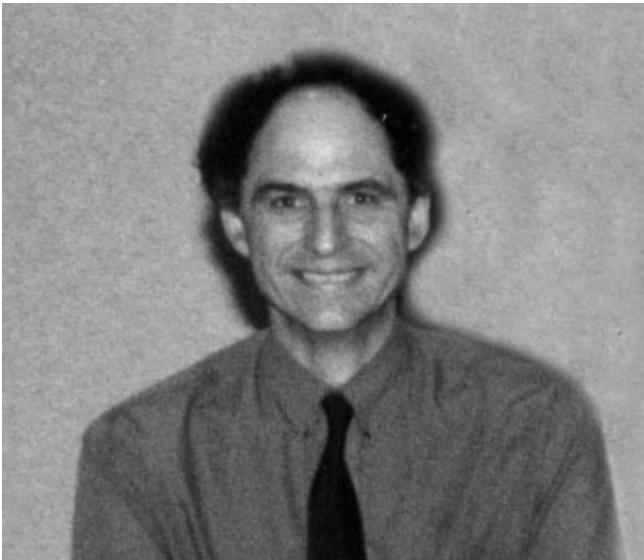


## ■ President's Report



Dear ASCIA members,

Thank you to all members who were able to participate in the recent ASCIA Annual Scientific Meeting in Adelaide. We remain a strong society with the majority of our members taking part in our meeting. Feedback from the membership has indicated that these meetings continue to be a highly valuable and stimulating educational activity. I therefore encourage you to participate in the 2003 ASM which will be held in Melbourne next October. Further information on this meeting will be sent to you in the mail and will also be mounted on the ASCIA website.

As tabled in the Treasurer's Report at the recent ASCIA Annual General Meeting, the finances of ASCIA have been considerably boosted by the hard earned proceeds from the ICACI 2000 meeting in Sydney. In this ASCIA newsletter I would like to hereby issue a formal request for ASCIA members to submit suggestions regarding the long-term future investment and expenditure of these funds. A request was also made at the recent Council meeting for each state ASCIA representa-

tive to seek ideas from their constituents regarding the future of these funds.

The opportunity presented to Ascia by the ICACI 2000 funds allows us to consider the long-term direction of the society and the executive welcomes any thoughts about this.

All of these submissions will be considered at the next face to face Council meeting on 8 March 2003 and summarised at the 2003 ASCIA Annual General Meeting. Submissions should be sent to our Executive Officer, Jill Smith.

The ASCIA website [www.allergy.org.au](http://www.allergy.org.au) continues to attract an ever increasing number of visitors, including the public and the media. Several information brochures contained on the website are also available as printed brochures. A recently revised Reply Fax for you to use when requesting these brochures was enclosed with my letter to you dated 7 November 2002.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in the organisation of the Adelaide meeting and those who have agreed to take up Council and Executive positions in ASCIA for the next two years. I look forward to working with a strong team. I would also like to thank Roger Garsia, the outgoing President, who leaves the society in such a strong position.

Lastly, I would like to extend to all of our members, to Jill Smith, our Executive Officer, and to all of our supporters, my best wishes for a happy, healthy and productive 2003.

*Dr David Gillis*  
ASCIA President

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## Retiring President's Report



*Dr Roger Garsia  
2000-2002 ASCIA President*

It is a pleasure to be able to report on a number of matters of importance to the community and ASCIA membership. Congratulations and thank you to the organising committee of the 2002 Annual Scientific Meeting of ASCIA, co-chaired by David Gillis and William Smith. The Programme Committee assembled an excellent programme in Adelaide and at the satellite meeting at Wirrina. With the new biological agents entering clinical practice and the insights from clinical experience of those already in use beginning to become apparent, the ASCIA Annual Scientific Meetings should be an essential component of the continuing education of our members. I look forward to seeing you at the 2003 ASM in Melbourne.

We congratulate Andrew Kemp upon his appointment to the jointly funded Chair in Paediatric Allergy and Immunology at The Children's Hospital at Westmead and look forward to the discipline of Paediatric Allergy and Immunology flourishing further with the injection of funding into this new academic position.

Most of ASCIA's clinicians would be aware that the Primary Immunodeficiency Register is about to be reborn and will have a much more streamlined interface for those registering cases. It will be a major resource for planning and research in the future and my heartiest congratulations go to Sean Riminton,

Warwick Britton and Karl Baumgart for their work over the years and more recently in the establishment and maintenance of the existing registry and particularly to Sean and Warwick for their efforts in bringing it to the forefront of modern technology and for expanding its potential. We believe all the ethical issues for its re-initiation have been satisfactorily resolved and we look forward to the support of ASCIA members in making this a truly national resource which benefits our patients and adds to our understanding of these important diseases.

Many members of ASCIA have been active in recent months increasing awareness that the lack of Commonwealth subsidisation for the adrenaline auto-injector Epipen® is causing significant financial burden to patients with life-threatening anaphylaxis. While President of ASCIA I wrote to the Federal Minister for Health and I know that many members in various states have also taken up this issue with their local health Ministers. Hopefully there will be some relief for the patients for whom un-subsidised auto-injectors are beyond financial reach. This issue was discussed at the Council Meeting of 26 September 2002 and it will be kept at the forefront of discussions with various health funding bodies. The issue has also been brought to the attention of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians and the Australian Drug Evaluation Committee (ADEC).

Also high on the agenda for that Council Meeting in September was reporting on efforts to get consistency across states in the approach taken to management of food allergies in the educational sector particularly the early childhood and school education sector. There have been many meetings over the years in different States but it appears there is developing a momentum for consensus which should come to fruition over the next twelve months. The membership has been very active in this area and hopefully their efforts will yield a consistent approach across the States.

Many members of ASCIA with laboratory and clinical immunology interests were participants in the recent FOCIS meeting in San Francisco. This is a most useful continuing education activity displaying the importance of Clinical Immunology and Allergy in the management of so many organ based diseases. ASCIA will strengthen its links with the FOCIS group with a view to more Australian science being presented in that forum.

The move to a fully professional Secretariat (Executive Officer) has been very successful and my thanks are due to Jill Smith for her hard work in this role.

The ASCIA trademark is now registered. Unfortunately, it is not possible to register AER as a trademark. The ASCIA Education Resources (AER) brochures have been very successful and widely distributed. Some topics have been reprinted already. Interest in the ASCIA website has doubled over the past year, with a "hit rate" of 7653 each day, an average of 414 page impressions per day and it hosts 4225 unique visitors each month.

Some progress has been made with the registration of the new immunotherapy agents, however, particular difficulties remain with histamine registration.

The inaugural Pathology Update was a successful and worthwhile meeting.

Associate members and laboratory personnel have been very helpful in ensuring the appearance of new items for flow cytometry and coeliac antibody measurement in the Pathology Schedule.

ASCIA's links with asthma organizations have further strengthened, with Mimi Tang's continued role on the National Asthma Council and the establishment of a liaison with Asthma Australia.

I would like to thank my fellow Councillors who have made my two year period as President a satisfying and pleasurable experience. In particular, I thank the members of the 2000-2002 Executive, David Gillis, as the then President-Elect, Stephen Adelstein, our most efficient Treasurer, and Karl Baumgart, the society's Secretary who has been ably assisted by Jill Smith in the Secretariat.

I wish the incoming Council all the best in their stewardship of the Society. The 2000-2002 Council and our membership can feel justifiably proud of ASCIA's efforts over the last two years.

