Dear Colleagues,

This issue of the WAA Newsletter is testimony to the growth of WAA in recent years and to the active interest and participation of our member societies. At this time we are looking ahead to our XIVth International Congress, which will be hosted by the VIIth National Congress of the Turkish Society of Apheresis, 13-15 September 2012, in Istanbul.

It has been my absolute pleasure to collaborate with Professor Ali Ünal, Co-President of the XIVth Congress, and Congress Secretary General Dr. Fevzi Altuntaş, in developing an outstanding program that features local and international speakers.

The WAA Board of Directors will have three major items on its agenda when it meets in Istanbul. One will be a proposed revision of the WAA bylaws, a project led by Dr. Tom Price and the Bylaws Committee. The draft revised bylaws will have been distributed to all WAA Councilors, for consideration by their societies, with the electronic version of this Newsletter.

Another major agenda item will be the election of a new slate of WAA executive officers. It is critical that member societies submit their nominations by 30 July 2012. Note that only member societies who are current in their dues are eligible to submit nominations. If your society has not yet submitted its dues for 2012, please do so immediately. If your society is unable to submit its dues by direct bank transfer, you may submit your dues by check or money order to the WAA business office in Canada, Canadian Apheresis Group, 199-435 St. Laurent Blvd., Ottawa, Ontario K1K 2Z8 Canada, and it will be forwarded to the Treasurer in France.

The third major agenda item relates to the WAA XVth International Congress to be hosted by the XXXVth Annual Meeting of the American Society for Apheresis (ASFA). Drs. Hiroshi Tsuda, President-elect of WAA and Marisa Marques, President-elect of ASFA, have already begun a dialog regarding the organization of the WAA XVth International Congress. The WAA Board of Directors will consider and vote on a draft memorandum of understanding that has been submitted by ASFA.

Finally, as we move with great anticipation toward the Istanbul Congress, I encourage all of you to submit abstracts of your work, and the work of your trainees, for presentation. And I encourage you to find resources with which to support the attendance of your allied health colleagues at the Congress. There will be abundant programming for everybody. And the more we interact with each other, at every level of professional apheresis, the more we learn and gain.

With warmest regards, I am
Yours truly,

Robert Weinstein, MD
President, World Apheresis Association
### Table of Contents

- President’s Message .................................................. Cover
- Turkish Society of Apheresis ........................................ Page 3
- Mexican Association of Transfusion Medicine, Civil Association Page 4
- French Society for Hemapheresis .................................. Page 5
- European Society of Artificial Organs ............................... Page 6
- Korean Society for Apheresis ......................................... Page 7
- European Society for Haemapheresis and Haemotherapy ........ Page 8
- Italian Society of Hemapheresis and Cell Manipulation ........ Page 9
- American Society For Apheresis .................................... Page 10
- Indian Society for Apheresis ......................................... Page 11
- Canadian Apheresis Group ........................................... Page 12
- Japanese Society for Apheresis ....................................... Page 13
- WAA History and Evolution .......................................... Page 14
- WAA 14th International Congress, Istanbul: PROGRAMME .... Page 15

---

The seventeen member-organizations of the WAA (alphabetically) are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asociación Mexicana de Medicina Transfusional A.C.</td>
<td>AMMTAC, Mexico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian &amp; New Zealand Society of Blood Transfusion</td>
<td>ANZSBT, Australia &amp; New Zealand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Society For Apheresis</td>
<td>ASFA, United States of America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Apheresis Group</td>
<td>CAG, Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese Society of Infectious Diseases</td>
<td>CSID, P. Republic of China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Society for Artificial Organs</td>
<td>ESAO, Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Society for Haemapheresis &amp; Haemotherapy</td>
<td>ESFH, Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hellenic Haemapheresis Society</td>
<td>HHS, Greece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Society for Apheresis</td>
<td>ISA, India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Society For Apheresis</td>
<td>ISFA, International</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan Society Apheresis</td>
<td>JSFA, Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korean Society for ApheresisK</td>
<td>SFA, Korea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin American Association Apheresis and Therapies Celulares</td>
<td>ALAyTeC, Latin America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippine Society of Hematology and Blood Transfusion</td>
<td>PSHBT, Philippines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Société Francaise d’ Hémaphérèse</td>
<td>SFH, France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Società Italiana di Emaferesi</td>
<td>SidEM, Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkish Society of Apheresis</td>
<td>TSA, Turkey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The WAA Board representatives of each of these associations, are listed on the left side of the front cover.
The Turkish Society of Apheresis was founded as a non-profit organization on October 2000. Currently the association has 200 members from different professions related to apheresis.

