President: R. Vanholder, Gent Belgium

Past President: D. Falkenhagen, Krems, Austria

President-Elect: G. Rakhorst, Groningen, Netherlands

Secretary General: H. Schima, Vienna Austria

Treasurer: J. Vienken, Bad Homburg, Germany

Honorary President: H. Klinkmann, Rostock, Germany

Honorary Board Members: V. Bonomini and S. Stefoni, Bologna, Italy

For further information on the ESAO society please contact:

Email: Raymond.vanholder@rug.ac.be

## **European Society for Haemapheresis (ESFH)**

The ESHF organized the scientific meeting in Prague in September 2003 together with the Czech society of hematology. The Congress president, Prof. Milan Blaha, together with his Czech colleagues were very successful in combining a high scientific level together with practical issues. Leading themes were stem cell transplantation, plasma treatment and the technical aspects of apheresis. During the general assembly it was decided to organize the next scientific meeting in 2005 in Antalya, Turkey. Prof. Osman Ilhan was elected as the next congress president. We must thank Prof. Blaha for his excellent organization and the wonderful days in golden Prague.

The ESHF is now consolidated and will try to increase the number of members and to intensify contact with national societies. As a scientific society and a link between members and the companies the ESHF will focus activities both on new developments in apheresis such as adoptive immunotherapy which was already a topic in earlier meetings in Edinburgh in 1993 and in Vienna in 1995 as well as the role of apheresis techniques in clinical medicine. It is our hope that the society will continue to have an important impact on apheresis matters.

For further information on ESHF please contact: P. Hoecker, President

Email: paul.hoecker@akh-wien.ac.at

The ESHF executive board comprises: P. Hoecker, President; M. Valbonesi, Past President; Bernd Stegmayr, President Elect; J.P.H.B. Sybesma, Secretary; H.C. Helmut Borgberg, Treasurer; O. Ilhan, Congress President; M. Blaha, District Director, Eastern Europe; J. Muncunill Ribas, District Director, Western Europe; H. Ullrich, District Director, Central Europe; M. Arat, Deputy Director, Eastern Europe; R. Moog, Deputy Director, Central Europe; M. Gesinde, Deputy Director, Western Europe.

## **Grupo Latino-Americano de Hemaféresis (GLHEMA) (Latin American Group of Hemapheresis)**

The Latin American Group of Hemapheresis, has obtained support to create a Department of Apheresis in the Brazilian Society of Hematology and Hemotherapy (BSHH). The coordinator of this department is the president of our Group.

It has also been proposed that we develop an alliance with GLHEMA and G-CIAMT (Grupo Cooperativo Ibero Americano de Medicina Transfusional – Cooperative Ibero American Group of Transfusion Medicine. This association has members from all American countries and from Portugal and Spain. We are hoping that an association between these two scientific Groups will be of great value in international matters.

GLHEMA will have its Symposium hosted by the Brazilian Annual Meeting of the BSHH, to be held in Sao Paulo, November 3-6, 2004. We have already confirmed the presence of Martin Korbbling from the MD Anderson Hospital and Sergio Torloni from the Mayo Clinic.

### GLHEMA - Board of Director

Leonel Luman Sztterling	Brazil	President
Mario A. Figueroa	Argentina	Vice President
José Francisco C. Marques	Brazil	Secretary
José Mauro Zanini	Brazil	Treasurer

Argentina, a founding member of GHLEMA , during the World Apheresis Association Board Meeting in Miami on May 8, 2004, offered to host the 2008 Congress of WAA in Buenos Aires. The final decision will be taken at the next Board Meeting.

Councillor, Dr. Mario Alberto Figueroa

For further information on the GLHEMA group please contact:

Email: [mafigueroa@meditransgroup.com.ar](mailto:mafigueroa@meditransgroup.com.ar) or [bancodesangre@sanatorio-otamendi.com.ar](mailto:bancodesangre@sanatorio-otamendi.com.ar)

## **Hellenic Haemapheresis Society (HHS)**

Unfortunately we had not received a submission from the HHS at press time.

