



AACT*ion* News & Announcements

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American Academy of Clinical Toxicology

Message from the President:

Alan Woolf, MD, MPH, FAACT, FACMT

Ready? Set? Go! NACCT Is Coming!

Are you ready for this? Yes! NACCT is what we look forward to and are waiting for every year. The North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology (NACCT) is coming to the Cosmopolitan Resort Hotel in Las Vegas in October and it promises to be a spectacular event! The 'Cosmo' is a uniquely entertaining venue and we expect a record number of attendees this year. Make your reservations now, because the stylish hotel rooms at this resort (a block of which are set aside at a special convention rate) are sure to fill up quickly. And this year we have arranged for two special 'early bird' meeting registration rates spaced a month or two apart. Take advantage of the earliest special rate to save the most money.

The NACCT Planning Committee, led by Elizabeth Scharman, with representatives from AACT, AAPCC, and ACMT, has once again put together a premier educational program that you will not want to miss. There will be so many highlights. Here is just a sampling.

Let's start with the AACT Pre-Meeting Symposium, to be held on October 2nd. Bob Hoffman has again brought together an outstanding faculty to lead a day-long



authoritative discussion of the latest advances in antidotes for a variety of toxic emergencies. Grant Cave from New Zealand will discuss new findings in lipid emulsion therapy, Leslie Boyer from Tucson, Arizona will discuss a new scorpion anti-venom, Silas Smith of NYC will discuss treatments for chemotherapy-related toxicity; Steve Curry from Phoenix will update us on the use of carnitine therapy in certain hepatic diseases; Kirk Cumpston from Richmond, Virginia will review the new agent: icatibant; David Jang from NYC will describe new uses for methylene blue in the treatment of shock; Gerry Boss from San Diego will review the status of cyanide antidotes; Mark Ghannoum from Montreal will discuss management of contrast-associated nephropathy; and Bob himself will update attendees on approaches to the treatment of excessive bleeding as a side-effect of use of the newer anti-coagulants. What a line-up! You cannot afford to miss it.

NACCT itself will be full of extraordinary events. Just to point out a few highlights. Our keynote speaker this year is James Blumenstock, who is the Chief Program Officer, Public Health Practice for the Association of Public and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO). His topic is very timely given the current challenging economic

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

and political climate our country is facing: "Partnership Opportunities for Poison Centers & Public Health." Barry Rumack will present the lectureship associated with the AACT Career Achievement Award on October 4th. His topic will be "Acetaminophen: a Perspective on the Past, Present and Future". This promises to be an unforgettable presentation by a true champion of clinical toxicology. The AACT Symposium, to be presented on the morning of October 5th, will offer a unique opportunity to hear another giant in the field of heavy metals toxicology, Joseph Graziano review the history of and discuss the latest developments regarding a tragic mass epidemic that has been unfolding in West Bengal over the past 20 years, in his talk "Poison in the well: exposure, consequences, and remediation of arsenic in Bangladesh".

The best in new scientific research is presented in the eight scheduled Scientific Abstract Platform & Poster Sessions. Mark Kostic, Chair of the Abstracts Review Committee, tells me a record number of abstracts of original case reports and investigations were submitted this year. You will see and hear the cutting edge of new directions in clinical toxicology being explored worldwide at NACCT. I always come away from this meeting with about 5 new ideas for research projects, based on the intriguing topics I hear about.

And I haven't even mentioned the incredible perennial events that are so worthwhile, from the Toxicology History Society abstracts presentation, the hands-on toxicology simulation exhibit presented by Medical Education Technologies Inc., the Quiz Bowl competition, the Poison Centers' Public Education 3-day track, 'Articles You May Have Missed', the AACT's Trainees Research Symposium, the 'Year In Toxicology', a variety of symposia sponsored by our sister societies: the CAPCC, AAPCC, ACMT, EAPCCT and APAMT, and on and on and on!

And by the way, stick around on October 7 and 8th to take part in the Advanced Hazmat Life Support (AHLS) course co-sponsored by the AACT in partnership with the AHLS Administrative Group, led by Frank Walter and his faculty. Here is a golden opportunity to update your knowledge of topics in emergency preparedness.

Finally you've got to spend at least 5 glorious days in Las Vegas, this American tourist magnet! The Cosmo Resort is conveniently located centrally right on the Las Vegas Strip, steps away from such sights as the Bellagio Resort, the Statue of Liberty, the Eiffel Tower, and Harrah's. Where else can you rub shoulders with 2-3 Elvis impersonators at any time of day or night, just walking down the street! The gambling is there for those who dare. The shows are terrific, with acts ranging from dancers to magicians to vocalists. And the town has some unique sights and sounds, along with spectacular shopping and world-class restaurants.