The main purpose of our association is to ensure and encourage communications between the different scientific fields such as hematology, oncology, dermatology, neurology, rheumatology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, nephrology, intensive care unit, cardiology, etc., all of which are related to hemapheresis and to support and promote scientific research within this field, representing the Turkish Society of Apheresis successfully worldwide.

Furthermore, we aim to inform our members of the most recent developments in apheresis, and to advance knowledge and inspire continued professional development in this exciting discipline.

The Turkish Society of Apheresis, in collaboration with the European Hematology Association (EHA) has awarded Continuing Medical Education (CME) points for participation in scientific and educational programs.

Until now, the TSA has made a great contribution on the institutionalization and solution of the problems faced by the disciplines involved in apheresis. Also, our society has made a great scientific contribution on the preparation of the Therapeutic Apheresis Centers Guide in Turkish.

Since our establishment, our society has successfully organized:
- 1st Hemapheresis Workshop (3-4 May, 2002)
- 1st National Hemapheresis Congress (9-10 October, 2003)
- 15th European Hemapheresis ESFH Congress (5-9 October, 2005)
- 2nd National Hemapheresis Congress National Hemapheresis Congress (1-4 November, 2007)
- 4th National Hemapheresis Congress (23-26 September, 2009)
- 5th National Hemapheresis Congress (24-27 September, 2010)
- 6th National Hemapheresis Congress (29 September-2 October, 2011)

And we are proud to announce officially our international congress, conducted by the Turkish Society of Apheresis in cooperation with the World Apheresis Association and other national and international societies and organizations which share the same scientific and medical interests in the field of Apheresis.

The 14 International Congress of the World Apheresis Association will be held in Istanbul/Turkey from 13-16 September 2012, and is being coordinated by the president of the WAA Prof. Robert Weinstein and the president of TSA, Prof Ali Unal as the co-presidents of the congress, general secretary of the TSA, Assoc. Prof. Fevzi Altuntaş as the general secretary of the congress and the editor-in-chief of the Journal Transfusion and Apheresis Science, Executive Vice President of the Canadian Hematology Society and Chair of the Canadian Apheresis Group, Prof. Gail Rock as the scientific secretary.

Around 750 scientists from America, Europe, Asia and other regions are expected to participate to this event. We are hoping to get support and contributions from the societies related to apheresis all over the world.

**TSA Website:** [www.aferez.com](http://www.aferez.com)

---

The Turkish Society for Apheresis looks forward to welcoming you to the

**14th International Congress of the World Apheresis Association**

Istanbul, Turkey, September 13—15, 2012

Congress website: [www.waa2012.com](http://www.waa2012.com)
The Mexican Association of Transfusion Medicine, Civil Association (AMMTAC), is a young association, and has been in existence for only ten years. Already, it has made great achievements in providing expertise to its members and to those interested in Transfusion Medicine. The AMMTAC has 250 active members in the Latin American region. Of those, 200 are in the country of Mexico.

The board consists of 18 members with different specialties, shown on the left side of this page.

Challenges
Among the challenges facing the AMMTAC is to contribute to the increase of voluntary blood donation in Mexico and to contribute the opinion of its experts in the legislation of our country in terms of Transfusion Medicine and, of course, contribute to the development of knowledge in our country in this area, through courses, workshops, graduates, publications and monthly sessions.

Our most important project in the year 2012 is to contribute to the organization of the 32nd International Congress of the ISBT and the 10th Congress of the AMMTAC to be held on July 7-12, 2012, in Cancun, Quintana Roo Mexico, in which it will be very important to show to our worldwide colleges the successes and issues facing blood banks and transfusion services in our country, through discussion forums and a high-level academic program.

Commemorative book
To celebrate the first 10 years of AMMTAC, a commemorative book was published with the collaboration of several experts in transfusion medicine, which undoubtedly contributed to the development of AMMTAC and Transfusion Medicine in Mexico.

In recent years, the Apheresis in Mexico has had an important place in the different institutions of our country, both in the donation and therapeutic procedures.

Most institutions use plasma exchange and, occasionally, columns for this purpose, depending on the economic resources they have.
The French Society for Hemapheresis (SFH) was born after an evaluation process at the end of the 1970 decade. Later, the SFH was registered in 1983 with 28 founding members. The first international congress on hemapheresis was held in Dijon (France) on November 1984. Thereafter, the SFH represented the task-force of the World Apheresis Association (WAA) that was created in 1985.