Finally, it gave me great pleasure to formally welcome Diana Bass as an Honorary Member of ASCIA.

*Dr Roger Garsia*  
2000-2002 ASCIA President

## ■ 2000-2002 ASCIA Council



From L to R:

Back: Dr William Smith, Dr Victoria Taylor, Dr David Gillis, Dr Roger Garsia, Dr Michael Sutherland, Dr David Fulcher, Dr Sean Riminton, Dr Richard Loh,

Front: Dr Stephen Adelstein, Dr Karl Baumgart, Dr Richard Wong

Absent: Dr Ray Mullins, Dr Glenn Reeves, Dr Mimi Tang, Prof. Warwick Britton, Dr Sheryl van Nunen, Dr Penny Fitzharris, Prof. James McCluskey and Tracey Stranger

## ■ Treasurer's Report



ASCIA has now received all the proceeds from ICACI 2000 and these are currently being held in short-term deposits. Advice has been requested from three financial planners and their suggestions will be presented for consideration at the March 2003 Council meeting.

A commitment has been made to The Children's Hospital Westmead to provide funding of \$50,000 per annum for 5 years.

The use of MYOB accounting software will make financial management much easier, particularly in view of the GST accounting and reporting requirements. Cheque signatories will continue to be current members of the ASCIA Executive (two to sign).

Audits have taken longer than anticipated but it is expected that they will be completely up to date by the end of this year. Our Executive Officer will prepare the accounts for audit. The intention for future years is to have the audited accounts available at the time of the ASCIA Annual General Meeting each year.

*Dr Stephen Adelstein*  
ASCIA Honorary Treasurer

## ■ Executive Officer's Report



It is now almost 2 years since I assumed the role of Executive Officer, combining the Secretariat and Education responsibilities into the one position.

Over the past six months I am pleased to report that I have been able to focus again on the education role, particularly with the start of the ASCIA/DoHA Allergy

and Asthma Project, which has consumed a great deal of my time. Once this project is completed I should have more time available to devote to other priorities, which I believe should include regular communication to all members to update them on AER initiatives. I am also looking forward to the possibility of facilitating the production of ASCIA's own materials to be used in the education of general practitioners, pharmacists and other interested groups (eg the Asthma Foundations), as suggested by Ray Mullins in his Education Committee report.

As far as the administrative function is concerned, my main task currently is to produce the 2003 Members' Handbook early in the new year. I would appreciate any changes in members' details being forwarded to me as early as possible.

### **AER Brochures**

A large number of ASCIA/AER brochures (55,000) have been in circulation by the end of 2002. The majority of copies have reached patients and health professionals via consultants' rooms. Two brochures, "Allergy Prevention in Children" and "Immunotherapy" have been reprinted and several other titles may well need to be reprinted as stocks are dwindling.

Other means of presenting the information prepared, such as posters, deserve consideration. Two more

brochures have been produced this year, after extensive review by the Education Committee and ASCIA members. The consumer health brochure is "Hay fever treatment" and the health professional's version is "Management of Allergic Rhinitis". These are now mounted on the website and available as brochures to be distributed by Astra Zeneca.

Contact from the public via the email address (education@allergy.org.au) has increased substantially since the AER brochures went into circulation. Most enquiries are satisfied by referring them to specific website AER brochures for further information. Ray Mullins has been extremely helpful in assisting with these enquiries.

### **Sponsorship Update**

This year we have gained the following new sponsors for AER and the ASCIA web site:

#### **GOLD**

Astra Zeneca

#### **SILVER**

Breathezy (Caaw International)

The complete list of our sponsors is now:

#### **PLATINUM**

Schering-Plough

UCB Pharma

#### **GOLD**

Astra Zeneca

Aventis Pharma

Nestle

#### **SILVER**

Breathezy (Caaw International)

CSL

Nutricia

Richard Thomson P/L

#### **BRONZE**

Alcon

Janssen-Cilag

Overall, these sponsorships generate in excess of \$100,000 per annum.

The increase in website visits and publicity generated over the past year is adequately covered in other reports in this newsletter.

I am looking forward to another stimulating and productive year in 2003!

*Ms Jill Smith*  
ASCIA Executive Officer

## ■ About the ASCIA Newsletter

### Submission of Material

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To reduce transcription errors, it is preferable that material be submitted electronically to sherylvannunen@bigpond.com

Please send files as attachments in Word® format.

### Disclaimer

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Comments published within the Newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinion of ASCIA.

## ■ From the Editor



This second newsletter for 2002 is an excellent record of the hard work put in by many members of ASCIA over the past year. The production of the newsletter is a joint effort and my thanks are due to Dr Roger Garsia, Dr David Gillis, Jill Smith our Executive Officer, all of our colleagues who prepared reports and to Dr Connie Katelaris.

Thank you also to our sponsors. The first newsletter for 2003 is underway and contributions are very welcome.

*Dr Sheryl van Nunen*  
Newsletter Editor

## ■ 13th Annual Scientific Meeting Report: Adelaide 27-29 September 2002

ASCIA's 13th Annual Scientific Meeting was held in Adelaide in September of this year. Delegates were welcomed to this most successful and interesting meeting by Peter Roberts-Thompson who then handed over to William Smith, who in turn chaired presentations by Mathew Vadas, Angel Lopez and Klaus Rabe in a basic sciences session which reviewed the topic of "Biotherapeutics in Immunology and Allergy".

Frank Kette introduced the session in which Peter Friedmann, Karl Baumgart and Glenn Reeves discussed approaches to recalcitrant urticaria, including novel therapies and the use of immunomodulatory drugs, a session which proved valuable for all clinicians.

In the next session, chaired by Bob Heddle and Graham Solley, John Weiner presented an historical account of jumper ant allergy, which was followed by a riveting presentation by Simon Brown of the results of a clinical trial

of jumper ant venom immunotherapy for anaphylaxis. Bob Heddle then discussed risk factors for death in stinging insect allergy and Simon Brown returned to outline the emergency management of anaphylaxis. A lively period of discussion continued into the afternoon tea break.

The first day of the meeting ended with a segment chaired by David Gillis and Glenn Reeves, devoted to drug allergy, during which Sepehr Shakib presented intriguing insights into pharmacogenetics, Peter Friedmann related the importance of hapten formation in drug allergy, using contact hyper-sensitivity phenomena as a base for discussion and Ray Mullins closed with an update of his experience with allergic reactions to complementary medicines, a topic which never fails to provoke intense interest.

That evening those who could attend the Welcome Reception at the South Australian Museum were treated to a fascinating guided tour of some of the extensive collection of indigenous cultural material held there in an informative display.

The second day of the meeting commenced early with breakfast sessions by Klaus Rabe (kindly sponsored by UCB Pharma) updating us on the use of anti-IgE in allergic diseases, while David Goldblatt delivered a special paediatric immunology session discussing aspects of chronic granulomatous disease.

Mike Gold then chaired an excellent suite of presentations entitled "Atopic Dermatitis, Prevention and Treatment in 2002", with Susan Prescott outlining prevention strategies, Ross Butler discussing the use of probiotics, Euan Tovey presenting the epidemiology of allergen exposure in Australia and closing with Peter Friedmann summarising the use of allergen avoidance and new agents in the treatment of atopic dermatitis.

