Dear Colleagues and Friends,

It is my pleasure to serve as your President and to have the opportunity to report back on our activities over the past year.

As you may remember there was some confusion in 2016 about the existence of two WAA offices, one in France and the other in Canada. With the positive input of Farhad Heshmati, Gail Rock and Richard Marks, plus the hard work of staff at the WAA office, these issues have been resolved and we now have one WAA which is registered in Canada. The bank account is also registered in Canada and is functioning reasonably well due to the persistence and thoughtful input of our Treasurer, Rainer Moog. Rainer is to be congratulated for his efforts.

Professor Bernd Stegmayr has also successfully organized a multi-registry meeting under the auspices of the WAA, to take place in Paris, France in June 2017. This is a follow-up to the pre-WAA Congress Registry Meeting last April which was also held in Paris. It is hoped that the existing and pending registries will strengthen the record of our therapeutic activities as well as provide a base for future research projects.

In this regard, Susan Huang and Christopher Patriquin from Canada have sent a grant submission on a pilot study to look at the role of Bortezomib versus Rituximab in patients with relapsing refractory TTP. If successful the plan is for Dr. Patriquin and Dr. Huang, with several members of the WAA, to carry out an international randomized controlled trial based on the results of the pilot study.

The last item is the WAA Interim Board Meeting which will be held on May 3 during the ASFA meeting in Florida. One of the main objectives is to finalize our 2018 WAA International Congress. The plans at this time are for it to occur in Indonesia, in conjunction with the Indonesian Association of Transfusion Medicine. Hopefully, we anticipate finalizing that location or, if it is not available, an alternate location.

The success of the WAA has relied on many of its members being actively involved. It is encouraging that the Korean Society of Apheresis is also joining in our activities and we must also thank Dr. Hans Vrielink for his role in encouraging the Indonesian Society of Nephrology to sponsor our 2018 meeting.

I look forward to seeing you in Indonesia next year or, if not, at another suitable destination.

Yours truly,
Bill Clark
President, WAA
The member-organizations of the WAA (alphabetically) are:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSOCIATION NAME</th>
<th>ACRONYM</th>
<th>PRESIDENT</th>
<th>REPRESENTING</th>
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<tr>
<td>Associação Brasileira de Hematologia, Hemoterapia &amp; Terapia Celular</td>
<td>ABHH</td>
<td>Dima Tadeu Covas</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
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<td>Asociación Mexicana de Medicina Transfusional A.C.</td>
<td>AMMTAC</td>
<td>Vicencio Juárez Barreto</td>
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<td>American Society For Apheresis</td>
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<td>Bruce Sachais</td>
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<td>Canadian Apheresis Group</td>
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<td>Chinese Society of Infectious Diseases</td>
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<td>European Society for Artificial Organs</td>
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<td>Hellenic Haemapheresis Society</td>
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<td>Indian Society for Apheresis</td>
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<td>Société Française d’Hématophérésie</td>
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<td>Farhad Heshmati</td>
<td>France</td>
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<td>Società Italiana di Emaferesi</td>
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<td>Turkish Society of Apheresis</td>
<td>TSA</td>
<td>Fatih Demirkan</td>
<td>Turkey</td>
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The WAA Board representative (Councillor) of each association, is listed on the left side of the front cover.
Collaboration of Apheresis Registries

Multi-registry meeting set for Paris in June, 2017

A multi-registry meeting under the auspices of the WAA will be held in Paris, France, beginning at 10 am on Tuesday, June 13, 2017 and it will conclude early in the afternoon of Wednesday, June 14. This meeting is open to those engaged in apheresis and registries and who wish to attend. Pre-registration to bernd.stegmayr@umu.se is necessary. The venue is the Cochin Hospital (27 Rue du Faubourg Saint-Jacques, 75014 Paris).

As Paris was identified by the majority of participants as the preferred meeting location, we are grateful to Dr. Farhad Heshmati, President of the French society, who has kindly organized the meeting venue and assisted in researching preferred hotel accommodations.

