



AACT*ion* News & Announcements

Volume 23, Number 5
American Academy of Clinical Toxicology

Message from the President: *Robert Hoffman, MD*

What Makes NACCT So Great: The Life-Cycle of a Successful Meeting

A month has passed since the North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology (NACCT) met in Atlanta and most of you have probably settled back into your normal life and work routines. That is, except for all of the dedicated people involved with planning NACCT. For them, there is a continuous cycle of responsibilities that seemingly never ends. I have had a lot of time to think about the future of the meeting and how to make it even better, but want to share with you some of what it takes to bring 700 great people together for a week of outstanding education, networking, and social events. In doing so, I hope to mention some of the volunteers and paid professionals who are constantly working for you.



It takes about 3 years to plan NAACT, beginning with the location of a city, hotel and negotiation of a hotel contract. Representatives from both AACT including our management company (Sarah Shiffert from Degnon Associates) and our treasurer (Ruddy Rose) and the AAPCC work in concert with Contemporary Forums to

find the right hotel in the right location at a reasonable price. Hotel negotiations are fierce, but hopefully you have noticed some of the benefits we are now negotiating into every contract possible; specifically free Internet access in the room and complementary gym membership.

Things remain quiet until about a year before the meeting when the planning committee (lead this year by Jay Schauben (AAPCC) and Karen Simone (AACT) and the scientific committee (lead by Kennon Heard) begin to shape the meeting based on a gap analysis provided by our members and coordinated by our continuing education team (Kirk Cumpston and Bryan Hayes). As things get closer there is a call for abstracts and the abstracts committee (lead this year by Mark Kostic and co-chaired by Ziad Kazzi) go into action finding the right number of posters and platforms from among all the submissions. The scientific committee works with the participating societies to assure the content and quality of the presentations. In the background a budget is created, sponsors and exhibitors and identified and meeting spaces are allocated for all of the business

Inside this Edition

Message from the President	1-2	Section (formerly SIGs) Updates	11
Message from the Editor	3	Choosing Wisely® Campaign	12
2013 AACT Fellows and Awardees	4-6	@AACTinfo on Twitter	13
NACCT 2013 in Pictures.....	7	AACT Trainee Research Award	14
NACCT in Review	8	FutureTox II	15
NACCT Thank you!	9-10	AACT Represented at ALATOX 2013	16

All Photographs courtesy of Dr. John Benitez

AACT^{ion}

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

and committee meetings that occur. Registrations are collected and verified and all the pieces of complex jigsaw puzzle are placed together. Nearly 700 participants arrived for NACCT 2013 and presented 20 platforms, hung 296 posters and attended outstanding symposia provided by the AAPCC, AACT, EAPCCT, ACMT, APAMT, CAPCC and the PEC (educators). For me, the highlight was introducing my long time friend (and ex-boss) Tom Frieden, the current Director of the CDC, as our keynote speaker. We honored fellows in training, new Fellows of the AACT and ACMT, the career achievements of Fred Lovejoy (AACT career achievement award) and Jeff Brent (The Ellenhorn award), Matt Sztajnkrzyer for his service to the AACT, and poison specialists who served for 20 years or more. The team from Canada won the quiz bowl with strong showing from both the East and West teams. Meals and refreshments were served, rooms changed size and shape seamlessly and people knew exactly where to go next and what to do all because of a wonderful team from Contemporary Forums led by Leigh DeLaTorre. The events of the week were captured in real time by Digitell and stored on ProLibraries where participants evaluated the presentations and earned continuing education.

I hope you all enjoyed the meeting, but while many of you were already on the way home the planning committee met to conduct a quick post-mortem and begin the work for the 2014 meeting in New Orleans. If things go well, there will a few surprises in store – all for the good - as we travel to a city known for great music, great food and great hospitality. A contract for NACCT 2015 (San Francisco) has long since been signed, and we will begin looking for a site in 2016 in just a few months.

My special thanks go out to all of the committee members and the boards of so many societies who came together with a singular goal – to make NACCT the premier meeting in North America where professionals from all walks of life can come together to teach, learn, exchange ideas and grow toxicology.

Congratulations CSPIs with 20+ years of service!