A good crowd was in attendance for the excellent presentations, given largely by our trainees, in Clinical Grand Rounds. Each of the participants deserves our thanks for the thorough preparation and stimulating discussion points prepared.

The afternoon was devoted to a comprehensive update on immunisation, Kevin Forsyth chairing Don Robertson delivering his summary of immune responses to vaccines in the young, with John Bradley then

contrasting immune responses in the elderly. Roger Garsia examined immune responses in the immunocompromised patient and finally David Goldblatt gave us a glimpse of the future of conjugate vaccines.

The posters were then reviewed prior to our Conference Dinner at the National Wine Centre, notable not only for the fine wine and delicious food, but also for an enjoyable and keenly contested quiz during the dinner. Fortunately, the quality of the wines served for us to enjoy at the dinner did not depend upon the interactive winemaking "skills" many of us demonstrated at the educational appetiser we enjoyed as a forerunner to the dinner !

The third and last day of the 13th Annual Scientific Meeting commenced with seven short presentations discussing immunodiagnostic tests with David Gillis and Ian Mackay valiantly trying to contain these very informative presentations to the time allowed. Maureen Rischmueller examined the significance of the presence of Extractable Nuclear Antigens (ENA) in Sjogren's syndrome, Sally Waterman discussed the significance of anti-muscarinic antibodies, Richard Wong dealt with B2-GP1 antibodies, Elizabeth Benson presented a summary of auto-immune hearing loss, Stephen Adelstein told us of the relevance of anti-saccharo myces antibodies, Tony Ferrante presented selected information regarding cytokines and Glenn Reeves closed the session by considering the utility of tryptase estimations.

Following a well-earned morning tea break, Ian Mackay continued as a chairperson and was joined by Ann Kupa for a basic clinical session on Ocular Autoimmunity. Ocular immune privilege was discussed by Keryn Williams, with Richard Mills and Tony Hall giving masterly and very well illustrated discourses on immunological conditions of the eye and the management of immunological eye disease respectively.

For the closing session of this ASM, a number of our colleagues presented vignettes of their clinical experience with immunotherapy, to stimulate discussion of issues surrounding the practice of immunotherapy in the immediate future. In addition, Jennie Hillas, from Richard Thomson Pty Ltd updated us regarding the progress of Stallergenes' Alustal TGA application and detailed the current use of Alustal in Australia.

*Dr Sheryl van Nunen*

## ■ 14th Annual Scientific Meeting Preview: Melbourne 10-13 October 2003



The 14th ASCIA Annual Scientific Meeting will be held in Melbourne from Friday 10th- Sunday 12th

October 2003 at the Sheraton Towers Hotel, Southbank with a one day satellite meeting at the Sebel Lodge Yarra Valley on Monday 13th October 2003.

The conference themes are food allergy, the origins of the atopic state, auto-immunity and diagnostic testing in immunology and immunotherapy for allergic diseases.

This ASM will be held in association with the Diagnostic Immunology Discussion Group (DIDG), many of whom are members of ASCIA.

### International Guest Speakers

**PROFESSOR HUGH SAMPSON** - Professor of Pediatrics at Mount Sinai Medical Center, New York, USA, is arguably currently the pre-eminent clinician scientist in the food allergy area.

**PROFESSOR MARVIN FRITZLER** - Professor of Medicine, University of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, is a world authority on auto- immunity and, in particular, auto-antigens and diagnostic testing for auto-immunity. Professor Fritzler's visit will be sponsored by Immunoconcepts, courtesy of the DIDG.

**A/PROFESSOR HANS JOERGEN MALLING** - Allergy Unit, National University Hospital, Copenhagen, Denmark is an expert in allergen specific immunotherapy who has been involved in the WHO position statement on Allergen Immunotherapy and he has particular interests in the clinical aspects of immunotherapy including patient dosing regimens and safety.

### Satellite Meeting

The Sebel Lodge Yarra Valley is around 50 minutes from the Melbourne CBD at the gateway to this famous wine-growing district. It boasts excellent accommodation and a Jack Nicklaus designed 18 hole golf course. The satellite meeting will consist of two streams. There will be an auto- immunity stream known as "St George in the Yarra Valley" which will be in association with the DIDG and focus on diagnostic testing in immunology. The other, concurrent, stream will be "Current Concepts in Allergen Immunotherapy" which will look at scientific and clinical aspects of immunotherapy in the 21st century, with input (amongst others) from Hugh Sampson and Hans Joergen Malling.

**SOCIAL PROGRAMME** – in keeping with previous years, this should be an important and enjoyable part of the meeting. The conference dinner will be held at the Melbourne Aquarium and feature an address by Professor Suzanne Cory of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute.

On behalf of the Organising Committee, I am excited to be welcoming members of ASCIA to the 14th Annual Scientific Meeting in Melbourne and I hope it will be an outstanding conference with enough breadth to satisfy the diversity of interests amongst the ASCIA membership.

*Dr Michael Sutherland*

Organising Committee 14th ASCIA ASM



## ■ Revised Allergy Definitions: WAO, EAACI, AAAAI

Internationally there has been a growing movement to revise nomenclature used in Allergy/ Immunology to attempt a more uniform system. The Europeans have led this movement and the AAAAI and the WAO have also convened working parties to examine this issue.

As ASCIA may be asked to submit an opinion, members may wish to consider suggested revisions in –

“Position paper: A revised nomenclature for allergy An EAACI position statement from the EAACI nomenclature task force”

SGO Johansson, J O’B Hourihane, J Bousquet, C Bruijnzeel-Koomen, S Dreborg, T Haahtela, M L Kowalski, N Mygind, J Ring, P van Cauwenberge, M van Hage-Hamsten, B Wuthrich

Allergy 2001 : 56 : 813-814

*Dr Connie Katelaris*

### **Position available**

Dr Vincent Crump would welcome enquiries from members or trainees regarding a position available in his practice in Auckland.

## ■ New Food Labelling Laws in Australia

The Australian and New Zealand Health Ministers decided in November 2000 that labels on most packaged food would be improved. These changes will apply to all foods manufactured or packaged after 20 December 2002. The new labels will show :

- Information about the nutritional content of the food
- The percentage of the characterising ingredient of the food and
- Declarations of the presence of potential allergens in foods, however small the amount

The Food Standards Code now contains a requirement in Standard 1.2.3 for the mandatory declaration in all cases of certain substances and products derived from them. For packaged foods, the information must appear on the label. In other cases, the information must be shown with the food display or provided to consumers upon request.

The substances which must be declared are:

Cereals containing gluten and their products, namely, wheat, rye, barley, oats and their hybridised strains (other than when used for the manufacture of beer and spirits)

- Crustacea and their products
- Egg and egg products
- Fish and fish products
- Milk and milk products
- Nuts and sesame seeds and their products
- Added sulphites in concentrations of 10mg/Kg or more
- Royal jelly presented as a food or royal jelly present in a food\*
- Bee pollen\*
- Propolis\*

\* Note: These substances are not normally used as ingredients or components of processed foods.