It is fortunate indeed that at least one representative of each of the six registries have confirmed their plans to attend.

WAA Registry meeting preparation

To lay the groundwork for the June registry meeting, a questionnaire, based on the information requested by Prof. Bernd Stegmayr, was developed. The questionnaire was sent to a representative of each registry so that the information could be collated and shared with all participants prior to the meeting to establish a baseline from which to proceed.

Samples of screen shots of the various registries were also collected to allow evaluation of the commonality among systems prior to the meeting.

The questionnaire included queries about:
- The computing system used
- Annual cost
- Current financial support
- Ease/difficulty
- Who enters the data (ie. Physician/Operator/Other)
- Data protection used
- Collection of outcome data
- Whether feedback reports are given
- Data access by contributors
- Key data points
- Other comments
- Samples of screen shots

Meeting Objectives

The objective of the June multi-registry meeting is to consider the options to cooperate on analysis of data within the various registries. This will allow a larger multinational analysis of the indications, devices used, complications and hopefully also, outcome data. This will be done under the umbrella of the WAA.

By coordinating data collection and analyses, it may also be possible to develop multi centre research projects in the future.

Existing registries

The existing registries which will be represented at the June meeting are:
- The Italian Therapeutic Apheresis Registry
- The French Registry
- The ASFA Rare Disease Registry
- The German Lipoprotein Apheresis Registry
- The Canadian Registry
- The WAA Apheresis Registry

About the WAA Registry

In 2002, the WAA decided to start a world-wide registry of therapeutic apheresis procedures including entering data on collection of blood stem cells.

The aim is to gain insight into the internationally used indications, extent of treatment and adverse events (either due to procedures or devices) and to facilitate contacts among centers when treatment indications are rare and experience limited. Each center enters non-patient-identifiable data (coded). The registry allows each center to download their own data whenever preferred. It also allows each center to compare data with mean data achieved from the whole registry.

We invite you to join the registry. Registration and data retrieval is at no cost for registering centers. More information is available at this web-link: www.worldapheresis.org

The WAA Registry Committee 2016—18

Chair:
- Bernd Stegmayr

Members:
- Farhad Heshmati, France
- Gail Rock, Canada
- Tarik Kanouni, France
- Giustina De Silvestro, Italy
- Bill Clark, WAA President
The Cohn—de Laval Award is the most prestigious of the WAA awards. It recognizes individuals who have made major contributions to the discipline of apheresis, and is presented at the biennial WAA International Congress.

The Cohn—de Laval awardee is invited to present a special lecture at the ceremony.

Eligibility Criteria
Eligible individuals are those who have made significant scientific contributions to the discipline of apheresis or who have given outstanding service to WAA or to the discipline of apheresis. The candidates may be practicing or retired but must be available to accept this award at the biennial International Congress.

Nominations
Candidates may be nominated by any member-society or by an active individual member and two seconders of a participant WAA member-society. Nominations must involve a fully completed nomination form, updated curriculum vitae of the nominee, and a nominating letter from the president of the society or from the individual nominator and seconders. Nominations must be completed within one year of the expected date of presentation.

Selection
All nominations will be submitted to each member-society for final vote/selection at least six months prior to the date of the Congress. The Awards Committee Chair, appointed by the WAA president, will collate the results of the votes from the member-societies to identify the successful candidate, and will notify the WAA president at least four months prior to the date of the Congress.

Past recipients: Cohn - de Laval Award
1994  Dr. Emil J. Freireich, USA
1996  Dr. Harvey G. Klein, USA
2000  Dr. Alvaro Pineda, USA
2002  Dr. Gail Rock, Canada
2004  Professor Akira Yamamoto, Japan
2012  Dr. Bernd Stegmayr, Sweden
2014  Dr. Jeane Hester, USA
2016  Dr. Paul Höcker, Austria

The Abel-Rowntree-Turner Award is the World Apheresis Association’s “Young Investigator’s Award”. The objective of this award is to recognize individuals under the age of 35 years who are making a contribution to scientific research in the field of apheresis.