So mix a little business with pleasure this year. Come to NACCT and renew old friendships, make new ones, hear all you need to know in clinical toxicology, and enjoy a wonderful time. The meeting brochure and instructions for reservations and meeting registration can be found at the AACT website: www.clintox.org. Ready? Set? Go!

SIG Previews

Envenomation SIG

“ANIMALS, ANTIBODIES AND ANTIVENOMS - FROM BENCH TO BED AND BEYOND” COMPLEMENTED BY SERIES SNAKE SEMINARS AT NACCT 2012

The AACT's Special Interest Group (SIG) on Envenomation will host a symposium at the NACCT annual conference in Las Vegas, NV at the Cosmopolitan Hotel. Dr. Daniel Keyler, FACCT, (Director of Research at Animal Venom Research International, Professor of Experimental & Clinical Pharmacology at University of Minnesota, and Senior Clinical Toxicologist at SafetyCall International) will discuss the animals and processes used to develop antivenoms and their use in patients around the world. Dr. Keyler brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this session and will reveal details about his recent snake adventure in Sri Lanka. The session, moderated by the SIG co-chairs, Keith Boesen and Deborah Larison, will be held on Friday, October 5th, from 1:00-2:00 pm at the Cosmopolitan Hotel and will be complemented by back to back sessions presented by the Asia Pacific Association of Medical Toxicology (APAMT) that will discuss various snake envenomation issues in Asia.

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Herbs & Dietary Supplements SIG

HERBS SYMPOSIUM FOCUSES ON ASIAN PRODUCTS

The symposium organized by the AACT's Herbs & Dietary Supplements Special Interest Group for NACCT for 2012 will be held on Thursday, October 2nd, from 2:45-3:45 pm in the Cosmopolitan Hotel. The moderator of this year's symposium will be Dr. Elaine Kang-Yum. The theme will be Asian herbal products and dietary supplements. Speakers include Dr. Alan Woolf, who will discuss a cross-sectional, original source study of over 300 raw Chinese herbs and an analysis of their contamination with heavy metals and pesticides. Dr. Jou Fang-Deng will discuss the updated Asian perspectives on the use, toxicity and public health implications of herbal products. Dr. Ming-Ling Wu will describe traditional Chinese mineral medicines, their contents, and the occurrence of heavy metal toxicity from such products in Taiwan.



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Pediatric and Forensic SIG

THE INTERSECTION OF PEDIATRIC AND FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY

Review of recent National Poison Data Surveillance (NPDS) suggests pediatric poisoning exposures and fatalities are very different from adult poisonings. In all deaths, the circumstances surrounding the poisoning are important to determine. However, this information is frequently misunderstood, misinterpreted or not obtained at all, especially in cases involving the death of a child. Although Child Death Review Teams exist in all 50 US states, and Washington, DC, a recent survey found that only a fraction of pediatric toxicologists were knowledgeable or involved with Child Fatality Reviews. Additionally, when a toxicologist is involved, there is significant disagreement with the medical examiner/coroner as to the cause of death. This symposium, jointly organized by the AACT Pediatric and Forensic Special Interest Groups, highlights the issues associated with cause determination in pediatric deaths and offers insight into toxicologist involvement which may assist in developing a solution. Speakers include Dr. Diane Calello, who will discuss pediatric deaths and what is known through NPDS, Dr. William Banner, who will discuss the utility of the urine drug screen and

SIG Previews, continued

how they relate to toxicity and death, and, Dr. Lewis Nelson, who will discuss the need for the toxicologist to be involved in Death Reviews, especially as they pertain to pediatric deaths. The symposium will be held on Friday, October 5th, from 3:45-4:45 pm and will be moderated by Drs. Jennifer Lowry and Rob Palmer.

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### **Toxicological History Society**

The symposium organized by AACT's Toxicological History Society for NACCT-2012 will be held on Wednesday, October 3rd, from 5:00-6:00 pm. The moderator of this year's symposium will be Dr. Brad Riley from Grand Rapids, MI. Speakers include Dr. Patrick Lank, who will discuss syphilis and the oftentimes toxic remedies used to treat it throughout history. Dr. Matthew Geraci will review mustard gas, aka the "King of the Battle Gasses" that was responsible for the vast majority of World War I's chemical warfare casualties. Nicole Whitaker RN, BSN will present the historical events surrounding the Love Canal crisis that culminated in 1976 and led to the enactment of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). All are invited to attend what will surely be an interesting and informative symposium.