20 Year Award

Tisha Carson-OH--Cin
Lynn Clark-DC
Mary Hilko-CO--RM
Susan McKnight--IN
Belinda Sawyers-AZ--Ph
Sandra Ruth Sheen-PA--Phil
Lorrie Williams-DC
Denise Kupsis-PA--Pitts
Atef Banoub-NYC

30 Year Award

Alan Tani-CA--SF
Barbara Schmitz-DC
Peggy Kinamore-MO
Linda Bandy-TN
Tony Burda-IL

40 Year Award

Lloyd Herrington-GA

Message from the Editor:

Jeanna Marraffa, PharmD

I hope that everyone has settled back in after returning from, what I hope, was a safe and enjoyable trip from Atlanta. It has been a few days now since I've been home, and as I sit and write, I want to reflect upon what, I hope you will agree, was a successful NACCT 2013. A figurative round of applause goes out to Bob Hoffman, Karen Simone, Kennon Heard and their entire team. This is a group of talented individuals who have made putting on a scientific conference of this caliber appear like no-big-deal. It was flawless! In this issue, you will find some of the highlights of the conference, receive updates from some of the SIGs, and meet both the new Fellows of AACT along with the worthy recipients of the AACT Career Achievement Award, and Distinguished Service Award. I would like to take the time to share with you some of my favorite moments from this year's session, in no particular order.

First of all, having Dr. Frieden as the keynote speaker was remarkable. It's not easy to find someone who not only understands, but actually recognizes the real importance of what we, as poison centers and toxicologists, do every day. It is obvious that, in Dr. Frieden, we have found a friend and a colleague who has a true appreciation of what we have to offer.

The EAPCCT Symposia on Sunday morning, about acetaminophen and potential biomarkers, set the tone for the exceptional science that was present at this year's NACCT. The data that they shared was not only revolutionary but will most likely change the future approach to treating acetaminophen poisoning. And then during back-to-back sessions, watching and listening to Drs. Lovejoy and Brent as they received the AACT Career Achievement Award and ACMT Ellenhorn Award (respectively) served to strengthen my own aspirations in the field of toxicology. Their discussion on the importance of mentorship made

me appreciate, even more, my attendance of the AACT's first Fellows in Training Luncheon. And need I say just how remarkable and well received both the platform and poster sessions were?

The AAPCC awards reminded me of the dedication that I see in each one of us. Lloyd from the Georgia Poison Center was honored in spectacular fashion for his 40 years of service! Congratulations Lloyd! And the Quiz Bowl never disappoints! Led once again by Dr. Prashant Joshi, who was (and why wouldn't he be?) dressed up as a Coca-Cola bottle! And yes, there are pictures to prove it!! In case you weren't there, this year's Quiz Bowl title went to the Canadian Team- -a job well done by our friends from the north! And as an audience member I find myself humbled year after year; I think I broke my old record when I actually knew the answers to 3 whole questions!

And for those of you "tweeters" out there, AACT made an entrance into the world of social media with Twitter this year. Be sure to follow @AACTinfo. If you haven't done so already, check the #NACCT13 to see what people were saying. As Bob Hoffman said at the Business Meeting.... we knew that using Twitter was a success when Mary Ann Howland tweeted, not once, not twice but three times during the conference!! Be sure to follow us on Twitter though out the year for updates.

To sum it all up, NACCT 2013 was quite a success and, as always, it was great to see old friends and colleagues along with meeting new ones. As I finish typing this post-NACCT issue of AACTion, the planning committee for 2014 is already hard at work planning and organizing. I look forward to seeing you all again next year, so don't forget to save the dates of October 17-21 for NACCT 2014 being held in the exciting city of New Orleans.

Call for Committee Volunteers!

Each year AACT has a number of opportunities to serve on various Committees. Service on a Committee enables you to develop your leadership skills and use your expertise and experience to help guide AACT programs and services. Please visit the Committees page of the AACT website and contact admin@clintox.org for information on how you can get more involved!

Congratulations 2013 AACT Fellows!

Douglas Borys, PharmD, DABAT

Dr. Douglas Borys is an Associate Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences at Concordia University Wisconsin, School of Pharmacy. He is also a clinical toxicologist and member of the medical toxicology teaching service with the Wisconsin Poison Center and the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. He obtained a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy from the University of Minnesota and received his PharmD from Shenandoah University, Bernard J. Dunn College of Pharmacy. A member of AACT since 1984 and a Diplomat of ABAT since 1992, he has served on the ABAT Board of Directors and on a number of committees. In addition, he is a former board member and past-president of the American Association of Poison Control Centers.

