

## SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIETY OF CARDIOVASCULAR INTERVENTION

I would like to start by thanking my Exco for their continued hard work and dedication to the sub-speciality of interventional cardiology and the role that SASCI plays in this field.

To recap, your Exco members and their respective portfolios are:

### **Farrel Hellig**

**President:** AfricaPCR, International congresses

### **Dave Kettles**

**Vice-President:** Guidance

### **Cobus Badenhorst**

**Treasurer**

### **Adie Horak**

**Secretary:** Rotational atherectomy

### **Graham Cassel**

**Ex-officio President**

### **Sajidah Khan**

**Educational:** including ESC eLearning Platform and AfricaPCR

### **Mpiko Ntsekhe**

**Academic:** AfricaPCR

### **Chris Zambakides**

**Academic:** CTO

### **Len Steingo**

**SA Heart PPC:** Coding, Funders and Website

### **Mark Abelson**

**SA Heart PPC:** Coding and Funders, LAA Closure

### **Jean Vorster**

**SA Heart Congress 2014 Scientific Programme**

Gill Longano and Liezl Le Grange remain for ISCAP and Industry representatives continuing to 2014 are Tracey du Preez, Craig Goodburn and Hans Buyl.

Our Associated Members Group (ISCAP) continues to be very active and we request your ongoing support and assistance in the giving of lectures, when requested, and the creation of opportunities for your team to get involved with the Society (at branch or national level). Please see a complete news review within this Newsletter.

I would like to thank our corporate partners for their continued and unwavering support over the past 10 years. They are Amayeza, Angio Quip, Aspen, AstraZeneca, Baroque, B Braun, Biotronik, Boehringer-Ingelheim, Boston Scientific, Cardio Output, Cipla Medpro, Cordis, Disa Vascular, Edwards, Medtronic, Paragmed, Pharma Dynamics, Surgical Innovations, Terumo, Torque Medical, Viking, Volcano and Winthrop.

### **AfricaPCR 2014**

It is my pleasure to confirm that AfricaPCR 2014 will take place from 13 - 15 March 2014 in Cape Town (at CPTICC). Planning for the scientific programme is well advanced and it will cater for both high level interventionalist and those still building capacity. This will truly be an event "For Africa, by Africa". The African AfricaPCR Board members are Farrel Hellig (SASCI), Tom Mabin (SA Heart Educational), Mpiko Ntsekhe (PASCAR), Sajidah Khan (Academia) and Harun Otieno (Kenya).

SASCI will continue to support SA Heart Congresses and contribute to the scientific programme. Jean Vorster (SASCI) has been tasked to assist Sajidah Khan and the SA Heart Durban Branch in developing a valuable interventional programme for SA Heart Congress 2014 (to be held in October 2014).

### **Other noteworthy activities**

SASCI and Tom Mabin's TAVI Appeal Hearing took place on 15 March 2013 in Pretoria after the Council for Medical Schemes (CMS) initially ruled "in favour" of Medshield not funding TAVI based on the funders own rule exclusion. The ruling of the appeal committee was received in April and is in our (patient's) favour. The Medical Aid was directed to pay for the TAVI procedure in full and it is viewed that the Medical Aid cannot exclude therapy only based on



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their own rules (even if these have been approved by CMS). The Medical Aid has subsequently lodged an appeal and the Appeal Board hearing took place on 26 July 2013. The decision is expected by, at the latest, mid-September. SASCI is cautiously optimistic that the original ruling will be upheld.

This process is extremely important as the CMS is mandated to look after the interests of the medical aid members and to protect their rights. Please go to [www.medicalschemes.com](http://www.medicalschemes.com) if you need more information on CMS or refer your medical aid patients if needed.

A SASCI delegation (consisting of Farrel Hellig, Len Steingo, Graham Cassel, David Jankelow and George Nel) met with Discovery Health to discuss pertinent issues including TAVI, Coding, Bioresorbable Scaffold, Cardiac CT Scan, as well as alternate reimbursement models. Discovery and SASCI are working on an alternative reimbursement model in which the cardiologist will receive a fee for the suspected diagnosis of coronary artery disease irrespective of whether a CT coronary angiogram or conventional angiogram is performed. Review of this initial pilot data will help direct future reimbursement models. The programme will be voluntary. Details stemming from these discussions will be circulated to the membership for comment prior to any implementation.

### Educational for members and fellows

#### EuroPCR 2013

During EuroPCR 2013 SASCI once again had high visibility with two joint "How should I treat?" sessions (with Croatia, Cyprus and Serbian Societies as well as the Polish Society). In addition, SASCI participated in a new learning programme based on presentation of "complication cases" chaired by Graham Cassel. Live cases to the main PCR auditorium from Farrel Hellig's unit at Sunninghill also took place.

#### TCT 2013 Congress

SASCI has been invited to participate in a Joint Country Society Session during the TCT 2013 Congress to be held in San Francisco from 27 October - 1 November. Graham

Cassel and Dave Kettles will spearhead this initiative and we would like to invite all South Africans to attend this session if you are at TCT.

#### Society for Cardiac Angiography and Intervention

South African Fellows once again have the opportunity to attend the annual Society for Cardiac Angiography and Intervention (SCAI) Fellows Programme in Las Vegas (December 2013). The four SA recipients are Alfonso Pecoraro, Zaid Moosa, Pumeshe Bisetty and Tawanda Tau. This programme is made possible through generous support from SCAI and Boston Scientific. SASCI also facilitated the attendance of a Mauritian delegate this year and we are working on expanding future SCAI invitations to other African countries.

SASCI will  
continue to support  
SA Heart  
Congresses and  
contribute to the  
scientific  
programme.