## Career Achievement Lectureship

### **Rumack to Present AACT Career Achievement Lectureship at NACCT**



Dr. Barry Rumack, the recipient of the AACT's Career Achievement Award in 2011 will present the award's showcase lecture at the North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology in Las Vegas, Nevada in the main ballroom on Thursday October 4th, 2012 at 10:30 am. The Career Achievement Award is a peer-selected accolade given to a single individual who has demonstrated in his or her career outstanding and unique contributions both to the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology as well as to the profession of clinical toxicology itself. Dr. Rumack's topic for this year's presentation is entitled "Acetaminophen: a Perspective on the Past, Present and Future". We hope that all AACT members and fellows will be able to attend what promises to be an intriguing and informative talk.

## The Year in Toxicology Symposium at NACCT 2012

The Year in Toxicology (YIT) is a unique component of NACCT. Because continuing education requirements are such that the main NACCT program has to be in place by late fall or early winter of the preceding year, late-breaking developments – often the most important things to hear about at NACCT - are at risk for not being adequately covered at the meeting. To assure that this is not so, YIT has been developed as a spot deliberately left open to cover these new developments – and given the issues that have come up this year it is a good thing. This year's YIT will focus on some major new issues that have come up in pediatric clinical toxicology. Led by a panel of pediatrics-oriented clinical toxicologists the program will assess the strengths and weaknesses of the background data behind the CDC decision to lower the level of concern for blood lead concentrations in children to 5 microgram per deciliter and will discuss the potential injury associated with detergent pods and their clinical management. The session will be co-moderated by Drs. Jeffrey Brent and Diane Calello.

# AHLS Conferences Immediately Following NACCT

AHLS for Radiological Incidents and Terrorism Course  
The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas  
Saturday, October 6, 2012  
1:30 to 5:30pm



Faculty: Ziad Kazzi, MD, Frank G. Walter, MD, FACEP, FACMT, FAACT

This new 4 hour CE course, created with editors Ziad Kazzi, MD and Jeffrey B. Nemhauser, MD, covers ionizing radiation; detecting ionizing radiation; evaluating and caring for contaminated patients; Evaluating and Caring for irradiated patients; antidotes, and two case studies.

\$180 ~ Register online [www.ahls.org](http://www.ahls.org) or call (520) 626-2305 today!

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Advanced Hazmat Life Support (AHLS)  
Provider & Instructor Course  
October 7 – 8, 2012  
The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas

Premiere hazmat training for the healthcare professional

AHLS Provider Course - Oct. 7 & 8

Faculty: Frank G. Walter, MD, FACEP, FACMT, FAACT

An advanced, comprehensive two-day, 16.25 CE course providing healthcare professionals a timely and effective response strategy in the medical management of hazmat incidents.

AHLS Instructor Course – Oct. 8, 6pm – 10pm

Faculty: Frank G. Walter, MD, FACEP, FACMT, FAACT and Danielle Crouse, MA

Following the two-day Provider Course, an optional Instructor Course is available to prepare you to offer AHLS in your area.

**AHLS Needs Board-Certified Toxicologists!** Each AHLS course requires a board-certified toxicologist to serve as one of the instructors.

AHLS is offered in partnership between the Arizona Emergency Medicine Research Center (AEMRC) and the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology

## Registration Fees:

Provider \$465 (\$480 after Aug. 24)

Provider & Instructor \$570 (\$585 after Aug. 24)

Instructor Only \$195 (\$210 after Aug. 24)

Register online [www.ahls.org](http://www.ahls.org) or call (520) 626-2305 today!

# TRAINEES PRESENT ORIGINAL SCIENCE ABSTRACTS AT NACCT

The Trainees Research Platform Session at NACCT in Las Vegas is an opportunity to see the future of Toxicology Research. Trainees from Medical Toxicology and Clinical Toxicology programs around the country will present their research projects in a standard platform session. After the presentation, the moderators and the audience will ask the participants questions, and provide feedback and suggestions on the projects. It is a safe, educational environment and allows our newest researchers an opportunity to have national exposure.

## 2012 NACCT Annual Meeting



### 2012 Annual Meeting of the North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology

October 1-6  
The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas  
Las Vegas, NV

The American Academy of Clinical Toxicology and the American Association of Poison Control Centers are pleased to announce that the North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology 2012 and associated pre-meeting functions will be held at The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas located in Las Vegas, NV.

This annual conference allows an opportunity for physicians, pharmacists, nurses, and scientists from around the world to participate in the sharing of knowledge on a wide variety of clinical toxicology topics and issues. In addition, there will be multiple original research papers presented, a number of symposia, as well as other traditional and novel continuing education sessions.



[Click here to Register today!](#)

[Click here to view the Preliminary Program](#)

[Click here for Hotel Reservations](#)



## We welcome your Feedback!

Please send us your articles, announcements, ideas, research articles, and contributions. We cannot do this without you!

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