Leslie Dye, MD

Dr. Leslie Dye received her medical degree from the University of Kansas. She completed an Emergency Medicine Residency and Toxicology Fellowship at the University of Cincinnati. Her love for the specialty of Medical Toxicology has never wavered. She has many publications and has done many presentations, and received an \$800,000 grant to establish a Poison Control Center in Shenyang, China in 1993. Dr. Dye co-moderated the very popular AACT Acute and Intensive Care symposium for many years and continues to organize the AACT/ACMT joint LLSA review at NACCT. Dr. Dye cites her involvement with The Journal of Medical Toxicology as the Editor-in-Chief as one of her greatest joys. She is a fitness enthusiast and bikes and swims. She has competed in a century bicycle ride, an aqua-bike, and several other organized bicycle rides. In her free time, she can be found on her farm in Waynesville, Ohio with her dear husband, Brian and various animals.

Alison Jones, BSC(Hons), MD, FRCPE, FRCP, CBiol FSB, FRACP

Professor Alison Jones is a graduate of Edinburgh Medical School Scotland, and trained in clinical toxicology and general (internal) medicine in Edinburgh, UK. She has served as Consultant Physician and Toxicologist, and Director of the National Poisons Information Service at Guy's and St Thomas's Hospital, London. In 2006, she was appointed as Professor of Medicine and Clinical Toxicology at the University of Newcastle in Australia. She has been Dean of Medicine at the University of Wollongong since 2011. She has a strong track record of research and teaching; with special interests in antidotes, clinical toxicology, chemical toxicology and drugs of abuse. She acts as toxicology adviser to a number of government agencies in Australia and serves as a Director of the Australian Strategic Policy Institute. She remains clinically active in general medicine and clinical toxicology practice. In addition to toxicology, her other passion is racing sailing.

Jeanna Marraffa, PharmD, DABAT

Dr. Jeanna Marraffa is currently a Clinical Toxicologist at the Upstate NY Poison Center at Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, NY. She is an Associate Professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Upstate Medical University. She has been at the Upstate NY Poison Center since 2004 after completing her fellowship. She is serving her first term as a member of the Board of Trustees for the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology. She is the current Editor of AACTion. She also serves on other AACT committees including the Education and Communications committees. She is actively involved in ABAT and serves on multiple committees including the Credentialing Committee; the Recertification Committee as well as serving as the Chair for the ABAT Life-Long Learning Subcommittee.

Gerald O'Malley, DO

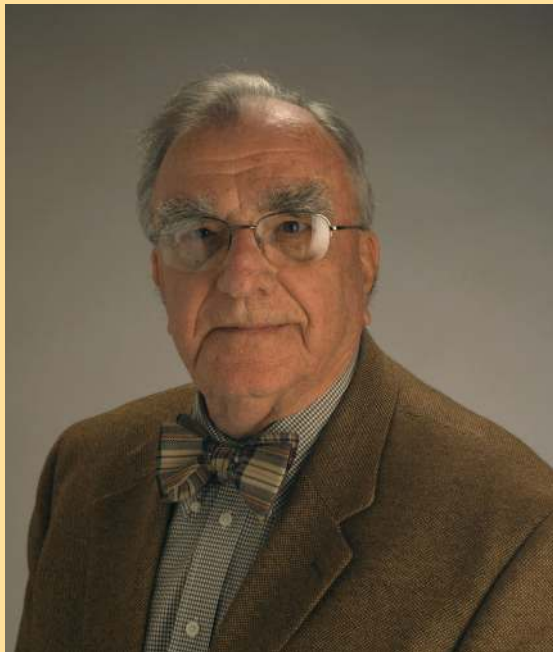
Dr. Gerald O'Malley is a graduate of the State University of New York at Stony Brook and the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine. He finished his emergency medicine residency at Albert Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia, PA and his medical toxicology fellowship at the University of Colorado/Rocky Mountain Poison Center. He achieved the rank of LCDR and was honorably discharged after serving 10 years as a Medical Officer in the US Navy and currently is an Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine at Thomas Jefferson University and the Vice-Chair for Research and Scholarship at Albert Einstein Medical Center.