This declaration applies when these listed products are present as :

- An ingredient
- An ingredient of a compound ingredient
- A food additive or a component of a food additive
- A processing aid or a component of a processing aid

Exemptions exist where the food is :

- Other than in a package
- In an inner package contained in an outer package which is labelled\*
- Made and packaged on the premises from which it is sold
- Packaged in the presence of the purchaser
- Whole or cut fresh fruit or vegetables except sprouting seeds or similar products in packages which do not obscure the contents
- Delivered packaged and ready for consumption at the express order of the purchaser
- Sold at fund-raising events

*\*Note: Inner packages which are individual portion packs require a declaration of the substances listed as needing to be declared.*

Any product derived from these allergens must be declared, irrespective of how highly refined or changed it might be, or whether it contains the allergen itself or not. For example, tocopherols and lecithin derived from soybean oil will now be declared as soy tocopherols and soy lecithin.

The Food Standards Code now requires that when contained in the ingredient list :

- For cereals-if wheat, rye, barley, oats, spelt or a hybridised strain, the specific name of the cereal must be used, not the generic term cereal
- For fats and oils-the specific name peanut, soybean or sesame must be declared, not just the generic term vegetable oil
- For fish-if crustacean, the specific name of the crustacean must be used, not the generic term fish or crustacean, however, for finned fish, the generic term fish appears to be acceptable
- For nuts-the specific name of the nut must be used, not the generic term nuts
- For starch-if it is derived from wheat, rye, barley, oats, spelt or a hybrid (eg triticale) the specific name of the cereal must be used, not the generic term "starch"

The new code is 'silent' on the use of 'may contain' statements. A joint position statement is being developed by ANZFA (Australian and New Zealand Food Authority) in conjunction with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) and the New Zealand Commerce Commission (NZCC). The Australian Food and Grocery Council (AFGC) have developed an industry Code of Practice for Allergen Management and Labelling which acknowledges that the use of 'may contain' statements should only be used as a last resort where contamination is documented, uncontrollable, sporadic and potentially hazardous. The implementation of effective cleaning procedures and good manufacturing processes focussed upon by this Code of Practice is aimed at reducing the risks associated with unintentional contamination of a food with an allergen.

The AFGC Code of Practice document additionally notes that the declaration of alternative ingredients may be likewise restricting for food allergic individuals, as this practice gives rise to the same disadvantages as a label which states that a food "may contain" a known allergen.

The Food Standards Code requires that all labelling statements are written or set out legibly and prominently such as to afford a distinct contrast to the background.

It should be noted that since 2001 all foods containing genetically modified material must be labelled. This is important, for example, in the brazil nut allergic who probably need to guard against ingesting soy genetically modified by the insertion of brazil nut trypsin.

A full copy of the Food Standards Code may be viewed on the website at [www.foodstandards.gov.au](http://www.foodstandards.gov.au) and a hard copy may be purchased from

Anstat Pty Ltd  
PO Box 447  
South Melbourne VIC 3205

The Australian Food and Grocery Council website outlining their approach to food allergen risk assessment and labelling may be viewed at [www.afgc.org.au](http://www.afgc.org.au)

*Dr Sheryl van Nunen*

## ■ Committee Reports

## ■ State Representatives

### South Australia

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The ASM in September naturally kept us occupied for several months prior to the meeting. David Gillis, in particular, put in a great deal of time organising that most successful meeting.

We have continued to have monthly dinner meetings, well supported by sponsorship from the pharmaceutical industry and by the local members. There are usually 14-18 at the meetings.

Topics this year have included local anaesthetic allergy, with a common testing protocol being adopted by all hospitals in South Australia; a report on the Keystone Asthma Meeting by Professor Kevin Forsyth; a talk on occupational asthma by Raffaele Scicchitano; a research report by Anthony Smith; a review of nasal antihistamines in conjunction with the launch of a new product and a report on anti-cardiolipin antibodies by David Gillis.

Future plans are to discuss IVIG usage guidelines, and computer auditing of immunology practices.

Local members of ASCIA led by Bob Heddle submitted a report to the "Generational Review" of the South Australian DHS, to raise issues that we see as important for the development of immunology and allergy in South Australia.

We have experienced a particular surge of interest from Immunology and Allergy nurses, several of whom have joined ASCIA as associate members and have been attending the monthly meetings. The nurses have set up a bi-monthly meeting of their own and are very interested in furthering immunology and allergy education.

*Dr William Smith*

### Victoria

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We continue to have bi-monthly workshops at the rooms of Dr John Bishop which provide an excellent forum for discussions of recent papers and also clinical cases.

We had a well attended dinner in June, where Professor Colin Robertson from the Royal Children's Hospital discussed the important Melbourne Epidemiological Study of Childhood Asthma (MESCA).

*Dr Michael Sutherland*

### New South Wales

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The Annual Grand Rounds was held at the Centenary Institute this year on a Friday night and this made it possible for the Central Coast and ACT members to attend.

It was a very full programme, with great competition for the prize, won once again by Sandhya Limaye.

The Annual General Meeting this year was somewhat swallowed by the RCPA Scientific Meeting at Darling Harbour, and the NSW Committee will need to look to replacing this meeting now that the administration of Australian State ASCIA activities has centralised nationally.

The ASCIA NSW Annual Dinner was held again at the Banjo Paterson restaurant in Gladesville and was, as usual, most enjoyable.

*Dr Sean Riminton*

### Queensland

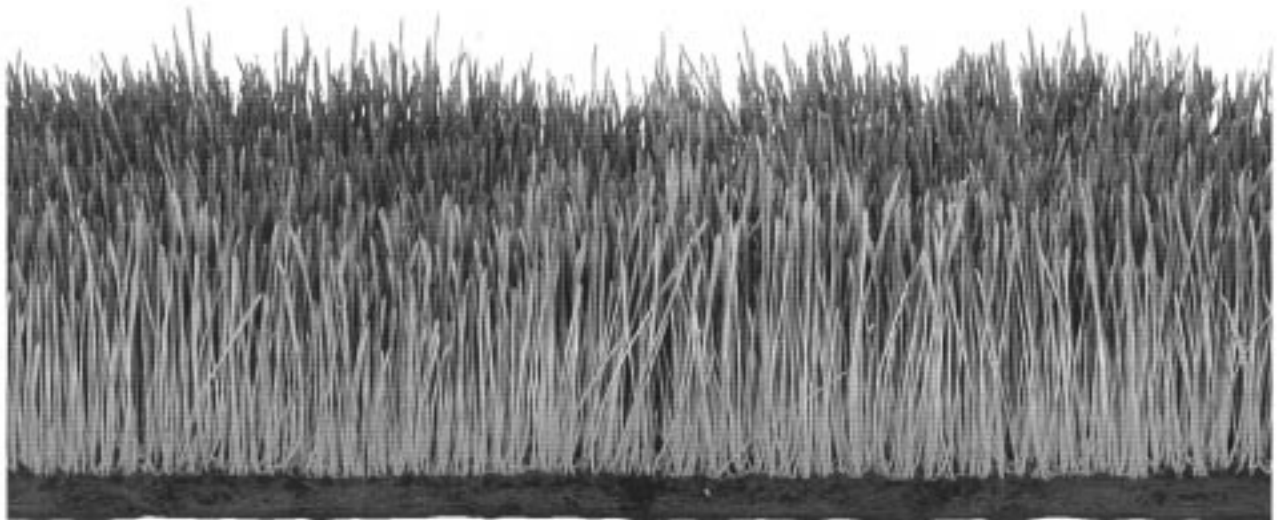
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A monthly clinical morning meeting has been started by Jane Peake and Pete Smith to discuss interesting and/or difficult clinical cases. We have had four meetings so far, and one useful outcome has been the identification of a source of histamine for skin prick testing.