Description
This award is a certificate, free registration at the International Congress and a stipend. The awardee(s) will present their original scientific work in the field of apheresis at the Congress.

Eligibility Criteria
Individual(s) under the age of 35 years who are making significant contributions to the discipline of apheresis, will be selected from the abstract submissions to the Congress.

Eligible applicants must be the originator of the intellectual property and responsible for the majority of the practical work. They must also be the first author on the paper and present it at the meeting.

Application Procedure
Candidates may register their abstract by checking the box on the abstract form to indicate they are eligible for the Young Investigator’s Award. The abstract form will include the criteria information.

No entries will be considered for the award after the abstract submission deadline.

Selection
Candidates’ abstracts will be judged by the Organizing Committee of the Congress. All abstracts will be blinded for anonymous review and will be graded by a point system before the meeting.

In the event of a tie the WAA Board of Directors will make the final selection.
Dear Apheresis Colleagues,

Since last year new activities in Europe have been launched. European Group – ISFA has been founded and the 4th Dresden International Symposium on Therapeutic Apheresis was organized last March in Dresden.

Next year in March a similar symposium will take place in Vienna (www.e-isfa2018.eu) organized by Prof. K. Defler. A new educational meeting was a great success last September in Copenhagen organized with industry and many nurses in attendance. A manifest of cooperation was signed between ISFA and ASFA.

The 11th ISFA 2017 Congress will take place this May 17th to 20th in the wonderful Tivoli center in Copenhagen, Denmark. The preliminary program can be viewed at www.isfa2017.dk and I may say it’s very strong. We already have the best speakers on nephrology and autoimmune diseases, LDL-apheresis, cardiology and transplants. The latest updates on Apheresis RCT in various indications will be presented as well as aHUS and TTP results.

The combination of Apheresis with biological agents, complement inhibitors is the future and I feel that we need to build bridges between medical and bioengineering communities in order to refine our tools and techniques. Latest results in the field of transplantation, stem cell production, eclampsia, coagulation disorders, IgE mediated diseases, small vessel vasculitis, and severe dyslipidemias make our clinical procedures more valuable and recognizable.

ISFA is the only International society for Apheresis mainly composed of individual members. Almost 500 members from all over the world join us today. The main objective of ISFA is to disseminate on an international basis the latest and up-to-date Apheresis technologies and to foster their clinical application enabling as many patients as possible to benefit from Apheresis by the efforts of ISFA.

See you in Copenhagen for the 11th ISFA Congress.

Warm regards,

W. Szpirt (Denmark)
President, ISFA
and 2017 ISFA Congress
www.isfa2017.dk
Dear Colleagues

Recent News

In 2016 (27-29 April), the SFH organized the WAA apheresis congress in Paris (Campus Les Cordeliers).

It started with a presentation in the memory of JJ Lefrère. All the fields and areas of apheresis were shown. The congress included educational sessions for nurses and physicians, scientific and practical sessions, clinical trial sessions, sessions about apheresis activities around the world, apheresis techniques and industrial symposia.

This congress was a success considering the quality of the scientific presentations, the numbers of participating persons and the friendly atmosphere.

Projects in 2017

- Development of a directory of the French centers of apheresis
- SFH is helping to organize a two-day meeting in June 13-14 in Paris with the WAA to discuss the development of a worldwide apheresis registry.
- SFH organized a one-day free educational congress in November concentrated on donor and patient apheresis (Cochin hospital, Paris)

Proposed Research Grant

The SFH proposes a research grant given to a French apheresis team in order to develop a research project on clinical results in apheresis, exploration of mechanisms of action or improvements of apheresis techniques.

The aim of this research grant is to help a team to initiate or finish a research in apheresis. This will be offered every year if financially possible to a different team.

