Cape Town Branch

The Cape Town branch of SA Heart has been inactive since having organized the annual SA Heart Congress in 2008. No academic meetings were held over the last year.

The President will take over the 2008 congress accounts and is investigating the local branch accounts to be able to submit a financial report from the branch in the near future.

The fifth annual Louis Vogelpoel Travelling Scholarship Award was awarded to Ms Lydia Lacerda of the Hatter Institute of Cardiology Research at the University of Cape Town for the year 2011.

Prof Johan Brink, President, Western Cape Branch

Johannesburg Branch 16.10.2011

The Johannesburg Branch has so far held three excellent meetings this year. Our branch AGM is scheduled for the 19th November 2011.

The Cardiology Fellow’s morning was held on 19.03.2011. The speakers were:

- Dr J Joshi (Pediatric Cardiology, Pretoria Academic Hospital): won the 1st-prize of R1500 with his presentation entitled: "PDA stenting - a new modality of treatment in a duct dependant lesion"

- Dr T Kalk (Division of Cardiology, Johannesburg Hospital) won 2nd-prize of R1000 the presentation: "Quo Vadis - the knife?"

Dr A Patel's (C.H. Baragwaneth Hospital) presentation was entitled: "A new kind of cardiomyopathy", which won 3rd prize of R750.

Dr’s Smith and Klug kindly judged the morning.

Our second meeting took place on 14.05.2011: A symposium on grown-up congenital heart disease. Dr John Lawrenson and Prof John Hewitson kindly traveled from Cape Town for this meeting. This was well organized, planned and chaired by Prof Antoinette Cilliers. It is
hoped that this is just a taste of things to come, with the forthcoming "6th World Congress of Pediatric Cardiology & Cardiac Surgery 2013", scheduled for February 2013 in Cape Town.

Dr Lawrenson presented: "What every adult cardiologist should know about "GUCH" Prof Hewitson presented: "Late surgical problems in selected GUCH cases". Dr Andrew Thornton presented: "Sudden death and Arrhythmias in GUCH patients".

A tribute to Dr Robin H. Kinsley was held on 03.09.2011. This was a glittering affair at the Park-Hyatt Hotel in Rosebank. The meeting was quite special with many local and overseas speakers / dignitaries.

Prof Francis Smit (Bloemfontein), Dr Pete Colsen (Nelspruit), Dr Rob Kleinloog and Dr Susan Vosloo (Cape Town) paid tribute to Dr Kinsley. We had many other excellent speakers including Minister Lindiwe Sisulu, Dr Richard Friedland, Dr Martin Sussman, Prof Phillip Tobias, Dr Ali Bacher, Prof Solly Levin, Sister Lorraine Lubbe and Mr. Eddy Zwicky.

Three ex-patients Astin Blumenthal, Nadia Swanepoel and Dr Claire Boynton (London) gave moving talks.

Overseas voice / video messages were received from:

Prof Manuel Antunes (Coimbra, Portugal), Dr Charles Fraser, (Houston, USA), Prof. Dr. Robert Dion (Belgium), Dr Peter Laussen (Boston USA), Dr Martin Mcmullan (Mississippi USA).

Written messages were received and shown from:

Prof Bernard Gersh (Rochester USA), Dr Frank Edwin (Ghana), Dr Marshall L. Jacobs (Cleveland, USA), Prof G Stellin (Padova, Italy), Dr Christo Tchervenkov (Montreal), Prof Christopher J Knott-Craig (Memphis USA), Dr Christian Schreiber (Munich, Germany) and Jenna Clifford.

I would like to thank the rest of the committee for their support and to the Branch for the opportunity to serve. I would also like to acknowledge Novartis, who continue to sponsor our meetings.

DAVID JANKELOW,
PRESIDENT JOHANNESBURG BRANCH

[SA Heart Association : PRETORIA Branch 2011.

