

Dear colleagues,

3rd letter from the CVT section

1. Upcoming event: PACT meeting

The Perioperative Anesthesia Clinical Trials (PACT) group met on Thursday June 14th 2012 in Quebec City just before the CAS meeting. Updates were received regarding ongoing trials, and many new protocols / proposals were reviewed. The January 2013 meeting will be held in Canmore, Alberta at the Grande Rockies Resort (www.granderockies.com). We are looking forward to hearing about new protocols by investigators from across Canada who are interested in developing research projects / multicentered trials. Further information regarding this network of academic physicians interested in clinical trials in anesthesia and perioperative medicine can be obtained on the website <http://canadianpact.ca>. We invite all those involved in anesthesia / perioperative research to strongly consider attending this meeting.

2. Annual CAS meeting in Calgary, June 21st to 24th 2013

In collaboration with the CVT section of the CAS, the next CAS annual meeting will be held in Calgary from June 21st to 24th 2013. Similar to last year in Quebec City, we have attempted to co-ordinate the "CVT" and "Perioperative" schedules as to minimize concurrent lectures / seminars / workshops / symposia that would be of interest to both groups. The preliminary program for the meeting has been set, and all speakers have been confirmed. The section is in the process of finalizing the program with the CAS and Congress Canada.

The CVT session content and schedule is attached. In blue are those specific for CVT and in green those for the perioperative meeting.

Saturday June 22nd

A Refresher Course focusing on "Risk stratification in thoracic surgery" will be held just prior to the symposium. Saturday morning's Symposium (#1) will be on "Cutting Edge Developments in Heart and Lung Transplantation". Novel information will be provided on: expanding the donor pool with ex-vivo lung perfusion, advances and controversies in donation after cardiac death, and the management of RV failure following heart and lung transplantation. This year's CVT Section Lunch where there will be a lively debate on the topic of "Assessment of diastolic function prior to cardiac surgery". The Perioperative Section will present their "Best

perioperative papers in 2012 to 2013" (Saturday AM) which will be followed by the Section Luncheon where the new guidelines on rhythm devices will be reviewed. The section luncheons will be followed by a joint CVT / Perioperative Symposium (#2) examining perioperative myocardial ischemia and infarction.

Sunday June 23rd

Some of Sunday's highlights will include a combined CVT / Perioperative Symposium (#3) focused on several aspects of perioperative stroke, a Refresher Course on "What to do when the bleeding won't stop", separate Workshops on vascular access and pickline using ultrasound, and a Symposium session on issues related to TEVAR and complex aortic surgery. The always popular case discussion session on the "Best echo cases of the year" will be presented in the afternoon.

Monday June 24th

Monday's events will include a Workshop introducing TTE simulation, bedside echocardiography and a Workshop on Lung isolation. The final section event of the meeting will be the "Angela Enright Lecture" which will tackle the topics of work-stress and burnout in clinical practice.

Finally, the CVT poster session will be held on Sunday morning. It will be modified this year due to the reduced duration of the meeting. The CVT section will select the 10 best posters to be presented in a single poster discussion. All the other posters will be presented in the main hall. Please note that we will be looking for volunteers to assist in the discussion of the posters that will be on display only – this will insure that all posters, whether or not they are chosen in the "10 best" category will receive dedicated discussion throughout the meeting.

As you can see, the meeting content looks very exciting and we are looking forward to seeing you in the wonderful city of Calgary. Please do not hesitate to contact any member of the Executive with comments or suggestions of topics for the 2014 meeting.

4. Perioperative Echocardiography / Ultrasound: Best Cases of the Year

As outlined above, the Cardiovascular and Thoracic Anesthesia Section is hosting a Perioperative echo "Case Discussion: Best cases of the year". Similar to last year in Quebec City, the CVT executive will be awarding a certificate for the best presentation. We had excellent feedback the last two years and hope to build on the momentum previously established. We invite your Department's perioperative echocardiography group (resident, fellow or faculty) to submit a case (TEE, TTE, FOCUS, etc.) that they would consider presenting in Calgary. I anticipate that each presentation would last 10-15 minutes, including time for questions from the audience. A teaching point or teaching summary should be included in the submission. The cases will be vetted by the CAS CVT section executive. A brief description of the case and written description of the proposed echo loops emailed to Dr Robert Chen (chenr@smh.ca) would

suffice. And for those with a FANTASTIC case but who just can't stomach standing up at a podium and presenting in front of their peers, we will have a new option this year. Individuals will be able to submit a case (providing loops and all clinically relevant information) and have an "expert" act as surrogate presenter.

5. Fellowship program

As mentioned in the last newsletter, we have been working on having the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada "recognize" the specialized training for Cardiac Anesthesia through the "Area of Focused Competence" program. Program Directors will be receiving an invitation to meet on the Friday before the CAS meeting in Calgary to review the educational goals / objectives of said program. Finally, plans are in the works for a first ever meeting of Canadian Cardiac Anesthesia Fellows later in the Fall. Stay tuned for more details in future newsletters.

6. Executive elections

While at the Calgary annual meeting, Dr. Denault will be handing over the Presidency of the CVT section to Dr. Hillary Grocott; similarly, Dr. Kent will be moving up to the position of Vice-President. This means that the CVT Executive has an opening for the position of Secretary / Treasurer. Members are strongly encouraged to consider submitting their name (or that of an interested colleague) for the position to any member of the current executive. Here is YOUR opportunity to help shape the direction of the CVT section. If two or more names are submitted, a vote will take place at the CVT "Pro / Con Debate" on Saturday June 22nd.

7. Future development

Again we would like to thank you for your support. The section membership is very important, partly because it determines how much support we get for the CAS meeting. Please encourage all of your colleagues to join the CVT section if they are not already members. There are many more Anesthesiologists providing excellent CVT anesthesia than there are members listed in the section membership roll. We hope to continue to improve on our annual meeting, ideally to where it exceeds expectations. We are very interested in your suggestions, ideas and involvement for 2013-14. Please feel free to contact Dr. Denault, or any CVT Executive section member as needed.

The CVT section takes this occasion to send his greetings for 2013. We are looking forward to see you in Calgary.

Sincerely



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PS For those of you who did not receive the prior letter, please feel free to contact me.

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