In 1990, a subsidiary association of the SFH, the “French Commission of Hemapheresis Technicians” (CFTH) was created. The name of this commission was then changed and became “French society of hemapheresis nurses” in 2010.

The SFH organized a national three-day congress every two years, in conjunction with the nurses society congress and most of the time our meeting is also joint with another international congress.

Moreover, every other year, a two-day congress named “Autumn’s Days of SFH” is held.

Currently we are organising the 14th congress in the city of Nîmes in France (November 21-23, 2012). Adding both types of congress, it is the 27th congress organized by SFH since its creation in 1984.

The registry of the SFH began in 1986 with registration of the therapeutic plasma exchange procedures of all the French centres. This is the second oldest registry of hemapheresis in the world with more than 120 member centres.

The current president of the SFH, Dr. Farhad Heshmati, has been president since 2008, is (farhad.heshmati@cch.aphp.fr).

The SFH registry—the the second oldest registry of hemapheresis in the world with more than 120 member centres—began in 1986 with registration of the therapeutic plasma exchange procedures of all the French centres.
ESAO, founded in 1974 in Geneva, Switzerland, is a worldwide society open for members of all countries. ESAO encourages and publishes progress made in the field of artificial organs and allied spheres. It serves over 400 members worldwide.

The aims of the ESAO is to coordinate and develop research in Europe on artificial organs and represent the research in this field with the scientific institutions concerned. ESAO also promotes exchanges and establishes ties with associations having similar aims and a registered address outside Europe.

ESAO promotes and coordinates activities of similar associations, to create ties and organize exchanges among them. A part of our role is also to promote scientific projects in the field of artificial organs and thereby also to promote young scientists. This includes establishing working groups that at the moment include a working group for Heart support, Liver support, Uremic toxins, tissue engineering and Apheresis.

Apheresis scientific sessions are part of the yearly held ESAO congresses. Since apheresis is performed as a therapeutic measure in many different fields of medicine this activity fits well into the ESAO. The Apheresis working group was established in 2002 and focused to develop more knowledge about various therapeutic aspects of apheresis. As the chairman of the ESAO apheresis working-group, Bernd Stegmayr, together with colleges from other registries, developed an internet based registry for therapeutic apheresis. The registry was based on experience from the previously already established national registries in Canada (Main person: Gail Rock), France (Main person: Jean Michel Korach) and Sweden (Main persons: Rut Norda and Bernd Stegmayr) and Wolfgang Ramlow. The support by the WAA president Peter Ivanovic, at that time, and the WAA board resulted in the fact that the registry was also established as the World Apheresis Association Registry (www.worldapheresis.org).

The ESAO Apheresis working group thereby is composed of the various participating members of the registering centres in the registry. In addition, cooperation is present with the European Society For Haemapheresis (ESFH, www.esfh.org). More than 35000 registered treatments have been entered into this database. Scientific analyses of the efficacy and safety of apheresis treatment of various diseases is performed. The data from the Swedish centres are analysed yearly nationally within the frame of the Swedish National Quality Assessment Registries as “Kvalitetsregister: Terapeutisk Aferes” number 82. The development of the Swedish part of the registry is to a large extent supported by funds from the Swedish Government and The Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions. The international part of the registry prospers from the development of the Swedish part of the registry and allows each centre to register free of cost. In addition, each centre gains access to their own data after each year, allowing a sum up of local activities and comparison of activity and safety over time as well as merging data with other centres in their country.

The registry will be further updated through the year 2012 and thereby enable direct feedback on the level of safety and efficacy in a larger extent. We invite all centres to participate in the WAA registry by gaining their own access code (www.waa-registry.org). You will thereby also be part of the ESAO apheresis working group. Participating by actively entering data on therapeutic apheresis enables the apheresis world more knowledge about this field. Note that centres that do not treat patients with apheresis may also enter data of their treatment outcome for diagnoses that alternatively can be treated by means other than apheresis. If you know of such centres we would appreciate it if you would encourage them to participate.
The Korean Society for Apheresis (KSFA) was established in 1999, and each year we hold the annual symposium in February.

The Society consists of about 200 members including physicians and nurses. The purposes of the KSFA are to foster collaborative research regarding collection, modification, removal, transfusion, transplantation, and cellular therapy of blood constituents.