Mark Winter, PhD, DABAT

Dr. Winter worked numerous jobs to pay his way through school as an EKG Technician, orderly, and Emergency Medical Technician. These jobs helped to build a clinical basis for his education. After earning a BA in Physiology and a MS in Biological Sciences (Microbiology, Botany, Physiology, Zoology), he was hired by The University of Texas Medical Branch as a technician in the Toxicology Laboratory. This job in the clinical laboratory allowed him to learn the aspects of therapeutic drug monitoring and urine drug screens. He was hired away from the toxicology laboratory by the poison center. His first day of employment in the poison center was October 1, 1982, the day after the Tylenol/cyanide incident. He decided that he needed more education to adequately answer the phones at the poison center. He went back to graduate school and earned his PhD in Pharmacology and Toxicology from UTMB in 1990. He was a certified specialist in poison information from 1984 until 1996 and has continued to answer the phones since his original date of hire. In 1989 he became a diplomat in Applied Toxicology. He finished postdoctoral training in Toxicology in 1992 and was appointed to Assistant Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology. He is currently involved in teaching pharmacology and toxicology to nursing, medical, and pharmacy students, in addition to Emergency Medicine Residents and Fellows.

2013 AACT Career Achievement Award

John Doull, MD, PhD, FAACT



Dr. Doull is Professor Emeritus of Toxicology at the University of Kansas Medical School. He received his BS in Chemistry from Montana State College in 1944 and his PhD (Pharmacology) and MD from the University of Chicago in 1950 and 1953. Prior to coming to the University of Kansas in 1967, he was an Associate Professor of Pharmacology and the Assistant Director of the Toxicity Laboratory at the University of Chicago. He is certified in toxicology by the Academy of Toxicological Sciences and the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology. He is a past president of the Society of Toxicology and the American Board of Toxicology and served on the Toxicology Study Section of NIH and the council of NIEHS. He was a member of the Presidential/Congressional Risk Assessment and Management Commission, the Mrazkovic Commission and the White House Woolridge Report Committee. He has served as a trustee for the International Life Sciences Institute, the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology and the Toxicology Forum. He chaired the Toxicology and many other committees of the National Academy of Sciences, the Threshold Limit Value committee of ACGIH and has served on advisory Panels for EPA, FDA, DHHS, FEMA, FIFRA, WRAIR, NCTR, DISCUS, and NIOSH. He consults with local and international government, industrial and private organizations, is the founding co-editor of Casarett and Doull's Toxicology; The Basic Science of Poisons and is a member of Sigma Xi and AOA.

Dr. Doull received the Kenneth DuBois Award from the Midwest SOT in 1985 and the Kuna award from Rutgers in 1989. In 1990 he received the Commander's Award for Public Service from the Armed Forces Epidemiological Board and the International Achievement Award from the International Society of Regulatory Toxicology. In 1991 he received a Distinguished Medical Alumnus Award from the University of Chicago and the Ambassador of Toxicology Award from the Mid-Atlantic SOT. He received the Stokinger Award from ACGIH and the first John Doull Award from the Mid America section of SOT in 1992. He received the Merit Award from SOT in 1993 and the Snider Award from the University of Arkansas in 1994. In 1996 he received the Distinguished Service Award from the American College of Toxicology, the CIIT Founders Award, the ACGIH Meritorious Service Award and an honorary Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of Kuopio (Finland). He received the Shubik Award from the Toxicology Forum and became a NAS National Associate in 2002. He received the first Founders Award from SOT in 2008 and the Mildred S. Christian Career Achievement Award from the Academy of Toxicological Sciences in 2013.

2013 AACT Distinguished Service Award

Matthew Sztajnkrzyer, MD, PhD, FAACT



After completing a fellowship in Medical Toxicology at the University of Cincinnati, Dr. Sztajnkrzyer moved to Rochester, MN to develop the toxicology curriculum for the newly formed Mayo Clinic Emergency Medicine Residency Program. He currently serves as Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine, Director of Emergency Toxicology, and Chair of the Mayo Clinic Hazardous Materials Workgroup and the Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee.

In addition to his roles at Mayo Clinic, Dr. Sztajnkrzyer serves as adjunct faculty for the Medical Toxicology fellowship program, Regions Hospital, St. Paul, MN, and as a consultant toxicologist for Hennepin Regional Poison Center, Minneapolis, MN and the Drug and Poison Information Center, Cincinnati, OH. He also serves as medical director for the Rochester Fire Department Chemical Assessment Team, a statewide hazardous materials response asset.

