



Meridian

Newsletter of the Australian Chinese Medical Association of Victoria

澳洲維省中華醫學會

July 2013 Volume 10 Number 3

President's message

The year of the Snake is slithering away! We are fast approaching the penultimate event of the year - ACMAV Conference. Titled Current Controversies in Medicine, this showcases topics of interest and debate, literally from head to toe. It is an event not to be missed, and is on Saturday 17th August, at The Park Hyatt. This year we are offering a prize to be won by a full registrant. You have to be in it to win it, so sign up now - it's not too late. The event will conclude with a scrumptious banquet at Dynasty Restaurant, which is included with full registration. The prize will be drawn at dinner. Please join us for this day of interactive learning from specialists in their field of interest, and earn CPD points for the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners.

In reflection, since the last Meridian newsletter, we have had a number of successful events. In May, Eldon Mah presented a succinct overview on Plastic Surgery at Secret Garden, Doncaster. In June, Grunenthal introduced us to Verasol for neuropathic pain, with a talk by Dr Clayton Thomas on Chronic Pain. Certainly our stomach pains were banished with Shark Finn Inn's large variety of tasty dishes.

In March 2013, I attended the national ACCMA conference, organized by South Australia, in Kuala Lumpur. This was the first to be held off shore, and was very successful with 130 registrants, ten from Victoria. Chris Leung was unable to accompany me due to his new parental role with the recent addition to his family. After attending the executive committee meeting, I joined the general throng and listened with interest to the variety of topics regarding "Oncology Update". I too contributed and gave a presentation on Breast Cancer. We were lucky to have the opportunity to partake in the best shark fin soup I can remember, followed by the usual banquet of many taste sensations. Unfortunately, despite trying to hide in the back alley, I was dragged kicking and screaming to perform karaoke with my offsider, Evelyn Yap, president of South Australian group. Mamma Miiiiiaaa, here we go again, aptly became our theme song. I was justly compensated by a trip to the night stalls, where I was fed durian to my hearts content!!

Back on home ground, the Committee and I have been conscientiously trying to revise legal issues which would allow us to use ACMAV foundation to its greatest capacity. New laws

have created significant restrictions which in turn have resulted in insurmountable hurdles for us. It appears we may need to dissolve the foundation as it stands and to restructure ACMAV Incorporated.

This will involve some significant workload for the Committee. On that note, positions are available on the committee for members to nominate for. We are looking for keen and committed people who would gain much experience and satisfaction by working with a great group of people whilst helping their colleagues, as well as the community in need.

I look forward to seeing you all at our conference. The AGM will be in October this year, and November sees our last seminar for 2013, with HSBC. Till then, I wish you well, with trouble free days and good health.

"How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these."
George Washington Carver.

Dr Nicole Yap FRACS



Dr Tom Tsiang Memorial Prize

Nominees are sought for the 2013 Tom Tsiang Memorial Prize. The late Dr Tom Tsiang was instrumental in establishing the association that has evolved into the ACMAV. Suitable candidates would demonstrate significant contribution to the Chinese community, and in doing so further the aims of the ACMAV.

Please see our website for further details.

acmav.org

Enquiries: president@acmav.org



ACMAV Seminar program

Neuropathic pain—one patch at a time

Pain is a pain. In the deep Melbourne winter on 26 June 2013, the ACMAV gathered at Shark Fin Inn to hear the latest on management of pain, specifically neuropathic. Neuropathic pain is commonly encountered in clinical practice. However, it is not necessarily well managed due to its complex evolution and tenacious nature. Neuropathic pain causes much disability, loss of productivity and poor quality of life in the Australian population.

Common causes of neuropathic pain include diabetic neuropathy, postherpetic neuralgia, trigeminal neuralgia, and chronic regional pain syndrome. Patients may complain of numbness, and tingling, to icy and electric shock-like sensations. This can be highly disabling.

The speaker for the evening was Dr Clayton Thomas, a rehabilitation consultant at the Victorian Rehabilitation Centre. Dr Clayton has extensive background in pain management, and sharing his expertise was invaluable. Dr Clayton used a number of case studies to illustrate how a systematic stepwise approach to pain often helps. The use of topical lignocaine through a slow release patch also has its place in the pain armamentarium. Whilst

A big thank you to Grunenthal for supporting this informative and practical educational session.



If you were unable to attend this seminar, Grunenthal will also be holding another educational evening at Samsara Restaurant, Mt Waverley, on Monday 12/8/13. For further details, or any queries regarding topical lignocaine, please contact Michele Amore, m 0404573212 michele.amore@hahnhealthcare.com.au

ACCMA Conference, Kuala Lumpur, March 2013





澳洲維省中華醫學會

MEDICAL CONFERENCE:

Current Controversies in Clinical Medicine

**Location: Park Hyatt,
Melbourne**

Date: 17th August, 2013

- Broad range of clinical topics relevant to your current practice covered
- Internationally renowned speakers
- Panel Discussions
- Conference dinner included!

*Hurry!
Registrations
closing
soon!*

*Register now
for your chance
to win a
mystery prize!
Winner to be
announced at
post-conference
dinner!*

Call for ACMAV Committee nominations

Due to recent resignations from the ACMAV Committee, nominations are sought to fill these positions.

A huge thank you to **Dr Theong Low** and **Dr Jason Oh** for their exceptional contribution over many years. The Committee are seeking members with a desire to join this vibrant team to further the vision of the ACMAV.

Nomination forms are available on the ACMAV website acmav.org

Nominations close on Friday 4th October 2013

All enquiries to be directed to secretary@acmav.org

Events calendar

ACMAV

President: Dr Nicole Yap
president@acmav.org

Vice-President: Dr Chris Leung
vicepresident@acmav.org

Secretary: Dr Rebecca Nguyen
secretary@acmav.org

Treasurer: Dr Helena Ng
treasurer@acmav.org

Past-President: Dr Theong Low
pastpresident@acmav.org

Committee Members:

Dr Jason Chuen Dr Lilia Iina
Dr Adrian Mar Dr Nora Lee
Dr Ken Leong Dr Sally Ng
Dr Jason Oh Dr Cheryl Oh

Newsletter Editors:

Dr Nora Lee & Dr Chris Leung
meridian@acmav.org

Published by ACMAV Inc.

ABN 43 721 970 098

All correspondence:

ACMAV House
862A Canterbury Rd
Box Hill South VIC 3128
Tel: (03) 9899 6380
Fax: (03) 9899 6389
Web: www.acmav.org
Email: office@acmav.org

Printing Services:

Ivy Printing, 4 West St
Brunswick VIC 3056
Tel: (03) 9383 6833

Future edition copy deadlines

19 March 2013 17 June 2013
27 Sept 2013 16 Dec 2013

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2013



ACMAV Conference
Park Hyatt
17 August 2013



TBC



ACMAV Annual General Meeting
Date TBC



Get your racquets out!
ACMAV Tennis Tournament
Playing on 20th October 2013
Contact: Douglas Gin
doctor@dermatologyclinic.com.au



Richmond 412 church st richmond vic 3121
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e richprint@ivyprinting.com.au

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