As the 2004 ASM has now been confirmed as being in Queensland, an organising committee has been formed comprising Jane Peake (who will be taking over as

**NEW**

# **CUSTOMERS STILL SUFFERING FROM HAYFEVER?**





# With Extra Strength\* Telfast® 180mg you can really rub their noses in it.

We've introduced new Extra Strength\* Telfast 180mg for Hayfever. Despite the greater strength, it is still non-drowsy.



## HIT HAYFEVER HEAD ON

Chairperson from me), Pete Smith, Graham Solley, David Heyworth-Smith, Patrick Hogan and myself. The proposed venue is the Marriott Resort at the Gold Coast and the proposed date is the first week of September. The 15th Annual Scientific Meeting will be held from Wednesday till Friday, followed by a satellite meeting over the weekend at the nearby Couran Cove Resort on South Stradbroke Island.

I have handed over the position of Queensland State representative to Dr Jane Peake (who was the sole nominee for the position) who is continuing to pursue issues related to the formation of a state-wide Paediatric Immunology and Allergy service, following on from a very helpful letter from Dr Roger Garsia.

*Dr Richard Wong*

### **Tasmania and GP Liaison Representative**

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The incidence of allergy continues to rise amongst our population. Thankfully, the general knowledge of allergy and its accompanying illnesses of rhinitis, asthma and eczema and other associated diseases is also increasing. Various groups and various articles within newspapers are distributing a lot of information. People are becoming more aware of the importance of allergy in managing these diseases and are seeking attention from medical practitioners earlier.

We have now had the St John's Ambulance school programme running successfully for several years. Increasing numbers of schools are involved. This continues to run smoothly without any problems. Various other groups eg FACTS have been established throughout the state and we now have several food intolerance groups. These groups are all run by parents to support parents and their families with allergies and food intolerance. We have given multiple lectures throughout the state, we being my allergy nurse and myself, mainly to breastfeeding mothers' associations, child health nurses and carers within crèches and carers for children with disabilities.

*Dr Victoria Taylor*

### **Western Australia**

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Western Australia ASCIA members have regular meetings, with a balance of both scientific and clinical content. We have reviewed John Weiner's Epipen survey results and found these to be most helpful. In addition, we are all looking forward to the implementation of our anaphylaxis education programme.

*Dr Richard Loh*

### **New Zealand**

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Dr Penny Fitzharris has left New Zealand and I have succeeded her as the NZ representative. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the ASCIA meeting in September due to a prior commitment.

Currently, the major concern in New Zealand is the severe shortage of specialists and services in Allergy and Immunology. Dr Fitzharris is yet to be replaced in Wellington. The hospital has, however, agreed to fund a part-time adult immunology position which is yet to be advertised.

Dr John O'Donnell from Christchurch is currently overseas on sabbatical leave. He is expected to return to New Zealand in January 2003. Dr Brian Broom is the only allergy specialist in the South Island and there are no public hospital specialists in the South Island currently.

In Auckland there has been a problem with the funding of allergy and immunology services. The service at Auckland public hospital has been instructed by management to accept only patients with life-threatening problems. Some patients are waiting over six months to be seen. It is hoped the situation will be alleviated with the return of Dr Marianne Empson from parental leave. The KIDS Foundation, the patient support group for children with primary immune deficiencies, is sponsoring the visit of Professor Jerry Winkelstein, Head of the Pediatric Immunology Division at the Johns Hopkins medical school. Professor Winkelstein is an expert in complement disorders and will be visiting the four main centres in New Zealand in February 2003. He will be giving a series of seminars to promote awareness of primary immune deficiency disorders and their management.

Allergy New Zealand, the patient support group, organised the visit of Professor Hugh Sampson last year but the visit had to be postponed because of a family crisis. It is now hoped Professor Sampson will be able to visit New Zealand in late 2003.

From a patient perspective, one of the highlights has been the government subsidy of loratadine. Three months supply can now be obtained for NZ\$15 or less. This has significantly reduced a barrier to treatment in many of our allergy sufferers.

*Dr Rohan Ameratunga*

## ■ Clinical and Laboratory Practices

In addition to the information presented by Dr Roger Garsia in the Retiring President's Report, Dr William Smith, incoming CLPC Convenor, noted at the last Council meeting that the first priority he has identified is the production of a position paper on skin prick testing.

*Dr Roger Garsia and Dr William Smith*

## ■ Paediatric Immuno-Deficiency Sub-committee

In summary, a working party met earlier this year, which included Alyson Kakakios, Monica Falk, Matthew Cook, Warwick Britton and Sean Riminton. As noted in the Presidents' reports, issues discussed and resolved were those of the impact of the new privacy legislation, the use of a web-based selection process and the amalgamation of existing databases, which is being reviewed by IT consultants. Sponsorship was discussed at the September 2002 Council meeting. There was also noted a proposal for the Immunodeficiency sub-committee to become a full ASCIA committee with the chairperson being a Council member and this will be considered at the 2003 AGM.

*Dr Sean Riminton and Professor Warwick Britton*

## ■ Education

In addition to the list of achievements presented in the reports by the Presidents, the Computer committee and our Executive Officer, the Education committee has

- Prepared media releases
  - February 2002-Allergic reaction to Echinacea- not to be sneezed at!
  - April 2002-Peanut and tree nut allergy
  - May 2002-Asthma and allergy
  - July 2002- Allergy, asthma and milk
  - September 2002- Hay fever treatment
- Contributed directly and/or as a resource to the following media
  - Asthma Update March and June 2002  
[asthma.research.org.au/news/media/](http://asthma.research.org.au/news/media/) FACTS newsletter
  - RCPA article on laboratory testing for allergy
  - Articles on Echinacea allergy in Australian Doctor and Medical Observer
  - The Daily Telegraph – peanut allergy

Forthcoming articles in Reader's Digest, Australian Prescriber, Good Medicine and the Pharmacy Assistants' Journal

- ASCIA-DoHA Allergy and asthma brochure project

A number of ASCIA members have prepared evidence-based articles as part of the DoHA-Asthma project, which should see formal publication very soon. This project should promote our organisation as an appropriate source of professional information on allergy/immunology issues.

## Future plans

We foreshadow additional educational topics including "Allergic Reactions to Complementary Medicines" (based on the Mullins/Heddle presentation at the Adelaide ASM) and a detailed look at non-validated allergy testing.

I would also like Council and the members to consider

- Production of ASCIA designed and endorsed educational slide kits on various topics
- Development of an ASCIA designed and endorsed educational programme for GPs
- Promotion of the existence of this programme to GP organisations
- Promotion of the existence of this programme to pharmaceutical companies
- Preparation of a list of volunteers in each region to deliver the agreed content
- Working through local GP organisations, such as Divisions of General Practice, to organise meetings
- Funding to be derived by donation of honoraria for lectures to ASCIA Education

*A/Professor Raymond Mullins*

## Medical Schedules

According to the latest information, it appears that the relative values study will not proceed further.

The committee now intends to turn its attention to clinical items, both those which are currently in use and those clinical services which should have an item number and currently do not.