Through his career, Dr. Sztajnkrzyer has served on multiple national committees, had many publications and presentations. However, his proudest and most satisfying professional achievement remains his service to the Academy as Education Committee Co-Chair responsible for CME for the annual NACCT meeting and EAPCCT Congress.

NACCT 2013 in Pictures



Newly Inducted Fellows



Career Achievement Award Announcement by Dr. Rumack



Distinguished Service Award Recipient, Dr. Matt Sztajnkrzyer by Dr. Woolf



Dr. Weisman recognized for his service as a Board of Trustees member by Dr. Simone



AAPCC President-Elect, Dr. Jay Schauben welcoming comments



AACT President, Dr. Bob Hoffman, introducing the Keynote Speaker, Dr. Frieden



Dr. Frieden, the Keynote Speaker, discussing the iatrogenic epidemic of prescription opioid abuse in the US



Fun was had by all at the Opening Reception



NACCT 2013 in Review

Kennon Heard, MD

On behalf of the Scientific Planning Committee, I would like to thank everyone who attended the 2013 North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology. I enjoyed our week in Atlanta and I felt the meeting went well. When the Scientific Planning Committee began our planning last November, our goal was to have a meeting that provided our attendees with focused sessions, high quality speakers and clinically relevant content. My impression is that we were successful, but the true measure of our success will be your reviews.

As we look forward to planning next year's meeting, we want to continue to improve the meeting. Our first goal is to meet your learning needs. To accomplish this, we will be sending out surveys to our member organizations to identify high interest areas. Once we know your needs, our committee members will develop the sessions to address the needed areas. Our second goal is to integrate novel formats into the meeting. The attendance at

the Critical Care Forum demonstrates the popularity and effectiveness of panel discussions, and we will add at least one more panel discussion to next year's meeting. We are also exploring other formats such as debates, question and answer sessions and audience participation. Our final educational goal is to expand the use of real-time learning evaluation. The continuing education accreditation organizations want this as a part of all programs, and we believe it improves the quality of learning. This year we used an audience response system in several sessions, and next year we will use it in more sessions. We will also explore other tools to measure the effectiveness of our sessions.

As we look forward to next year, please consider helping with the content of next year's meeting. If you are in an Interest Group or have a great idea for a session please consider submitting a proposal or contacting me. We want this meeting to meet your needs, keep you engaged and provide you with an outstanding learning experience.

Do you have News to Share?

AACTion wants to know what you are up to. Please send your accomplishments or any updates to AACTion editor, Jeanna Marraffa at marraffj@upstate.edu.

NACCT 2013 Thank You!

Karen E. Simone, PharmD

NACCT 2013 – Thanks to all for a job very well done. Following a brief sigh of relief at the conclusion of NACCT 2013, we are now planning for the 2014 meeting in New Orleans.

An AACT multi-team approach to planning and execution of NACCT was rolled-out this year. The Planning Committee was composed of a joint AACT and AAPCC lead with Science, Logistics and Finance subcommittees. Continuing education was expanded and now provides the option for participants to obtain credit by viewing the recordings after the congress is over. Inter-organization collaboration with the APAMT, ACMT, CAPCC and EAPCCT allowed the scientific offerings to be coordinated and relevant. Continuing Education credit was provided for Educator sessions and included topics such as *Dangerous Detox Therapies: Don't Try this at Home* presented by Michael Beuhler, which strongly encouraged attendance by other poison center personnel. And, for the first time, session recordings are available online. Associated CE credit will be available soon.

Luck was with us, as Dr. Thomas Frieden, Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, delivered his keynote address mere hours before the federal shutdown took hold. Dr. Frieden's lecture provided an excellent overview of the evolving opioid prescribing and poisoning issue, complete with contributors, possible solutions, and some insightful perspective regarding other health issues. Session planners who were less fortunate about the timing of the shutdown rolled with the punches and adjusted seamlessly to the lack of availability of affected federal personnel. It is good to see all are now back in action, at least for a little while.

The AACT Pre-meeting Symposium provided comprehensive education on adverse drug events using an organ and system-based approach, while the ACMT Pre-meeting Symposium provided an interesting view of the interface of toxicology with criminal investigation and law enforcement. The Main Congress opened with European updates on acetaminophen biomarkers and treatment guidelines. These events were not only riveting but also relevant to our practice.