## **The Indian Society for Apheresis (ISA)**

The Indian Society for Apheresis (ISA) was established in 1987. ISA is a group of physicians, scientists, technicians, nurses, corporate bodies and other responsible citizens of the country who are interested or active in the field of apheresis. As we approach 2005 the ISA continues to progress steadily with a membership of 249.

Presently we are actively involved in expansion of apheresis services and research and development in the field of therapeutic apheresis in India. New Research Centers for Therapeutic Apheresis & Donor Apheresis are being established in four more cities this year. A library was set up for professionals and the public. An Internet center was established for the benefit of students, medical fraternity and patients. Development of ISA Apheresis & Medical Research

## **The Indian Society for Apheresis (ISA) continued**

Center is a constant process with ever increasing scientific developments in the field. This center is already attracting a large number of national and international patients because of its efficiency and economy combined with quality. Currently controlled trials are underway for the treatment of scleroderma, ulcerative Colitis, bronchial asthma and ankylosing spondylitis to study the efficacy of apheresis in these and other routine indications.

ISA has served as a consultant to the Indian government on issues related to policy planning and implementation of apheresis. Active socio-medical work involving the organization of public lectures, seminars, video shows and free medical camps is being done. Field workers and health educators of ISA are participating in a community health education program. Presently, our priority programs are fund raising and resource mobilization to permit us to achieve our scientific and humanitarian goals.

ISA is currently coordinating a program that will provide training courses in apheresis with the help of I.A.A. hospitals in a northern Indian state as a new state chapter. An apheresis scientist exchange program is already active and the Indian Journal of Apheresis, a twice-yearly publication, is already in circulation.

Next year's annual scientific meeting will be held in August at Ludhiana. This meeting will have a wide variety of presentations by eminent and invited speakers from the country and overseas.

President, Rakesh Srivastava                      Vice-President, A. Lalchandani  
Secretary, S.N. Haldar                              Treasurer, B. Banerjee

For further information on the ISA organization please contact:

Email: [rs6434444@hotmail.com](mailto:rs6434444@hotmail.com)

## **International Society for Apheresis (ISFA)**

The International Society for Apheresis (ISFA) was officially formed in 1996 and was organized as a not-for-profit organization with the purpose to serve as an international organization for all professionals involved and interested in apheresis. A main objective of ISFA is to disseminate, on an international basis, information on the most up-to-date apheresis technologies and their clinical applications. Its membership consists of individuals and corporations. Presently there are approximately 415 individual members from 36 countries.

Congresses have been held as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup> Congress	1997	Kyoto, Japan	(Akira Yamamoto)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Congress	1999	Saarbrücken, Germany	(Rolf Bambauer)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Congress	2001	Taipei, Taiwan	(Hou-Chang Chiu)
4 <sup>th</sup> Congress	2003	Nashville, USA	(Ghodrat A. Siami)

The 5th Congress is scheduled in Rostock, Germany on May 4-7, 2005. It will be presided over by Dr. Peter Schuff-Werner.

"Therapeutic Apheresis and Dialysis" is the official journal of the International Society for Apheresis (ISFA), the Japanese Society for Dialysis Therapy (JSDT) and the Japanese Society for Apheresis (JSFA). It is a peer reviewed journal and is presently in its eighth year of publication. "Therapeutic Apheresis and Dialysis" publishes six issues per year. The journal has been listed in Index Medicus and Chemical Abstracts and the first Impact Factor was released "1.229" in 2004.