Recent News

In November 2018, the national SFH congress will take place at Montpellier:

- three-day congress
- one day devoted to the nurses specialized in apheresis
- two days devoted to communications about clinical and technical results in apheresis for physicians and apheresis teams

Sincerely yours,

Farhad Heshmati, MD PhD
President of the French Society for Hemapheresis

National SFH Congress
Montpellier, France
November, 2018
www.hemapheres.fr
Dear colleagues and friends,

On behalf of the Hellenic Haemapheresis Society, I extend our thanks to Prof. Clark, WAA President, for your invitation to publish the activities of our organization in this edition of the World Apheresis Association Newsletter.

Our main activities are the organization of a scientific event, a workshop or conference held on alternative years, as well as recording the annual apheresis sessions of all our hospital units.

ATHENS WORKSHOP, 2016

The 11th workshop of the Hellenic Haemapheresis Society was held on the 1st of October 2016 in Athens. Apart from the registry data for the year 2014, we also discussed transfusion-transmitted infections and the development of a pathogen reduction blood transfusion product treatment.

Particular emphasis was also given to new developments in adsorption technology.

During this workshop we held elections to appoint the new Board of Directors as listed on the RIGHT column of this page.

UPCOMING CONFERENCE

The upcoming 6th conference will be held on the 28th and 29th of September, 2017 in Athens.

The planned topics are:
- Haemapheresis & autoimmune diseases
- Haemapheresis & kidney diseases
- Haemapheresis & haematological diseases
- Haemapheresis & neurological diseases
- Haemapheresis & hepatitis
- Several industrial symposia will also be scheduled

Guest speakers, including experts from the international community are also invited to participate in the annual event, which provides an essential networking opportunity for the Greek practitioners who attend.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our meetings.

Sincerely,

Prof. Christos Papadimitriou
MD, PhD
President.
Hellenic Haemapheresis Society

Christos Papadimitriou, MD, PhD, President, Hellenic Haemapheresis Society
Dear Colleagues,

ASFA is an organization of physicians, scientists, and allied health professionals whose mission is to advance apheresis medicine for patients, donors and practitioners through education, evidence-based practice, research and advocacy.

It has been a busy year for ASFA. Highlights of our activities and events include:

- **ASFA 2017 Annual Meeting**: The 38th Annual Meeting will be held in Fort Lauderdale, Florida from May 3 – 6, 2017 at the Westin Beach Resort & Spa. The meeting will include scientific and educational sessions, expert round table discussions and sessions related to vascular access for apheresis patients. There will be a session dedicated to International Apheresis. As always, there will be ample time for networking with your colleagues.

- **ASFA 2017 Regional Meeting**: The next ASFA Regional Meeting will be held in New York, NY on October 27, 2017 at the Columbia University Medical Center.

- **Apheresis Qualification**: ASFA, in partnership with the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) Board of Certification (BOC), has launched an apheresis qualification called ‘Qualification in Apheresis (QIA)’. This is a great way to demonstrate your apheresis expertise. More information on the QIA can be found here: https://www.ascp.org/content/board-of-certification/qualification

- **Journal of Clinical Apheresis (JCA) 2016 Special Review Issue**: Every 3 years, ASFA publishes evidence-based guidelines on the use of therapeutic apheresis in clinical practice in a Special Issue of the Journal of Clinical Apheresis. The latest edition was published in June 2016. The 2016 Special Review Issue includes a review and categorization of indications for therapeutic apheresis. This publication serves as the key resource for information on medical conditions treated by therapeutic apheresis. You can access the digital version of the Special Issue by logging into your Wiley Online Library Account.


- **UC San Diego Essentials and Advances in Apheresis Therapies**: ASFA is proud to endorse the UC San Diego Essentials and Advances in Apheresis Therapies conference. The conference was held February 23-25, 2017.

- **University of Virginia Therapeutic Apheresis Academy**: ASFA partnered with the School of Medicine’s Office of Continuing Medical Education to co-sponsor the University of Virginia Therapeutic Apheresis Academy September 22-23, 2016.