#### Visiting Professor programme

SASCI can confirm that Prof Tony Gershlick (University of Leicester, UK) will visit South Africa from February to April 2014 as our Visiting Professor. Prof David Holmes is diarised for early 2015. Medtronic is thanked for their overall support of this programme and Pharma Dynamics for reconfirming the financial support for the Visiting Professor evening lecture series.

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### Annual SASCI Fellows Programme

The 9th Annual SASCI Fellows Programme (2014) will take place in Johannesburg under the leadership of Chris Zambakides. We plan to continue to grow the African and Mauritian delegations and expand the interactive nature of the presentation.

### CTO portfolio

A dedicated CTO portfolio within the SASCI Exco has been created, its aim being to create awareness and improve CTO procedure outcomes through education and training. CTO is a lengthy procedure which calls for patience and precision. If members are interested in

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### ESC eLearning Platform

Sajidah Khan will be the South African national coordinator for the new ESC eLearning Platform. This programme will focus on web based Fellows training offering training in 6 sub-specialties with the first module being interventional cardiology. Planning for the introduction of this substantive training programme in 2014 is well advanced and is receiving guidance from the respective Heads of Medical Schools.

### SAMA CPT Coding

Mark Abelson and Len Steingo continue to work on this project. Z-codes – Utilisation data has been submitted to SAMA for codes I272 (coronary sinus lead implantation) and I274 (aspiration of thrombus from coronary artery or saphenous vein bypass graft) and we are awaiting their response.

learning more about these procedures they can contact Chris Zambakides and Farrel Hellig. Crossroads held a theoretical workshop in mid-2013 on CTOs. A SASCI CTO workshop is being considered for 2014.

There has also been a great deal of interest in rotational atherectomy and therefore a dedicated portfolio, led by Adie Horak, has been established. SASCI co-ordinated rotator workshops are planned for 2014.

**Please contact your Executive Officer, George Nel at 083 458 5954, or [sasci@sasci.co.za](mailto:sasci@sasci.co.za) if you need any assistance or need to formally communicate with the executive.**

**Farrel Hellig  
President, SASCI**

## WEBSITE LINKS

**SA Heart** [www.saheart.org](http://www.saheart.org) | **SASCI** [www.sasci.co.za](http://www.sasci.co.za) | **HeFSSA** [www.hefssa.org](http://www.hefssa.org) | **ACC** [www.acc.org](http://www.acc.org)

**CASSA** [www.cassa.co.za](http://www.cassa.co.za) | **Research (SASCAR)** [www.sascar.org.za](http://www.sascar.org.za) | **ESC** [www.escardio.org](http://www.escardio.org)

**PCSSA** [www.saheart.org/pcssa](http://www.saheart.org/pcssa)

## ISCAP NEWS

It is hard to believe that it is already August and more than half the year has simply flown by. Our fledgling society has matured and taken to the African skies!

Our success up to date is due to a group of hard working individuals who are dedicated and enthusiastic about training and education. Our regional representatives, Liezel La Grange (Cape Town), Marisa Fourie (Bloemfontein), Maxine Shanglee (Durban) and Marina Meyer (Port Elizabeth), helped ISCAP to achieve its 2013 goal namely organising workshops in all the regions in South Africa.

Gill Longano and Sanette Zietsman have generated an explosion of workshops throughout Gauteng since February, covering a range of topics from anticoagulation to the Z-lead as well as some ethical issues. The meetings have been CPD accredited, ensuring presentations of the highest calibre. The meetings have been well attended and neither rain nor cold could keep the Allies from attending the monthly meetings on a Saturday morning, further proving that ISCAP is meeting the needs of the Allied Professional community.

During the last quarter of 2013 the ISCAP programme will cover:

- **August** - Advanced Rotablator Technique, CTO Management.
- **September** - parallel meetings - Basic Pacing and ECGs and Rapid Exchange Forum Radiographers Meeting.
- **October** - parallel meetings - Hands on in the Wet Lab and OCT, Contrast, Radiation in the Cath Lab.
- **November** - The Radial Approach - the Full Story and Sedation and Management of the Airway.

**CONGRATULATIONS** on a job well done! Gill's energy and enthusiasm has generated an opportunity for everyone to take part in the workshops and it is wonderful to see the myriad of nurses, radiographers and technologists attending. Staff are coming from as far as Rustenburg, Vanderbijlpark and Pretoria to attend the monthly meetings.

I would like to thank the many Company Representatives for seeking out Gill and myself in order to offer their services

and in such a way become part of these educational endeavours. Everyone involved has done an excellent job and this has ensured our success. Many companies are now doing road shows around the country based on the workshops that were done in Gauteng. The success of these meetings would not have been possible without the unfailing and enthusiastic support of the Industry and the Cardiologists.

The ISCAP Meetings will begin again in February 2014. Also in 2014, ISCAP plans to collaborate with VASSA to provide the Hybrid Cath Lab staff members with topics specific to their needs. ISCAP will also be involved in Africa PCR 2014. Our needs analysis has been completed and we are ready to take the next step in organising the steering committee.

Without the contributions of the ISCAP Corporate supporters, we cannot grow and achieve any of our goals. Thank you to Amayeza Abantu, AstraZeneca, Aspen Pharmacare, Axim, Baroque Medical, Boehringer Ingelheim, Boston Scientific, B Braun, Biotronik, Cardiac Output, Cordis, Edwards, Medtronic, Paragmed, Surgical Innovations, Terumo, Torque Medical, Viking, Volcano and Zentiva.

Please contact Sanette Zietsman (ISCAP Office) at [sanette@medsoc.co.za](mailto:sanette@medsoc.co.za) or +27 83 253 5212 if you want to learn more about these events or if you want to participate in any of the programmes.

**Dianne Kerrigan**  
**Chairperson: ISCAP**