Sandy Giffin and Ruddy Rose worked tirelessly on logistics and finance, respectively. As a result of good logistical planning, as well as assistance with the Scientific Subcommittee and Scientific Advisory Council with regard to limiting offerings, the Atlanta meeting had far fewer conflicting sessions than usual. If you liked the Scientific Content, be sure to thank Kennon Heard and his committees for their

efforts. Also, please thank Mark Kostic and Ziad Kazzi for the endless hours of work they provided compiling abstract submissions. In order to provide CE (medicine, pharmacy and nursing) after the meeting, Kirk Cumpston and Bryan Hayes have been putting in serious overtime. A general announcement to the membership will follow when the online CE is available. Please let us know what you think of this new AACT membership benefit. Also, please make sure that your evaluations are complete and answer the Gap Analysis questions. This information tells us what you need and want to learn in enough detail that we are able to meet your needs. How did you realize you had that need? What specific information about this topic do you need to know? How can we best help you learn what you need? This is necessary for us not only to meet current credentialing criteria, but also to ensure that what we prepare for next year's meeting is exactly what you want and need.

Huge thank yous are owed to Leigh DeLaTorre and Contemporary Forums for making sure the day to day intricacies of the meeting ran smoothly and made attendance enjoyable, to Sarah Shiffert and the Degnon team for organizing the AACT business-associated happenings, and to our partners at the AAPCC (Jay Schauben, in particular) for their invaluable assistance in co-planning this meeting. Please also thank the following contributors for their excellent work on NACCT 2013 and tell them what you would most like to see in New Orleans.

What are some of the things you can expect for the NACCT 2014 meeting in New Orleans?

- The overall meeting will be shortened by a half day allowing for more free time
- A Masquerade Ball will be held for one of the receptions (more to follow!!)
- Those who attended the meeting can get CE after the meeting is over by listening to the recordings of sessions they missed or partially missed
- The meeting will be fun, current, relevant, and fulfills your educational needs
- You will have more time to connect or re-connect with your friends and colleagues

If you have comments or suggestions, please be sure to send them to us:

Karen Simone: simonk@mmc.org

Jay Schauben: schauben@poison.ufl.edu

See you in New Orleans!!

North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology 2013

Hyatt Regency Atlanta

September 27-October 2

Organized and Sponsored by:

American Academy of Clinical Toxicology - Robert S. Hoffman, MD, President, AACT
American Association of Poison Control Centers - Marsha Ford, MD, President AAPCC

Collaborating Associations:

American College of Medical Toxicology
Asia Pacific Association of Medical Toxicology
Canadian Association of Poison Control Centres
European Association of Poisons Centres and Clinical Toxicologists

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A special thank you for assistance from Chen-Chang Yang, MD, MPH, DrPH

Continuing Health Care Professional Education Subcommittee:

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Kirk Cumpston, DO, Co-Chair

Abstract Selection Subcommittee:

Mark Kostic, MD, Chair
Ziad Kazzi, MD, Co-Chair

Sponsorship Subcommittee:

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Donna Seger, MD, Co-Chair

Fiscal Subcommittee

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Specialist in Poison Information Subcommittee:

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Logistics Subcommittee:

Sandy Giffin, RN, Chair
Jeff Brent, MD, PhD
Kristina Hamm, BA, MPH
Debra Kent, PharmD
Ed Krenzelo, PharmD

Scientific Subcommittee:

Kennon Heard, MD, PhD, Chair
Mark Kostic, MD
Robert Palmer, PhD
Jay Schauben, PharmD
Karen Simone, PharmD

A special thank you to Dr. Elizabeth Scharman and Dr. Matt Sztajnkrzyer for years of dedication and hard work supporting the NACCT planning and continuing education program

Section (formerly SIGs) Update

Herbs & Dietary Supplements Section Meets in Atlanta

Alan Woolf, MD, MPH, FAACT

The HDS SIG group met for a business meeting on October 1st 2013 at NACCT in Atlanta. The SIG has over 200 AACT members. Recent accomplishments include the continuing abstracting service project, which is distributed to all SIG members. The recent abstracting service summaries are also made available in pdf format within the SIG webpages at the AACT's website. AACT and the HDS SIG also sponsored a symposium on the "Toxicity and Regulation of Herbs Commonly Used in Asia" at the International Congress of Toxicology (ICT) of the International Union of Toxicology (IUTOX) in Seoul, South Korea in July 2013.