The Society serves as an organization for education and exchange of information and ideas concerning apheresis among its members. Recently, the KSFA is collaborating with the AAA (Asian Academy of Apheresis) which is mainly organized by Dr. Motoki Yonekawa of the Sapporo Hokuyu Hospital to share information among neighborhood countries.

This year, our annual symposium (14th Symposium of The Korean Society for Apheresis) was held on 22 Feb 2012 in Seoul. The agenda was as follows: 1) Topic (I) ABO Incompatible Transplantation, 1-1) ABO incompatible kidney transplantation in Korea, 1-2) Low vs. high isoagglutinin titer; 2) AAA (Asian Academy of Apheresis) Session, 2-1) Topics of apheresis in neurological diseases in Japan, 2-2) Current status of apheresis in Korea; 3) Topic (II) Current Issues, 3-1) Successful erythrocytapheresis in a patient with HbS/β-thalassemia, 3-2) Survey on granulocyte apheresis and transfusion in Korea, 3-3) Molecular adsorbent recirculating system (MARS) vs. therapeutic plasma exchange, 3-4) Ex vivo expansion of human NK Cells from blood retained in disposable platelets apheresis set.

Our next annual symposium (the 15th Symposium of The Korean Society for Apheresis) will be held around February 22, 2013 in Seoul. According to the presentation by Professor Kyou-Sup Han M.D. of the AAA (Asian Academy of Apheresis) Session of the 14th Symposium of KSFA, we performed 531,370 apheresis procedures employing about 1,000 apheresis instruments in 2011 in Korea.

The majority (98%) of the procedures were done at the Blood Centers to collect plasma (75%) and platelets (23%). For donor plasmapheresis, the Auto-C (Fenwal) is most commonly used followed by the PCS-2 (Haemonetics). For donor plateletpheresis, the Amicus (Fenwal), MCS (Haemonetics), and Trima machines (Caridian BTC) are being used. In hospitals, the Cobe Spectra (Caridian BCT) was the most popularly used instrument followed by the CS 3000 (Fenwal), MCS, Cobe 2991, Plasauto-EZ (Asahi), KM8000 (Kuraray), Com Tec (Fresenius).

Plasma exchange (5,609 procedures), hematopoietic stem cell collection (3,633 procedures) and donor granulocyte collection (938 procedures) were the main procedures performed in Korean hospitals. Multi-component collections such as platelet-plasma collection and double-unit plateletpheresis and double-unit erythrocytapheresis are being introduced and the number of plasma exchanges employing filtration technology is gradually increasing.
In 2011 and the beginning of 2012, the ESFH was involved in various scientific meetings, e.g. ISBT, ASFA, WAA, and national meetings, as in Czech/Praha in October 2011, with scientific presentations of ESFH Board members.

This year the **b i a n n u a l i n t e r n a t i o n a l** meeting of the European Society for Haemapheresis and Haemotherapy (**18th ESFH Congress**) was held in April as a joint meeting with the HAGA Ziekenhuis in The Hague, The Netherlands.

Every speciality was taken into account by 35 invited speakers on various topics in apheresis, e.g. in immunomodulation, calcium/citrate metabolism, in paediatric patients, in neurological patients, stem cells, mobilization, haematological and oncological diseases, photopheresis, red cell collection, red cell depletion, thalassaemia, sickle cells, immunoadsorption, column techniques.

The congress venue in the Bel Air Hotel was excellent both for exhibitors and lectures and for informal meetings. Approximately 250 participants made this conference a great success with very positive evaluations.

During the meeting, a scientific committee of the ESFH selected the winners of the “Best Poster Award of the ESFH” out of 22 Posters. The awards were given in the closing ceremony to Mrs. M. Lánská from Czech for her presentation “Plasmapheresis and its unclear indications: four successfully treated patients with Lyell's syndrome” and also to Mrs. J. Wiersum-Osselton from The Netherlands for “Plasmapheresis in healthy donors in The Netherlands: a cohort study of risk factors for donor complications”.

In cooperation with ASFA, the ESFH will work on the NEW Apheresis Guidelines to be published in the Journal of Clinical Apheresis in 2013, adding chapters of typical European indications and procedures which are not commonly processed in the US.

Topics proposed are: ABO-adsorption techniques, lipid adsorption techniques, other adsorption techniques, granulocyte collection and transfusion, erythrocyte depletion, extracorporal photopheresis, red cell collection, red cell depletion, thalassaemia, sickle cells, immunoadsorption, column techniques.