*Dr Karl Baumgart*

## Computer

The Computer Committee's activities may be summarised as

- The domain name [www.ascia.org.au](http://www.ascia.org.au) exists and shortly will be linked to the main website
- Clinimmgrp continues to generate stimulating and informative discussions
- Labimmgrp appears less active, and further input is invited from our colleagues with immunology laboratory interests
- The substance of discussions will be transferred to [reeves.netexcel.net.au](http://reeves.netexcel.net.au) which is available, but needs updating when time allows
- In the future it is hoped that problematic lab results for discussion and/or advice may be uploaded to the site
- site link to David Fulcher's material for ongoing immunopathology education activities: [http://www.wmi.usyd.edu.au/Net\\_Path\\_Immunology/](http://www.wmi.usyd.edu.au/Net_Path_Immunology/)

The website statistics have been presented in Presidents' reports.

*Dr Glenn Reeves*



## ■ Paediatric Immunology

### National Asthma Council Update

I was unable to attend the National Asthma Council (NAC) Board of Directors Meeting in February as this coincided with the Asthma Australia Macquarie Bank National Asthma Colloquium on Childhood Asthma.

The activities of the NAC in the last half of this year are as follows :

1. The 2002 Asthma Management Handbook was launched by the Hon. Kay Patterson in March. The NAC is negotiating with its equivalent member societies to sell the Asthma Management Handbook in New Zealand as a special New Zealand edition.
2. The NAC have been commissioned by DoHA to prepare a number of position statements similar to those commissioned from ASCIA on Allergy and Asthma that will be funded from the 6th National Health Priority monies. These include statements on "Pollution and Asthma", "Pain Relievers and Asthma", "Lung Function in Asthma" and "Complementary Therapies and Asthma". These will be completed along similar timelines to the ASCIA papers.
3. As the ASCIA representative on the NAC Board of Directors, I was invited to represent the NAC on the "Healthy Homes" Reference Group of Experts. "Healthy Homes" is a booklet prepared by the Health Council to provide consumer awareness of environmental health issues relating to indoor air quality in the home. ASCIA is also directly represented by Ray Mullins in the Reference Group of Experts. Other members of this Group include The Carpet Institute, Master Builders Association, Housing Industry Australia, Environment Australia, RACP, the Home Renovation Industry, the Royal Australian Institute of Architects and the Australian Building Control Board.
4. The NAC has produced a position paper "Combination therapy and its role in the management of asthma" which was sponsored by Glaxo Smith Kline and Astra Zeneca.

### ASCIA-DoHA Allergy and Asthma Project Update:

This project is progressing well. As at 1st September 2002, the 4th drafts of both the consumer and health professional brochures "Allergy and Asthma" were circulated to all committee members for review by their constituents by mid-September. The core editorial committee (Connie Katelaris, Mimi Tang and Jill Smith) met at Westmead Hospital to look at all submissions received and incorporate the suggested changes where appropriate.

Following a teleconference of the committee on 18th September a 5th draft produced in the format of the final brochure was circulated for further peer review.

The drafts were derived from evidence based submissions by twelve invited contributors and all drafts and the reference list will be kept on file and a CD ROM will be available for future reference. To date all the objectives and deadlines on the original timeline devised at the March steering committee have been met.

The consumer brochure is shorter (18DL pages) than planned whilst the health professional brochure is longer (12 A4 pages) than anticipated (6 A4 pages). As the latter contains very well researched information, it has been agreed that it would be a waste to exclude this information for health professionals.

The Steering Committee comprised:

- Dr Mimi Tang (Chairperson)
- Dr Connie Katelaris (Scientific Co-ordinator)
- Ms Jill Smith (Project Secretary)
- Dr Roger Garsia/Dr David Gillis (ASCIA Presidents)
- Ms Kristine Whorlow (NAC CEO)
- Ms Kathy Hope (NAC Project Officer)
- Dr Victoria Taylor (GP Representative)
- Mr Chris Forsey & Ms Janine Keough (DoHA representatives)
- Mr John Fleming (Asthma NSW/ Asthma Australia representative)

Invited contributors were:

- Allergy March & Allergen Triggers Dr Andrew Kemp & A/Prof Frank Thien
- Food allergy and intolerance Dr John Ruhno
- What is allergy and asthma and asthma and allergy statistics Dr Michael Sutherland
- History taking and when to consider allergy in asthma patients A/Prof Ron Walls
- Skin prick tests A/Prof Ray Mullins
- RAST Blood Tests Dr Dominic Mallon
- House dust mite including minimisation/avoidance of HDM Dr Janet Rimmer
- Allergen triggers and avoidance-animals, mould, pollen Dr Dianne Campbell
- Prevention of Asthma Dr Mimi Tang
- Medications and immunotherapy Dr Michael Gold & Dr Bob Heddle

I have also proposed a motion to change the title of this position from ASCIA Paediatric Immunology Representative to ASCIA Paediatric Representative.

*Dr Mimi Tang*

## ■ Advanced Trainees 2002



From L to R:  
Back: Dr Helen Bourne, Dr Sandya Limaye, Dr Tiffany Mould,  
Dr Karen Morwood  
Front: Dr James Choi, Dr Anthony Smith

These advanced trainees gave presentations at the ASCIA ASM 2002 in Adelaide

## ■ Associate Representative

Renee Deleuil succeeds me as the Associate Representative for 2002-2004.

I would like to lend my support to A/Prof Ray Mullins' Education Committee's suggestions regarding the development of educational materials for ASCIA members' use.

*Tracey Stranger*

## ■ Book review

### 'Allergy and Immunology Secrets'

**Ed: Stanley M Naguwa & M Eric Gershwin**  
**Pub by: Hanley & Belfus, Inc Philadelphia**  
**ISBN 1-56053-414-1 A\$95.15**

This 271 page paperback is aimed at presenting in a question and answer format, knowledge required by "housestaff", primary care physicians and candidates for the US Board examinations.

A great deal of information is summarised in 20 chapters (ranging from 2-19 pages) by 23 contributors. The questions posed by the authors are essentially practical and the answers given are succinct and informative. The use of tables, bulleted lists and the incorporation of an excellent index (which occupies 14% of the book) help the authors achieve their aims.

Where information is given which has a purely local application, for example, pollen profiles or drug names specific for the US or the use of Imperial or US measurements, the principles under discussion still apply.

The best use of this publication, in Australia and New Zealand, in my opinion, would be for our trainees to scan the contents and then refer to individual chapters as a quick reference to questions that may arise in clinical settings. Ron Walls' book remains a much better resource for our primary carers.

*Reviewed by Dr Sheryl van Nunen*

## ■ Historical



*Daniel Bovet*

The Instituto Superiore di Sanita Rome from “Ancestors of Allergy” Edited by Estelle R Simons

### The Development of Antihistamines

In 2003 we celebrate the 70th anniversary of the discovery of the antihistamines, which quite appropriately, was a Nobel Prize winning achievement.

The Swiss-born Italian pharmacologist, Daniel Bovet (1907-1992), discovered anti-histamines in 1933. This discovery was based on research he conducted with his colleague, the Spanish/French chemist, Ernest Fourneau (1872-1949).

Bovet realised that certain phenolic ethers, such as thymoxyethyl-diethylamine, counter-acted the effects of histamine both in vivo and in vitro. Four years later, Bovet and Anne Marie Staub of the Institut Pasteur, discovered that histamine H1-receptor antagonists were protective against the effects of histamine and some of the symptoms of anaphylaxis.

Later in Paris, Bernard Halpern (1904-1978) realised that compounds he was studying possessed histamine antagonist activity in bronchial and intestinal smooth muscle. In 1942 he discovered the aniline dye derivative which was called Antergan, an H1-receptor antagonist with anti-cholinergic properties and bronchodilator effects. This antihistamine, however, proved too toxic for clinical use.