At the business meeting ideas for a proposed workshop at the 2014 NACCT meeting in New Orleans were discussed. The idea of sentinel clinical cases of adverse effects to herbs and dietary supplement products was raised. A workshop could address the interface of personal and public health in such cases: how to assess the patient, how to report the case, how to get products tested was identified as a practice gap for many health professionals.

Richard Wang discussed to National Toxicology Program (NTP) as a resource that can be petitioned to conduct laboratory studies on specific chemicals or herbs and botanicals. He also alerted SIG members to the new office, the Office of Clinical Toxicology, within the National Library of Medicine, which will be creating informative webpages on toxicology-related issues and other information of interest to our members.

Other business included plans to create a survey of HDS SIG members to understand better your needs, topics of interest, and what will be useful in your work and to consider the offering of a webinar on specific herbal toxicities.

Finally, Dr. Michael Hodgman was elected to co-chair the SIG, as Dr. Elaine Kang-Yum will be stepping down from this post, which she has held for many years. We offer our sincere thanks to Elaine for her tremendous work and investment of her time and energies to insure such a successful SIG. Drs. Alan Woolf and Jou-Fang Deng remain as the other co-chairs of the SIG into 2014. We hope to see everybody in New Orleans for the next meeting of the North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology during October 17-21, 2014.

Pediatric Section Updates

Diane Calello, MD, Co-Chair

The Pediatric Section (formerly Special Interest Group) of AACT convened in Atlanta in September with some exciting developments. We thank Dr. Jennifer Lowry, MD, for her dedicated service as the SIG chair, and for nominating in her place Diane Calello and Kathryn O'Donnell as co-chairs. Both are honored to serve in this capacity. Issues

discussed included the continued need for improved data on emerging pediatric hazards and fatalities, and barriers to non-EM track physicians (such as pediatricians) completing training in medical toxicology. A variety of exciting educational opportunities were conceived including upcoming symposia and the creation of webinar content for the AACT membership dealing with specialized issues in the poisoned child. Stay tuned for updates!

Choosing Wisely® Campaign

Michelle Ruha, MD

On September 26th, 2013 the American College of Medical Toxicology and the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology jointly released a list of five “Things Physicians and Patients Should Question” as part of the Choosing Wisely® campaign. This initiative of the ABIM Foundation is focused on encouraging conversations between physicians and patients regarding medical tests and procedures that may be unnecessary, and in some instances can cause harm. ACMT and AACT have now joined more than fifty specialty societies in participating in the Choosing Wisely® campaign. To learn more about the campaign and see lists released by other societies visit www.choosingwisely.org.

The ACMT and AACT list identified the following five recommendations:

1. Don't use homeopathic medications, non-vitamin dietary supplements or herbal supplements as treatments for disease or preventive health measures.
2. Don't administer a chelating agent prior to testing urine for metals, a practice referred to as “provoked” urine testing.
3. Don't order heavy metal screening tests to assess non-specific symptoms in the absence of excessive exposure to metals.
4. Don't recommend chelation except for documented metal intoxication which has been diagnosed using validated tests in appropriate biological samples.
5. Don't remove mercury-containing dental amalgams.

The qualifying statements for each item can be viewed [here](#).

Some ACMT and AACT members may identify specific situations where they disagree with an item. Perhaps a patient presents with acute life-threatening arsenic poisoning but confirmatory testing is unavailable or not timely. Or a patient has a dental concern prompting removal of amalgams. A member may conclude that scientific evidence supports use of a specific herbal remedy and has confidence in a particular manufacturer. Remember that the aim of the Choosing Wisely® campaign is to promote conversations between physicians and patients by helping patients choose care that is supported by evidence, free from harm, and truly necessary. The recommendations should be used as principles to determine an appropriate treatment plan tailored for patient-centered care.

ACMT and AACT are proud to have joined this important national initiative by the ABIM Foundation. Promoting education and better understanding of the risks and benefits of tests and treatments is one of our goals as a professional, evidence-based community of toxicologists. We hope to contribute additional recommendations in future phases of the Choosing Wisely® campaign.