Bruce Sachais, MD, PhD
President, ASFA

ASFA Board of Directors

Bruce Sachais, MD, PhD
President, ASFA

ASFA Board of Directors
Dear Colleagues of the WAA,

About the ABHH
- Nonprofit Civil Association
- Scientific, Social and Cultural Character
- 2,734 members
- Congregates physicians devoted to the practice of hematology, blood transfusion, cell therapy
- Other professionals in related fields.

2017 Calendar

Scientific Activities—Meetings in Brazil

Partnership with International Societies:
- Highlights of ASH in Latin America: in partnership with American Association of Hematology (ASH) and the Uruguay Society of Hematology
  Punta Del Este Uruguay
  April 7th – 8th
- Highlights of International Society of Thrombosis and Haemostasis in partnership with ISTH
  Curitiba-PR Brazil, November 8th
- AIBE: Meeting Italian and Brazil Hematology Malignancies, in partnership with Associaçao Italo Brasileira,
  Curitiba-PR Brazil, November 8th
- Annual Meeting: Brazilian Congress of Hematology, Hemotherapy and Cell Therapy HEMO:
  Curitiba-PR Brazil, Nov. 9th – 11th

Committee Regional Meetings
- Multiple Myeloma Meeting
  São Paulo-SP, June 8th – 10th
- 8th Brazilian Lymphoma Meeting
  São Paulo-SP, April 11th
- Blood Transfusion Medicine: Natal-RN
  May 26th – 27th
- Distance Education and E-learning programs
- Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia and Hodgkin Lymphoma Aplastic Anemia

Publications
Brazilian Journal of Hematology and Hemotherapy
- Scientific journal
- Trimonthly publication
- Circulation 3,000 copies

Only below the Equator Line with an specialty exclusive editorial
- Scientific output rate similar to Chinese and other emerging countries’ publications

Indexation:
PubMed Central, PubMed Medline, Scielo, Scopus Database, Lilacs, Extramed

Guidelines:
- Chronic Myeloid Leukemia
- Plasma Cell Disorders (Myeloma)
- Thrombocytopenia: ITP, TTP, and aHUS
- Sickle Cell Disease
- Myelodysplastic Syndromes
- Myeloproliferative Neoplasms
- Acute Promyelocytic Leukemia
- Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia
- Transfusion Medicine

On behalf of Brazilian Association of Hematology, Hemotherapy and Cell Therapy, it’s a great pleasure to send you brief information and details regarding ABHH activities and meetings.

We would like to thank you for this good opportunity.

Dimas Tadeu Covas, MD, PhD
President
Brazilian Association of Hematology, Hemotherapy and Cell Therapy
Dear Colleagues and Friends,

SIdEM continues its interactive activities established with other societies by participating in the elaboration of registries and promoting education with continuing education programs. Members of the societies continue to gather together with the aim of learning from each other's experience and in promoting scientific programs.

In April 2016 the SIdEM Course was held in Cagliari, Sardegna with a good number of attendees.

At the present SIdEM is in the process of planning the XVIII National Congress which will be held in Pescara, Italy in October 2017 featuring an opening Symposium on “Cell Therapy and Health Technology: present and near future”. A session is addressed to the XXI Updating Course on Haemapheresis for Nurses and Technicians, the backbone in the success of apheresis programs. This will surely serve as a meeting place to exchange opinions in the large range of activity in this area.

This past year we have had to face many economical difficulties but the Society continues to focus its energy towards the strengthening of the organization and the continuously growing knowledge related to the apheresis field and on cell manipulation.

It is in our hope that SIdEM will continue to have a valuable impact on transfusion medicine and in particular apheresis therapy and hope that all our efforts will help provide better care to patients.

Patrizia Accorsi
President, SIdEM
Dear Colleagues,

The European Society of Artificial Organs (ESAO) is a worldwide association for promotion of tissue and organ support and regeneration by artificial organ technology.

This involves research and development in the area of artificial and bioartificial organs with a focus on heart, kidney, and lung support and replacement, but also engineering of other organs and tissues. ESAO members are represented by many different categories such as fundamental and applied research, clinics and industry working at the forefront of artificial organ research.