## **International Society for Apheresis (ISFA) continued**

The 3rd Term(2003-2005) Officers

President: Thomas Bosch

Congress President: Peter Schuff-Werner

President-Elect: Tadao Akizawa

Immediate Past President: Paul S. Malchesky

Vice Presidents: Akio Kawamura, Wolfgang Ramlow, Ghodrat A. Siami

Secretary Treasurer: Tohru Tani

Editor-in-Chief: Tadao Akizawa

Managing Editor: Paul S. Malchesky

Regional Offices: (America) Yukihiko Nosé; (Europe) Jens Klinkmann;

(Pan-Pacific) Kuo-Juei Lin, Hiroshi Tsuda

For further information about ISFA, please contact:

E-mail: [isfa@belle.shiga-med.ac.jp](mailto:isfa@belle.shiga-med.ac.jp)

## **International Society for Artificial Organs (ISAO)**

Prof. Bartlett advises the ISAO is now part of the International Federation of Artificial Organs.

## **Japanese Society for Apheresis (JSA)**

As of January 2004, the Japanese Society for Apheresis has 1323 members.

The 23<sup>rd</sup> annual scientific meeting was held Oct. 3~4 2003 by Dr. Katsumi Ito.

We have published Japanese Journal of Apheresis Vol.22 No.2, Vol.22 No.3, and Vol.23 No.1.

We have established our homepage ([www.apheresis-jp.org](http://www.apheresis-jp.org)) in April 2004.

We reorganized our society as a limited liability non-profit organization from Jan.1, 2004.

Leukocytapheresis treatment is officially permitted for rheumatoid arthritis, and it is covered by national health insurance.

Dr. Tadao Akizawa was elected as president for the 2007 combined scientific meeting of the WAA (Congress of the World Apheresis Association), ISFA (International Society for Apheresis), and JSFA (Japanese Society for Apheresis).

Fifteen members of the JSFA board were elected on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2004. The new president of the JSFA will be elected by the new board members at the annual meeting of the JSFA to be held on 18 November 2004 at Tolyo Desney Sea. Until then the president/representative of the JSFA is Noritoshi Shibuya, MD, PhD and the general manager is Hiroshi Tsuda, MD

For further information about JSFA, please contact:

E-mail: [nskwt@po.sphere.ne.jp](mailto:nskwt@po.sphere.ne.jp)

## **The Philippine Society of Hematology and Blood Transfusion (PSHBT)**

The Philippine Society of Hematology and Blood Transfusion is holding its 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention on September 8-10, 2004 at Edsa Shangri-La Hotel, Isla Ballroom, Mandaluyong City, Philippines. One of the topics for discussion is "APHERESIS in the Philippines" to be chaired by Dr. Carmen T. Narciso on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day (Sept. 9, 2004).

Previously, Dr. Narciso met with several key personnel of the institutions doing therapeutic apheresis, wherein she emphasized the indication for such apheresis and re-iterated the invitation of the WAA to the Philippine Society of Hematology and Blood Transfusion (PSHBT) to become a member. A consensus form was sent to all members of the PSHBT to ascertain the number (percentage) of those agreeing to join the WAA.

Ernesto R. delos Reyes, President

For Further Information about the PSHBT please contact:

Email: [pshbtorg1960@yahoo.com](mailto:pshbtorg1960@yahoo.com)

## **Société Française d'Hémaphérèse (SFH)**

The goals of the SFH are to investigate and evaluate new apheresis techniques, to promote scientific studies and to support clinical or transfusional protocols related to their application.

Therefore, the SFH is, of course, involved in all fields in contact with haemapheresis: blood donation, direct therapeutics or cell therapy.

The year 2002 was a very rich year for our Society. The SFH organised (Dr. G. Andreu and Prof. L. Guillevin) the 9<sup>th</sup> WAA Congress with the collaboration of the WAA Committees. This Congress was joined with the 9<sup>th</sup> Congress of the SFH. In 2003 we have organised our "journées d'automne" mainly devoted to educational topics. 2004 is the year of our national Congress in the nice city of Tours (from 29 September until 1<sup>st</sup> October with Dr. G. Andreu as president). This event is divided with educational sessions one one day and medical topics on two days.