Another mission of the ESFH is to intensify educational courses in apheresis on a European level. This mission will be started by developing basic training for apheresis nurse. In October 2012, a two day meeting is planned with nurses and physicians from numerous countries to develop the basic “Principles of Apheresis” for the course.

Next, based on a ‘train the trainer program’, the trainers will be trained to train local apheresis nurses in their own language. Basic modules are anatomy, mathematics, physiology, side effects, apheresis basics, etc in relation to apheresis.

To offer the best scientific support, the ESFH has renewed the website www.esfh.org with information on European aspects of apheresis.

The next ESFH congress will take place in Florence, Italy, as a joint meeting together with SIDE (**Societa’ Italiana di Emaferesi**) in the autumn of 2014. You are cordially encouraged to come up with your thoughts and scientific input for this congress to form a strong apheresis platform. Also, it is very much appreciated if you share European Apheresis Guidelines.
The efforts of the Board will be directed to maintaining a strong and careful attention to the main fields of interest of this wide area of medical and biological sciences characterized by a multidisciplinary involvement in transfusion medicine, and in several other disciplines, including hematology, immunology, neurology, nephrology, hepatology, cardiology including support in organ transplantation, rheumatology, metabolic disease and clinical oncology.

Therefore, a hot topic for our society is to develop a specific training pathway and sectorial standards aimed at preparing health care professionals (physicians, biologists, lab technicians and nurses) for further enrollement in the field of transfusion medicine and namely, within apheresis units.

The following scheme will briefly detail the lines of specific activities which SIdEM will carry out through the leading work of its Board and Scientific Committee in the following two years: improvement of technical and scientific knowledge of applied apheresis procedures in our involved national transfusion centers in close cooperation with commercial companies which operate in this specific field; application and monitoring at the national level of published or prepared “best practices” on stem cell mobilization and collection and on photopheresis for GvHD treatment in cooperation with GITMO (Gruppo Italiano Trapianto Midollo Osseo) creation of position statements of SIdEM and GITMO on long-term autologous stem cell storage or discharge and on minimal cell manipulation for both allogeneic and autologous units; permanent monitoring of activity in blood component collection by apheresis at a regional and national level (through the SIdEM/SIMTI apheresis blood component collection national registry) to define an optimal ratio of apheresis component procurement to conventional whole blood collection; annual management and monitoring of the unified therapeutic apheresis national registry in cooperation with the Italian Society of Nephrology (SIN).

All the above will be carried out by SIdEM in permanent cooperation with ESFA, WAA and the other national and international societies and organizations which share the same scientific and medical interests in the fields of plasma treatment, hematology, oncology, transplantation and cell therapies and engineering.

Finally, the next SIdEM Adjournment Course will be held in Mondello/ Palermo, October 18-20 2012 with Gerlando Quintini as meeting President whereas the next SIdEM National Congress will be in Padova in 2013.

The Italian Society of Hemapheresis and Cell Manipulation (SIdEM) renewed its Board and Scientific Committee in November 2011.

The new SIdEM Board

President
Prof. Luca Pierelli, MD
Rome

Vice-President
Patrizia Accorsi, MD Pescara

Secretary
Paolo Perseghin, MD Monza

Treasurer
Alessandro Mazzoni, MD Pisa

Councillors
Dott. Giuseppe Bonsignore, MD Palermo
Luciano Cazzato, MD Bari
Piero Marson, MD Padova
Michele Vacca, MD Roma

Scientific Committee
Prof. Alberto Bosi, MD Florence
Antonio Iacone, MD Pescara
Giustina De Silvestro, MD Padova
Francesco Lanza, MD Cremona
Paolo Rebulla, MD Milan
Fabrizio Scatena, MD Pisa
Prof. Alberto Zanella, MD Milan

Corso Nazionale SIdEM 2012
17° CORSO NAZIONALE DI AGGIORNAMENTO SIdEM
PALERMO - Mondello
18 - 19 - 20 ottobre 2012

Gerlando Quintini as meeting President
The past year has been a very successful time for ASFA with many exciting activities. ASFA hosted its 33rd Annual Meeting in April 2012 at the Westin Peachtree Plaza.

The meeting was very successful on many fronts, with over 450 attendees and 15 exhibiting companies and organizations. The Annual Meeting showcased the work of numerous experts in the field of apheresis medicine and had an extremely successful TTP Consensus Conference.