Our Branch activities again centered on the quarterly clinical meeting arranged by myself and the monthly Journal Club arranged by Dr Corrie van Wyk. This year Sanofi Aventis again provided logistic support for our Journal Club meetings. Cipla, Astra and Servier this year supported our quarterly clinical discussions. Dr John Benjamin was our guest speaker at our AGM meeting presenting an excellent talk on athlète’s heart followed by a discussion of clinical cases from our Steve Biko Hospital. Medtronic and Pharma Dynamics supported our meeting with Dr Spencer King and SASCI in October after his day visit to Steve Biko Hospital.
Dr Pre Chetty is elected as the New Chairman and Dr Iftikar Ebrahim as the treasurer.

Pretoria Branch is responsible for WA Heart 2012. We are in the process to finalize the contribution/participation of the special interests groups and should then have a provisional program ready shortly after SA Heart 2011. Our theme of “Structural Heart Disease” give ample opportunity for all groups to participate. The meeting will be held in Sun City, but with some novel ideas. We look forward to see you all there.

Our Bank Account will be open as from 2012. For now we do not have financial statements to report on.

We are in the process to develop a program in Pretoria similar to the “Stent for Life” program of the ESC. Pretoria will be the pilot program and will include both the private and public sectors (SBAH/UP) with a strategy to include all patients to improve outcomes both in terms of early PCI and lytic usage. The cath lab at Steve Biko is again fully functional this year. Extension of the program to other region will follow. The aim of this program is to improved fast and appropriate access to appropriate medical care for STEMI patients to improve early reperfusion. We thank Abbot Vascular for their logistic and administrative support with this program. The program will run as a SA Heart program in collaboration with SASCI and South African Heart & Stroke Foundation.

Prof Andrew Sarkin has started as the new Head of Cardiology at Steve Biko Hospital and University of Pretoria. Dr Normal Lester joined as cardiologist at Zuid Afrikaans Hospital. Dr Jean Vorster an Dan du Toit are our Edwards TAVI Team at Unitas. Dr Iftikar Ebrahim, Michael Guerra and Dr Johan Scholtz is our Medtronic TAVI Team at Unitas Hospital. Zuid Afrikaans Hospital also started a TAVI Program whilst Wilgers Hospital withdraw as TAVI Centre.

Adriaan Snyders

12 October 2011

**Report of SA Heart Bloemfontein**

The main drive this year of the Bloemfontein Branch of SA Heart was to facilitate access to thrombolytics to our patients and colleagues in our outlying areas. As Bloemfontein lies in the center of a vast area, receiving patients from as far as the Northern Cape, North West and the Eastern Cape. We experienced that patients with AMI did not receive thrombolytics due to various reasons. As the distances needed to travel is so vast, patients would arrive at our hospitals with completed MI’s resulting in poor left ventricular function and poor outcome. With the help of Bloemfontein Mediclinic and industry, we developed “MI-packs” containing a thrombolytic, Aspiron, Clexane and Clopidogrel and we distributed this to certain towns in the periphery. Doctors were then trained again in the indications and
contra-indications for thrombolysis. Early successes have already been reported and we hope to expand this to more places in the future.

We also had two academic meetings this year, which was well attended, by doctors and allied professionals alike.

The branch’s finance is in a healthy state and we continue to support projects. This year one PHD and 2 magister degrees have already resulted from research projects that we have financially supported.

Nico van der Merwe

Tygerberg Branch Report 2011
The branch has maintained a low level of activity but we are satisfied that the activity has been of a high quality.
Invited lectures: The last three presentations given by Bernard Gersh, Angelique Balguid and Jean-Pierre Bassand respectively were well attended and well received. Last year’s talk on the results of the SYNTAX trial by J-P Bassand was particularly well attended by both cardiologists and surgeons.
We launched an initiative to ensure participation of Cardiology Fellows in the annual Cardiology at the Limits meeting by annually hosting and housing a fellow from each of the training centres in the country. This collaborative effort with Lionel Opie has been very successful for the past three years. Unfortunately we were unable to repeat the initiative this year (SASCI meeting for Fellows overlapped with Cardiology at the Limits) but hope to do so again next year.
Our third initiative was to host the SUNecho echocardiography basic training course aimed at our Fellows. The 2011 workshop (chaired by Dr Philip Herbst with Drs Navroz Masani and Justiaan Swanevelder as visiting members of faculty) was very successful.
Prof AF Doubell