In the near future our purposes are to develop our French registry of plasma exchange and to create a website.

Bureau Composition:

- President: Dr. F. Schooneman
- Vice-presidents: Prof. C. Mousson and Dr. F. Norol
- Treasurers: Drs. C. Coffe and M. Atassi
- Secretaries: Drs. A. Leon and C. Giraud
- Members: Drs. S. Brechignac, F. Demeocq, P. Drillat, and J. Kanold
- Registry: Dr. J.M. Korach
- Past Presidents: Drs. G. Rifle, A. Bussel, L. Guillevin and G. Andreu

The SFH is joined with the French Technicians Commission (CFTH)

Four members are integrated in our Bureau: N. Beguin, J. Desbois, C. Reveillon, F. Triboulet and M. Vaicle.

For further information about SFH please contact:

E-mail: [francois.schooneman@efs.sante.fr](mailto:francois.schooneman@efs.sante.fr)

## **Società Italiana di Emaferesi (SIde)**

During the IX National Course of Hemapheresis (May 13 – 15 – 2004) the new board of directors of our Society was reelected. The new SIde board of directors (2004 – 2006):

- Prof. Francesco Mercuriali President
- Dott. Giacomo Menichella Vice President
- Dott. Maurizio Belloni designate President
- Prof. Giancarlo Isacchi Past-President
- Dott. Riccardo Serafini Secretary/Treasurer

Counsellors

- Dott. Patrizia Accorsi
- Dott. Giuseppe Bonsignore
- Dott.ssa G. De Silvestro
- Dott. Fabrizio Scatena

In May 2003, the Scientific meeting of the Italian Society for Hemapheresis (SIde) was held in Palermo (Sicily); important new scientific developments and their significance to the field of hemapheresis in adults and paediatrics were discussed. The goal of the meeting has been to promote an optimal interaction between basic research and clinical experience.

In collaboration with the S.I.M.T.I. (Italian Society of Transfusion Medicine), SIde has organized (November 2003), the III Regional Meeting of Transfusion Medicine, May 13 – 15 2004, in S. Martino al Cimino (VT) the IX National Course of Hemapheresis for doctors, nurses, and technicians (Update of hemapheresis techniques)

The XII National Congress of our Society is in preparation. It will be held at the beginning of June 2005 in Northern Italy. The Congress will also present the X National Course of Hemapheresis for technicians and nurses. In 2004, the IX volume of “Progression Hemapheresis” has been published.

At present the SIde has 300 members.

Prof. Francesco Mercuriali (President)

For Further Information about the SIde please contact:

Email: [emaferesi@tiscali.it](mailto:emaferesi@tiscali.it)

## **Turkish Hemapheresis Society (TSH)**

### **The Year 2003 Activity of Turkish Hemapheresis Society:**

We organized the First National Hemapheresis Congress in Istanbul on 9-10 October 2003. Over 300 people participated in the congress and 116 attendees underwent a written exam for certification in hemapheresis for the first time in Turkey. ASFA's “Principals of Apheresis Technology” is translated by the Hemapheresis Society and distributed to participants of the congress. Our honored guest, Prof. Paul Höcker, gave the lecture “Present and future of Hemapheresis in the world.” Whereas our president Prof. Osman Ilhan summarized in his lecture the historical view of Hemapheresis activity in Turkey. The companies Baxter, Fresenius, Cobe, Haemonetics and Dideco organized a roundtable discussion for apheresis practitioners for frequently asked questions.