ASFA has been working extensively on the launch of the new ASFA Marketing Plan and activities, including the following major activities: exhibition at AABB, ASN, ASH, and Therapeutic Apheresis Academy; Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed with Virginia Therapeutic Apheresis Academy; and development of ASFA marketing materials (e.g. brochure, patient booklets, etc.).

Further, ASFA has recently launched a new and revised database system with a new ASFA store, auto-renew option for membership, virtual chat-room and discussion boards, advanced member profile options, and much more. In addition, the ASFA Patient Resources Factsheets are now posted on the ASFA website.

ASFA has also recently commenced work on new ASFA publications, including the JCA Special Issue (to be published in 2013) and the ASFA Principles Textbook (to be published in 2014).


Lastly, ASFA is working on developing an Apheresis Physician Credentialing document.

ASFA is working on many more exciting activities – so please visit our website, attend our educational programs, or contact us to learn more. We hope to see you at the 34th Annual Meeting May 22-25, 2013 in Denver, Colorado.

Visit www.apheresis.org for more information.
Indian Society for Apheresis (ISA)
The Indian Society for Apheresis (ISA) was established in 1987.

The ISA is a group of physicians, scientists, nurses, technicians, corporate bodies and other responsible citizens of the country who are interested or active in the field of apheresis. As we approach 2012, the ISA continues to progress steadily with a membership of 249. Presently, we are actively involved in expansion of apheresis services and research and development in the field of therapeutic apheresis in India. New Research Centers for Therapeutic Apheresis & Donor Apheresis are being established in more cities this year. A library was set up for professionals and the public. An internet center has already been established for the benefit of students, medical fraternity and patients.

Development of an ISA Apheresis & Medical Research Center is a constant process with ever increasing scientific developments in the field. This center is already attracting a large number of national and international patients because of its efficiency and economy combined with quality.

We have recently attracted patients from the UK for therapeutic apheresis. Currently, controlled trials are underway for the treatment of scleroderma, Ulcerative Colitis, bronchial asthma and ankylosing spondylitis to study the efficacy of apheresis in these and other routine indications.

Members at the national level are predominantly using single filtration membrane plasmapheresis, donor / plasma exchange and component apheresis. ISA is also beginning to conduct and monitor clinical trials for new medical devices and the treatment of HIV, HCV, Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever and Oncology related disorders and complications.

The ISA is striving hard to make inclusion of plasmapheresis, exchange and immuno-adsorption in the approved list of insurance companies for a maximum number of indications.

ISA has served as a consultant to the Indian government on issues related to policy planning and implementation of apheresis. Active socio-medical work involving the organization of public lectures, seminars, video shows and free medical camps is being done. Field workers and health educators of the ISA are participating in a community health education program.

Presently, our priority programs are fund raising and resource mobilization to permit us to achieve our scientific and humanitarian goals. ISA is currently coordinating a program that will provide training courses in apheresis with the help of I.A.A. hospitals in a northern Indian state as a new state chapter. An apheresis scientist exchange program is already active and the Indian Journal of Apheresis, a twice-yearly publication, is already in circulation.

Next year’s annual scientific meeting will have a tropical flavour as it will be held August 12-13, 2012 at Bikaner (Rajasthan) - a famous historical royal state. The meeting will feature a variety of presentations by eminent and invited speakers from the state, country and overseas.

"Plasmapheresis in Tropical India" is the theme of the ISA 2012 Annual Scientific Meeting.

Scheduled for August 12—13, 2012, the meeting will have a tropical flavour as it will be held at Bikaner (Rajasthan) - a famous historical royal state.

The meeting will feature a variety of presentations by eminent and invited speakers from the state, country and overseas.
The Canadian Apheresis Group was formed in the late 1970s and began immediately to collect data in our national registry.

From a very small group (six at our first gathering) we have grown to have 39 centres representing all of the major medical centres in the country.

In Canada, therapeutic apheresis is carried out almost exclusively with fluid replacement: columns are rarely used. This is because of government policy regarding reimbursement. Consequently, for the most part, patients with hypercholesterolemia are treated by plasma exchange.

At present, we do not have any pathogen inactivated plasma products available although we expect to have SDP issued, on a restricted basis, for some TTP patients in the near future.

Plasma is not stored until the donor retested as is done in some countries, so our TTP patients who receive FP are at more risk than those getting albumin.