The ACMT and AACT Choosing Wisely® Workgroup:

Michelle Ruha
Suzanne White
Silas Smith
Jeffrey Brent
Anthony Pizon
Patrick Daubert

@AACTinfo on Twitter

Sep 24, 2013 - Oct 08, 2013

Profile Summary

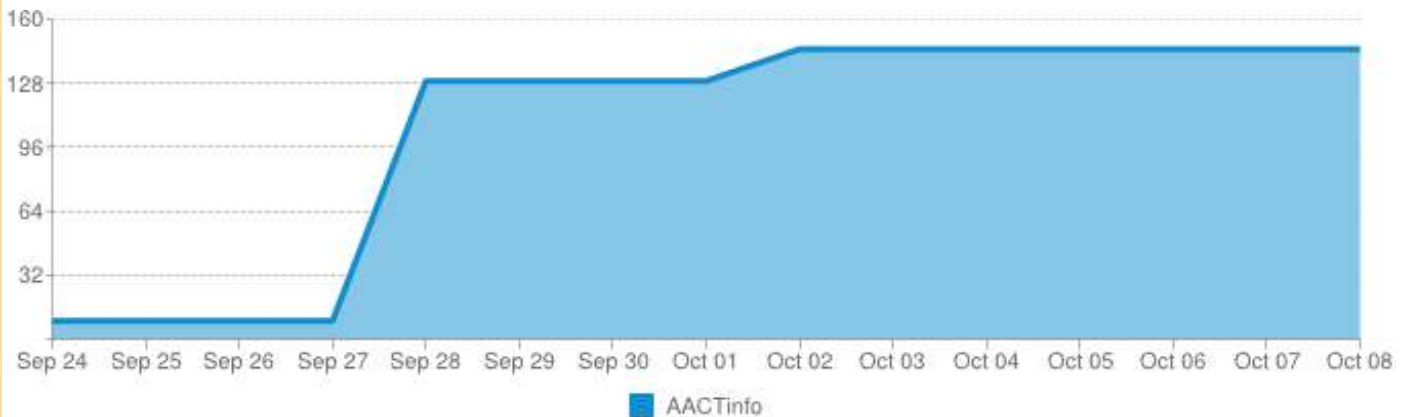


@AACTinfo
AACT
McLean, VA

*American Academy of Clinical Toxicology.
Retweets and follows are not endorsements.*

Followers	150
Following	32
Listed	5

Follower Growth



Keyword over time





The American Academy of Clinical Toxicology

Uniting scientists and clinicians in the advancement of research, education, prevention and treatment of diseases caused by chemicals, drugs and other toxins.

The AACT Toxicology Trainee Research Award



What is the AACT Toxicology Trainee Research Award?

- This award is intended to support research by clinical/medical toxicology fellows in training

How much money?

- Award is (maximum) \$3000
- A separate award of \$750 is given to present at the North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology

Who can apply?

- Awardee and Mentor are members of AACT in good standing



NEW AWARD!

Applications due:

April 1, 2014

What are the Award requirements?

- The entire study must be completed within one year of the award date
- Final progress report must be submitted to AACT
- A one-time only, no-cost extension may be granted

How do I apply?

- Apply on-line at www.clintox.org

More information?

- Email the AACT Executive Director, Sarah Shiffert: sarah@clintox.org
 - Email the AACT Awards Committee Chair, Dr. Kenneth McMartin: kmcmar@lsuhsc.edu

FUTURETOX II

PATHWAYS TO PREDICTION

FutureTox II: *In Vitro* Data and *In Silico* Models for Predictive Toxicology

January 16–17, 2014

**Friday Center at the University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, North Carolina**

Meeting Overarching Objectives:

- Bring together basic research integrating newer *in vitro* methodologies and computational (*in silico*) modeling approaches with advances in systems biology
- Identify key questions needing further research
- Clarify the usefulness and validity of new and emerging technologies and approaches
- Learn how to manage expectations in both the regulatory and regulated scientific communities
- Network with experts in this fast changing growth area

To register for this meeting and for more information on this or other upcoming CCT meetings, visit www.toxicology.org/cct.

AACT Represented at ALATOX 2013

Andres Lugo, MD

ALATOX 2013 was recently held in Guayaquil Ecuador with nearly 500 attendees from our colleagues in the Latin American Countries. AACT was well represented by Andres Lugo where he presented 4 lectures: Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals, Risk Assessment on Communities Living Near Industrial Sites, Antidotes Used in Chemical Emergencies and Hospital Preparedness on Chemical Accidents.

Dr. Jorge Gaibor, President of ALATOX, sent his gratitude to AACT for our participation and sound lectures.



Andres Lugo at ALATOX 2013