## Turkish Hemapheresis Society (TSH) continued

The topics and the speakers were as follows;

- Donor Selection Criteria (Ercüment Ovali, MD)
- Citrate effect and calciim replacement (Bülent Eser, MD)
- Therapetic apheresis indications (Türker Cetin, MD)
- Venous Access (Mutlu Arat, MD)
- Therapeutic apheresis in TTP (Ismet Aydogdu, MD)
- Therapeutic apheresis in neurological disorders (Fatih Demirkan, MD)
- Hemodialysis and Apheresis (Gültekin Süleymanlar, MD)
- Novel therapeutic apheresis applications (Önder Arslan, MD)
- Health Authority and Hemapheresis (Sencer Tepe, Osman Özcebe, MD)
- Stem cell mobilization (Seckin Cagirgan, MD)
- Stem cell collection (Ihsan Karadogan, MD)
- Stem cell infusion and related complications (Teoman Soysal, MD)
- Hygiene in hemapheresis (Mustafa Cetiner, MD)
- Blood component use (Levent Ündar, MD)
- Donor apheresis complications (S. Bedii Omay, MD)
- Therapeutic pediatric apheresis (Hilmi Apak, MD)
- Apheresis in hematopoietic cell transplantation (Savas Kansoy, MD)
- New developments in pediatric apheresis (Gülyüz Oztürk, MD)
- Solid organ transplantation and apheresis (C. Hoscoskun, MD; A. Cobanoglu, MD; I. Astarcioglu, MD)

Beyond these theoretical topics, all participants were able to enter the booths of the major hemapheresis companies.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Ankara University Haemapheresis Day” was organized on 28 May 2004 in the Ibni Sina Hospital, Ankara. The main topic of this meeting was “Therapeutic Apheresis”. Our activity within seven years and our collaboration with Neurology, Immunology, Intensive Care Unit, and Surgery were demonstrated to the hospital staff. This activity will be repeated yearly with changing topics.

The European Society for Haemapheresis Congress will be held in Antalya Mirage Park Resort Hotel on September 7-11 2005. We look forward to seeing you in Antalya in September 2005.

President: Osman İlhan (Ankara) Vice-president: Sema Anak (Instanbul)  
General secretary: Osman İ. Özcebe (Ankara) Treasurer: Önder Arslan (Ankara)  
Members: Zafer Gülbaş (Ekisehir), Ali Ünal (Kayseri), and Berksoy Şahin (Adana)

For further information on the TSH please contact:

Email: [oilhan@superonline.com](mailto:oilhan@superonline.com)

## **The World Apheresis Association (WAA) registry.**

Since 2003 the WAA has established a site for the registration of apheresis activities in countries around the world. The purpose of the site is to clarify questions from patients and colleges such as: What are the indications world wide and do they differ depending on the different panorama of diseases we know exist in various parts of the world? What do you tell the patient about the risk for mild, moderate or severe risks in relation to the indications? Is the risk to die greater with the treatment than the chance to improve by it? Is the treatment worth that risk? Do the adverse events differ throughout the world and what would be the reason for such differences? Can we change our procedures to improve quality and safety?

A number of national registries have existed for some years. Active in this regard are the Canadian, French and Swedish (1-3) registries. However, various background conditions are present. By comparing data from the registries, it can be noted that there are differences in the incidence of diseases (4).

The present registry is meant for therapeutic apheresis including stem cell retrieval but also functions for donor apheresis. There is no cost to those registering data. At the end of each year each center will receive an excel file to be used for their own statistics. Each country will be able to make their own national analyses (controlled by the participating centers). An international comparison will be made by the WAA. These data will enable development of a base for suggestions and guidelines for treatment and bring answers to the questions cited above.

Industry will be able to retrieve data on their own devices. The World Apheresis Association registry is established as an internet based registry ([www.iml.umu.se/medicin](http://www.iml.umu.se/medicin) ). It is under further development. In the future the link will be directly from the WAA homepage. Patients are not identifiable. The entering centers have a unique decoding-list for their own use.