Our last Annual General Meeting was held in April, 2012 in conjunction with the Canadian Bone Marrow Transplant Group, in Toronto with 64 MDs and nurses in attendance.

Highlights of the meeting were:

- A report from the Canadian Blood Services by Rick Trifunov;
- National Advisory Committee on Blood and Blood Products (NAC) update by Dr. Lucinda Whitman, Chair of the NAC;
- Improving Patient Outcomes in TTP Management, by Dr. Andrea Neisser Svea;
- a lecture on LDL Apheresis by Dr. Patrick Moriarty, University of Kansas;
- aHUS was addressed by Dr. Christoph Licht, from the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto; and
- Immunoabsorption and ABO Incompatible Transplants was the subject of a presentation by Dr. Kurt Nilsson, Sweden.

We are now considering whether we will do a joint or independent meeting next year in the spring.

The CAG will shortly complete our study on the use of Rituximab in TTP patients who relapse or are refractory to PE with CSP. When we reach n=40 we will collate the data on this group and analyze it to see if we can determine an improved outcome.

Some of the assembled participants who attended the Annual Meeting and Scientific Sessions of the Canadian Apheresis Group and the Canadian Association of Apheresis Nurses, held in Toronto in April, 2012.
The Japanese Society for Apheresis (JSFA) was established in 1981.

The JSFA organization has about 1700 members, including 10 company members, 15 honorary members and 19 board members. Board members are listed on the right of this page.

We publish four journals every year: one journal in English, three in Japanese. The annual meeting is held every year and six local meetings are also held in: Hokkaido, Tohoku, Kanto, Chubu, Kansai and Kyushu.

In Japan, the treatment fee for apheresis is covered by social insurance for about 26 diseases [Listed below].

Our 33rd annual meeting will be held in Nagasaki, November 8th—10th 2012. The Congress President is Dr. Hidenori Matsuo.

Some symposia will be presented in English.

Social insurance supporting diseases for plasmapheresis

1. Multiple myeloma
2. Macroglobulinemia
3. Fulminant hepatitis
4. Drug intoxication
5. Myasthenia gravis
6. Rheumatoid arthritis with vasculitis
7. Systemic lupus erythematosus
8. Thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura
9. Severe blood-type incompatible
10. Post-operative hepatic failure
11. Acute hepatic failure
12. Multiple sclerosis
13. Chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy
14. Guillain-Barre syndrome
15. Pemphigus vulgaris
16. Pemphigoid
17. Focal glomerular sclerosis
18. Hemolytic uremic syndrome
19. Familial hypercholesterolemia
20. Arteriosclerosis obliterans
21. Toxic epidermal necrosis
22. Kawasaki disease
23. Stevens-Johnson syndrome or hemophilia with an inhibitor
24. For patients receiving homologous kidney transplants which show ABO blood-type incompatibility or test positive for lymphocyte antibodies
25. Homologous liver transplants which show ABO blood-type incompatibility or test positive for lymphocyte antibodies
26. Chronic hepatitis patients
Connecting apheresis activities world-wide for over 25 years

Since the World Apheresis Association last met at the highly successful XIIIth International Congress in Interlaken, Switzerland in September 2010, we have marked the 25th anniversary of the First International Congress, which was held in Japan. That first congress has since been followed by 13 other International Congress gatherings, shown in Table 1, with corresponding dates and locations.

The WAA umbrella organization was formed in Dijon, France, in the mid 1980s, and held its first formal meeting, the First International Congress, in Tokyo, Japan May 20 - 23, 1986.

Recognizing a need for better communication, these seven founding National/Regional Societies met at a planning meeting in Dijon, France in 1984:
- ASFA: American Society for Apheresis
- ESFH: European Society for Haemapheresis
- SFEP: Société Francaise d’Echanges Plasmatiques
- GLHEMA: Group Latino American of Hemapheresis
- ISAO: International Society for Artificial Organs
- JSTP: Japan Society of Therapeutic Plasmapheresis
- CASG: Canadian Apheresis Study Group

Today, the 17 organizations comprise the WAA membership, giving a comprehensive view of apheresis activities throughout the world. The present-day Executive and Board members are listed on the front cover of this newsletter.

The addition of the two most recent members in 2010—the Asociación Mexicana de Medicina Transfusional A.C., and the Korean Society for Apheresis—speaks to the continued growth and vitality of the organization.