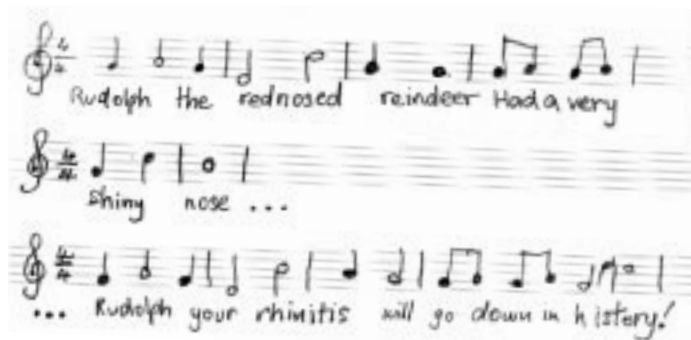
In 1944, Bovet characterised pyrilamine maleate (Neo-Antergan), the first antihistamine used in humans!

For “his development of antihistamines in the treatment of allergy”, Daniel Bovet was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine in 1957.

“I was fascinated by the fact that in nature, in the human body, no product existed to counteract the excessive effects of histamine.” Daniel Bovet.

Anne Marie Staub later developed the ethylenediamine anti-histamines which by virtue of their lessened toxicity, offered more wide-ranging clinical utility, and today we have available several antistamines, for either oral or topical use, all of which have both excellent efficacy and an attractive side-effect profile.

## ■ Hysterical



*Susannah Lauer (9)*

## ■ ASCIA Members' News



Dr Diana Bass was honoured at the recent 13th Annual Scientific Meeting with an honorary membership of the society.

Diana's interest in clinically relevant pollens has been longstanding and her publications in this field span almost twenty years. *Parietaria judaica* pollen allergy was first described in this country by her and her long association with Dr Brian Baldo was very productive for both of them.

Some years ago now, Diana was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to further her knowledge of pollen, and while that time dedicated to this pursuit was well used, most of her work has been done in the time others might devote to their leisure activities.

Dr Peter Bass, also a member of ASCIA, and recently retired from their busy clinical practice, has supported Diana in her pollen studies in a practical manner, servicing pollen counters and producing several wonderful photographs of known allergenic plants.

Diana has always been willing to share her knowledge and was especially helpful to Dr Ji Yan Yan, who has since set up the first Allergy Clinic in Shanghai.

Diana has very kindly given me a list of her publications for inclusion in the Newsletter and for Glenn Reeves to post on the website for use as an educational resource, especially by our trainees.

1. Bass D.  
**Clinically important pollens of NSW.**  
Med J Aust 1984 Supp. 144;5:13-4
2. Bass D, Baldo BA.  
**Parietaria as a cause of asthma.**  
Med J Aust 1984:511
3. Ford SA, Baldo BA, Geraci D, Bass D.  
**Identification of *Parietaria judaica* pollen allergens.**  
Int Arch Allergy Appl Immun. 1986;120-64.
4. Walsh BJ, Baldo BA, Bass D, Clancy R, Musk WA, Wrigley C.  
**Insoluble and soluble allergens from wheat grain and wheat dust: Detection of IgE-binding in inhalant and ingestion allergy.**  
New England and Regional Allergy Proceedings 1987, 8:23-33
5. Bass D.  
**Weeds and human health.**  
Proc 4th Biennial Noxious Plants Conference 1987  
Dept Agriculture NSW Agdex 640
6. Hemmens VJ, Baldo BA, Bass DJ, Vik H, Florvagg E, Elsayed S.  
**A comparison of the antigenic and allergenic components of birch and alder pollens in Scandinavia and Australia.**  
Int Arch Appl Immun 1988;87:27-37
7. Hemmens VJ, Baldo BA, Bass DJ, Vik H, Florvagg E, Elsayed S.  
**Allergic response to birch and alder pollen allergens influenced by geographical location of allergic subjects.**  
Int Arch Appl Immun 1988:312-8
8. Bass DJ, Baldo BA.  
**Standardization of grass pollen allergens: the spectra of pollen allergens from six common grasses.**  
Review of Palaeobotany and Palynology 1990;64:87-95

9. Bass DA, Bass DJ.  
**Parietaria judaica: a cause of allergic disease in Sydney: a study of habit and spread of the weed.**  
Review of Palaeobotany and Palynology  
1990;64:97-101
10. Bass DJ, Baldo BA, Pham NH.  
**White cypress pine: an important seasonal allergen in rural Australia.**  
Med J Aust 1991;155:572
11. Ford SA, Baldo BA, Panzani RC, Bass D.  
**Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*) pollen allergens. Identification by protein blotting and improved detection of specific IgE antibodies.**  
Int Arch Appl Immun 1191;95:178-83
12. Baldo BA, Panzani RC, Bass DJ et alii.  
**Olive (*Olea europaea*) and Privet (*Ligustrum vulgare*) pollen allergens. Identification and cross-reactivity with grass pollen proteins.**  
Mol Immunol 1993;92;10:1209-18
13. Pham NH, Baldo BA, Bass DJ.  
**Cypress pollen allergy. Identification and cross-reactivity between divergent species.**  
Clin & Exp Allergy 1994;24:558-6 14.
14. Bass DJ. **The low allergen garden.**  
Modern Medicine 1995: Sept:52-64
15. Salih A, Jones AS, Bass DJ, Cox G.  
**Confocal imaging of exine as a tool for grass pollen analysis.**  
Grana 1997;vol 36 (4):215-224
16. Bass DJ, Morgan G.  
**A three year (1993- 1995) calendar of pollen and Alternaria mould in the atmosphere of south-western Sydney.**  
Grana 1997; vol 36 (5):293-300
17. Walls RS, Bass DJ.  
**Common Inhalant Allergens of Australia: in Proceedings of 5th West Pacific Allergy Symposium and 7th Korea-Japan Joint Allergy Symposium.**  
Ed. Chien-Soo Honh. Mondezzi Editore Bologna  
1997;41-49
18. Bass DJ.  
**Pollenosis in Australia and New Zealand: in Pollenosis 2000. A Global Approach**  
Ed. D'Amato G and Bonini S. JGC Editions.  
Naples 2001;127-135
19. Bass DJ.  
**Aerobiology and Allergens: in Understanding Asthma.**  
Ed. Walls RS and Jenkins CR. MacLennan and Petty.  
Sydney Philadelphia London 2000;74-8
20. Bass DJ, Delpeche V, Beard J et alii.  
**Ragweed in Australia.**  
Aerobiologia 2000;16:107-111
21. Bass DJ, Delpeche V, Beard J et alii.  
**Late summer (Fall) pollen allergy and respiratory disease in Northern New South Wales, Australia.**  
Annals of Allergy, Asthma and Clin Immunology  
2000;85(5): 374-381



# Conference Diary 2003

**30 Jan-2 Feb** **Davos, Switzerland**

## 2ND EAACI-DAVOS MEETING ON BASIC IMMUNOLOGY IN ALLERGY & CLIN IMMUNOLOGY

Phone: +41 81 410 0848  
 Fax: +41 81 410 0840  
 Email: siaf@siaf.unizh.ch  
 www.siaf.unizh.ch