Bernd Stegmayr and Gail Rock  
On behalf of the WAA

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### References

1. Rock G, Clark B, Sutton D: The Canadian apheresis registry. *Transfus Apheresis Sci* 29(2):167-177, 2003
2. Korach JM, Petitpas D, Paris B, et al.: Plasma exchange in France: *Epidemiology* 2001. *Transfus Apheresis Sci* 29(2):153-157, 2003
3. Norda R, Stegmayr BG: Therapeutic apheresis in Sweden: update of epidemiology and adverse events. *Transfus Apheresis Sci* 29(2):159-166, 2003
4. Stegmayr B, Korach JM, Norda R, Rock G, Fadel F: Is there a need for a national or a global apheresis registry? *Transfus Apheresis Sci* 29(2):179-185, 2003

## Upcoming Events for the Year 2005

- Apr 27–30     **American Society for Apheresis (ASFA)  
26<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting – Hyatt Regency Chicago**  
Contact: American Society for Apheresis  
Email: [asfa@dakotacom.net](mailto:asfa@dakotacom.net)  
Website: [www.apheresis.org](http://www.apheresis.org)
- Deadline Submission for Call for Abstracts: December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2004
- May 4-7     **5<sup>th</sup> World Congress of the International Society for Apheresis (ISFA)  
Rostock, Germany**  
Contact: Congress Secretarat: Dr. Wolfgang Ramlow c/o Dr. Annelie Sass  
Email: [as@bcv.org](mailto:as@bcv.org)  
Website: <http://www.loseventos.cu/hematologia2005>
- May 16–20     **Hematologia Habana 2005, VII Latin American meeting in Hematology,  
Immunology and Transfusion Medicine, Havana, Cuba**  
Contact: José M. Ballester, Organizing Committee  
Email: [ihidir@hemato.sld.cu](mailto:ihidir@hemato.sld.cu), [aliciag@palco.cu](mailto:aliciag@palco.cu)  
Website: <http://www.loseventos.cu/hematologia2005>
- July 2-6     **XV ISBT Regional Congress, Europe (ISBT)**  
Athens, Greece
- Aug 6-12     **The International Society on Thrombosis & Haemostasis XXth Congress and  
50<sup>th</sup> Annual SSC Meeting (ISTH)**  
Sydney, Australia  
Contact: ISTH 2005 Congress Secretariat  
Email: [info@isth2005.com](mailto:info@isth2005.com)  
Website: <http://www.isth2005.com>
- Sept. 6-11     **ESFH Congress (ESFH)**  
Antalya  
Mirage Park Resort Hotel
- Oct. 15–18     **American Association of Blood Banks Annual Meeting (AABB)  
Seattle, Washington, USA**  
Contact: AABB Meeting Services  
Email: [meeting@aabb.org](mailto:meeting@aabb.org)  
Website: [www.aabb.org](http://www.aabb.org)
- Nov. 12-15     **XVI ISBT Regional Congress, Asia (ISBT)**  
Bangkok, Thailand
- Dec. 2-6     **American Society of Hematology Annual Meeting**  
Contact: ASH Registration Office  
Email: [ASH@hematology.org](mailto:ASH@hematology.org)  
Website: [www.hematology.org](http://www.hematology.org)

## Directory of Addresses for WAA Member Societies

Please note this directory is compiled by the CAG for the use of the members. All official inquiries should be directed to the WAA head office address which as been shown on the front page under the masthead.

### **American Society for Apheresis**

3900 E. Timrod Street  
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Patricia Jost Golden

President  
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### **Australia & New Zealand Apheresis Association**

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### **European Society for Haemapheresis**

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Fax: 011-49-89-7095-2362  
Email: [bosch@medl.med.uni-muenchen.de](mailto:bosch@medl.med.uni-muenchen.de)

### **Canadian Apheresis Group**

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### **Grupo Latino-americano de Hemaféresis**

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### **European Society for Artificial Organs**

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### **Hellenic Haemapheresis Society**

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### **Indian Society for Apheresis**

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### **International Society for Apheresis**

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### **Japanese Society for Apheresis**

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### **Philippine Society of Hematology & Blood Transfusion**

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### **Società Italiana di Emaferesi**

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### **Turkish Society for Hemapheresis**

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