Recently, the WAA also added the new, permanent Board position of Allied Health Liaison, thereby establishing a commitment to extend programming to allied health professionals who contribute so prominently to apheresis medicine. A current initiative of the WAA Board, is the first major revision of the bylaws since its establishment 25 years ago.

The purposes of the WAA are to:
- Provide an organization through which all professional societies dedicated to research and/or clinical practice in apheresis can communicate and collaborate;
- Foster global collaboration in scientific investigation, research, clinical applications, education, and exchange of information relating to apheresis and allied fields in clinical and laboratory medicine;
- Facilitate the availability of safe and effective apheresis techniques for the collection of donor cells and plasma as well as the removal or modification of blood constituents in disease;
- Encourage and advance high standards of administrative and technical performance in the field of apheresis;
- Manage a worldwide registry of patients treated by therapeutic apheresis.

One of the ways in which the WAA carries out these goals, is through the exchange of scientific information through its official journal, Transfusion Science and Apheresis. This newsletter also outlines important developments in apheresis and news from member Societies, announcements of new member societies, upcoming meetings etc. to promote the exchange of information between apheresis physicians and practitioners.

### TABLE 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Tokyo, Japan</td>
<td>May, 1986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Ottawa, Canada</td>
<td>May, 1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Amsterdam, The Netherlands</td>
<td>April, 1990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Sapporo Japan</td>
<td>June, 1992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Texas, USA</td>
<td>March, 1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Florence, Italy</td>
<td>November, 1996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>Sao Paolo, Brazil</td>
<td>October, 1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>Perth, Australia</td>
<td>July, 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th</td>
<td>Paris, France</td>
<td>September, 2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th</td>
<td>Florida, USA</td>
<td>May, 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th</td>
<td>Yokohama, Japan</td>
<td>March, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th</td>
<td>Buenos Aires, Argentina</td>
<td>March, 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th</td>
<td>Interlaken, Switzerland</td>
<td>September, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th</td>
<td>Istanbul, Turkey</td>
<td>September, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th</td>
<td>USA (early planning stages)</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To join the WAA

Interested Apheresis Societies are invited to apply for WAA membership by sending a letter to the WAA Central Office. The letter should describe the organization and provide a copy of the organization’s bylaws.
## PROGRAMME

**WAA 14th International Congress**  
**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:00</td>
<td>REGISTRATION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:00</td>
<td>OPENING CEREMONY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:30</td>
<td>PLENARY SESSION I (Cohn-de Lavalle Award and Lecture)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>COFFEE BREAK - POSTER SESSION I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>REGISTRY REPORTS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM (LUNCH)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FENWAL (Topic and speakers to be announced)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:00</td>
<td>SCIENTIFIC SESSION</td>
<td>HALL 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:30</td>
<td>COFFEE BREAK</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>PLENARY SCIENTIFIC - ABSTRACT SESSION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:30</td>
<td>PLENARY SCIENTIFIC SESSION II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:30</td>
<td>WORKSHOP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19:30</td>
<td>WELCOME RECEPTION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:30</td>
<td>CELLULAR THERAPY</td>
<td>HALL 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM (LUNCH)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45</td>
<td>COFFEE BREAK</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>APHERESIS IN NEUROLOGY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30</td>
<td>SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM (LUNCH)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:30</td>
<td>APHERESIS COMPONENT COLLECTION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>COFFEE BREAK</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:15</td>
<td>SEPSIS AND CRITICAL CARE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:45</td>
<td>CASE BASED DISCUSSION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18:15</td>
<td>WORKSHOP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20:30</td>
<td>GALA DINNER – HISTORICAL “BİNBİR DİREK” CISTERN (TICKETED EVENT)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:30</td>
<td>APHERESIS IN TRANSPLANTATION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>COFFEE BREAK</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15</td>
<td>THERAPEUTIC APHERESIS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45</td>
<td>TURKISH RED CRESCENT SESSION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:30</td>
<td>THROMBOTIC MICROANGIOPATHIES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>WORKSHOP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:00</td>
<td>RENAL DISEASE AND VASCULITIS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:30</td>
<td>CLOSING REMARKS AND AWARD PRESENTATION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
14th INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF WORLD APHERESIS ASSOCIATION

and

7th NATIONAL CONGRESS OF TURKISH SOCIETY OF APHERESIS

www.waar2012.com

13 - 16 September 2012
Harbiye Military Museum & Convention Center - İstanbul / Turkey