**30 Jan-4 Feb** **Taos, NM, USA**

## LINKING INNATE WITH ADAPTIVE IMMUNE RESPONSES

Phone: +1 970 262 1230  
 Fax: +1 970 262 1525  
 Email: info@keystonesymposia.org  
 www.keystonesymposia.org

**1-4 Feb Florence, Italy**

## XVII WORLD CONGRESS OF ASTHMA-INTERASMA 2003: FROM BASIC SCIENCE TO CLINICAL MANAGEMENT

Phone: +39 055 50351  
 Fax: +39 055 500 1912  
 Email: interasma2003@oic.it  
 www.interasma2003

**4-9 Feb** **Banff, Alberta, Canada**

## ANTIBODY-BASED THERAPEUTICS FOR CANCER

Phone: +1 970 262 1230  
 Fax: +1 970 262 1525  
 Email: info@keystonesymposia.org  
 www.keystonesymposia.org

**17-23 Feb** **Keystone, CO, USA**

## BASIC ASPECTS OF TUMOUR IMMUNOLOGY

Phone: +1 970 262 1230  
 Fax: + 1 970 262 1525  
 Email: info@keystonesymposia.org  
 www.keystonesymposia.org

**28 Feb-2 Mar** **Paris, France**

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 1 ON MONOCLONAL ANTIBODIES

Phone: +33 1 42 06 65 40  
 Fax: +33 1 42 06 05 87  
 Email: ghyslaine@esh.org  
 www.esh.org

**3-6 March** **Manchester, United Kingdom**

## 1ST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON CYTOKINE MEDICINE

Phone: +44 20 8977 0011  
 Fax: +44 20 8977 0055  
 Email: hmc@hamptonmedical.com  
 www.hamptonmedical.com

**5-10 March** **Keystone, CO, USA**

## CELL BIOLOGY OF THE IMMUNE RESPONSE

Phone: +1 970 262 1230  
 Email: info@keystonesymposia.org  
 www.keystonesymposia.org /22

**7-11 March** **Denver, CO, USA**

## 59TH ANNUAL MEETING OF ALLERGY, ASTHMA AND IMMUNOLOGY

Phone: +1 414 272 6071  
 Fax: +1 414 272 6070  
 Email: info@aaaai.org  
 www.aaaai.org

**13-16 March** **Washington, DC, USA**

## INNOVATIVE THERAPIES IN AUTOIMMUNE DISEASE CONFERENCE

Phone: +1 404 633 3777  
 Fax: + 1 404 633 1870  
 Email: acr@rheumatology.org  
 www.rheumatology.org

**19-23 March** **San Antonio, Texas, USA**

## MEETING OF THE PANAMERICAN ALLERGY SOCIETY

Phone: +1 830 997 9853  
 Fax: +1 830 997 8625  
 Email: paas@ctesc.net

**29 Mar-4 April** **Banff, Calgary, Canada**

## HIV VACCINE DEVELOPMENT: IMMUNOLOGICAL AND BIOLOGICAL CHALLENGES

Phone: +1 970 262 1230  
 Fax: +1 970 262 1525  
 Email: info@keystonesymposia.org  
 www.keystonesymposia.org

**1-6 April** **Keystone, CO, USA**

## HYGIENE, ALLERGY AND ASTHMA

Phone: +1 262 970 1230  
 Phone: +1 262 970 1525  
 Email: info@keystonesymposia.org  
 www.keystonesymposia.org

**1-6 April** **Keystone, CO, USA**  
**THE REGULATION OF MUCOSAL INFLAMMATION**  
 Phone: +1 262 970 1230  
 Fax: +1 262 970 1525  
 Email: info@keystonesymposia.org  
 www.keystonesymposia.org

**28-30 April** **Bethesda, MD, USA**  
**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MALIGNANCIES  
 IN AIDS AND OTHER IMMUNODEFICIENCIES: BASIC,  
 EPIDEMIOLOGIC & CLINICAL RESEARCH**  
 Email: jquinn@mail.nih.gov  
 www.cancer.gov/dcdt/aids/conference

**28-April-3 May** **Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe**  
**5TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE  
 FEDERATION OF AFRICAN IMMUNOLOGICAL SOCIETIES**  
 Phone: +263 4 791 631  
 Email: esibanda@africaonline.co.zw

**6-9 May** **Baden-Baden, Germany**  
**17TH EUROPEAN HISTOCOMPATIBILITY CONFERENCE  
 & 11TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GERMAN SOCIETY  
 OF IMMUNOGENETICS**  
 Phone: +49 6172 67960  
 Fax: +49 6172 679626  
 Email: info@kmb-lentzch.de  
 www.efi2003.de

**6-10 May** **Denver, CO, USA**  
**IMMUNOLOGY 2003: AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF  
 IMMUNOLOGISTS**  
 Phone: +1 414 272 6071  
 Fax: +1 414 272 6070  
 Email: infoaai@aai.faseb.org

**15-19 May** **Paris, France**  
**3RD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FEDERATION  
 OF CLINICAL IMMUNOLOGY SOCIETIES (FOCIS)**  
 Phone: +1 414 224 8095  
 Fax: +1 414 276 3349  
 Email: focis@execinc.com  
 www.focisnet.org

**7-11 June** **Paris, France**  
**22ND CONGRESS OF THE EUROPEAN ACADEMY OF  
 ALLERGY & CLINICAL ALLERGY**  
 Phone: +46 8 459 6600  
 Fax: +46 8 661 9125  
 Email: eeaci2003@congrex.se  
 www.congrex.com/eeaci2003

**8-12 June** **Rhodes, Greece**  
**EFIS 2003: 15TH EUROPEAN IMMUNOLOGY CONGRESS**  
 Phone: +30 31 225 325  
 Fax: +30 31 321 504  
 Email: mikedan@med.auth.gr  
 www.efis2003.net

**9-12 July** **Helsinki, Finland**  
**1ST CONGRESS ON WORK-RELATED &  
 ENVIRONMENTAL ALLERGY**  
 Phone: +358 9 5840 9200  
 Fax: +358 9 5840 9555  
 Email: congressteam@hotelmarketing

**7-12 September** **Vancouver, BC, Canada**  
**XVIII INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ALLERGOLOGY  
 & CLINICAL IMMUNOLOGY**  
 Phone: +1 414 276 1791  
 Fax: +1 414 276 3349  
 Email: congress@worldallergy.org  
 www.worldallergy.org

**17-19 September** **Montreal, QC, Canada**  
**TBV 2003: TB VACCINES FOR THE WORLD**  
 Phone: +44 1488 427 770  
 Fax: +44 1488 428 516  
 Email: jherriot@meetingsmgnt.u-net.com  
 www.meetingsmanagement.com

**10-12 October** **Melbourne, Vic, Australia**  
**14TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING OF THE  
 AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL IMMUNOLOGY  
 AND ALLERGY**  
 Phone: +61 3 9682 0244  
 Email: icms@icms.com.au  
 www.icms.com.au

**22-26 October** **Beijing, China**  
**3RD CONGRESS OF THE FEDERATION OF  
 IMMUNOLOGICAL SOCIETIES OF ASIA-OCEANIA**  
 Email: ivyvan@263.net  
 www.cicst.org.cn/csi/

**23-24 October** **Paris, France**  
**CHEMOKINES II**  
 Phone: +33 1 40 61 34 05  
 Email: euroconf@pasteur.fr  
 www.pasteur.fr

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