Apheresis Working Group
Apheresis is one important part of these activities, including an Apheresis Working Group headed by Bernd Stegmayr (Sweden), with focus on a global cooperation of entry and analysis of registry data of all fields of apheresis. It covers more than 60,000 procedures collected in a prospective manner. It is open for any center, at no charge, to participate. This is part of the WAA apheresis registry system.

At each ESAO congress apheresis sessions are organised including contributions about stem cell transplantation, immune adsorption of transplant antibodies, bioartificial organ therapy, combined removal by apheresis with focus on many diseases of different organs.

Other Working Groups
Besides the Apheresis Working Group, other various working groups are active within the ESAO: i.e. Bioartificial Organs (Dimitrios Stamatialis), Education (Viktoria Weber), Heart Support (Ulrich Steinseifer), Tissue Engineering (Nuno Neves), Uremic Toxins (Angel Argiles and Joachim Jankowski), and yESAO (Alessandra Molteni and Marc Mueller).

The next ESAO Annual Congress will be held in Vienna Austria, September 6-9, 2017, with Heinrich Schima as Congress President (abstract deadline March 15, 2017). More information can be found at http://www.esao2017.org/

Official Journal
The Journal of the ESAO is the International Journal of Artificial Organs (12 issues per year) with website http://www.artificial-organs.com/. Submissions in the area of artificial organ technology including apheresis are highly welcome.

If you are not yet a member of ESAO you are heartily welcome to register. More information about the membership as well as future meetings can be found at our homepage www.esao.org.

Sincerely,

Thomas Groth, President ESAO
Sunny Eloot, Secretary General, ESAO

ESAO Current Board

President
Thomas Groth, Germany
ESAO President Elect
Cécile Legallais, France
Past President
Bernd Stegmayr, Sweden
Secretary General
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Treasurer
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Bengt Lindholm, Sweden
Francesco Moscato, Austria
Maria Giovanna Trivella, Italy
ESAO-editor
Bernd Stegmayr, Sweden
Corporate Members Chair
Ares Menon, Germany

The ESAO Office is hosted by Danube University Krems, Austria
Anita Aichinger, Secretary Viktoria Weber, ESAO Officer

ESAO Annual Congress
Vienna Austria September 6-9, 2017

Heinrich Schima, Congress President
http://www.esao2017.org/
Dear Colleagues,

The Indian Society for Apheresis (ISA) was established in 1987. 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. The ISA continues to progress steadily with a membership of 248.

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. Development of ISA Apheresis & Medical Research Center is a constant process with ever increasing scientific developments in the field. This center is already attracting many national and international patients because of its efficiency and economy combined with quality. Currently, controlled trials are underway for the treatment of scleroderma, Ulcerative Collitis, bronchial asthma and ankylosing spondylitis to study the efficacy of apheresis in these and other routine indications.

ISA has conducted and monitored clinical trials for new medical devices and in the treatment of HIV, HCV, Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever and Oncology related disorders and complications. Our present focus is on Immunoabsorption and LDL Apheresis. Additionally, creation of medical and apheresis educational multimedia products is a continuous and ongoing endeavor.

ISA has served as a consultant to the Indian government on issues related to policy planning and implementation of apheresis. Health educators of ISA are participating in a community health education program.

Presently, our priority programs are fundraising 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.

This year’s annual scientific meeting will be held in August at Jaipur (Rajasthan) on August 16th 2017. This meeting will have a focus on the current status of evidence based therapeutic apheresis and embodiment of latest cutting edge apheresis techniques in the country incorporating cellular therapy and CAR T-Cells use. The meeting will also have an array of presentations by luminaries of the field from the country and overseas.

For further information on the ISA organization please contact: rs6434444@hotmail.com

Rakesh Srivastava
President
Indian Society for Apheresis
The Turkish Society of Apheresis (TSA) was established at the end of 2000 as a non-profit organization. Currently, the TSA has more than 100 members from different disciplines of medicine, including physicians, apheresis technicians and nurses. The main purpose of our association is to broaden the knowledge and proper application of apheresis science, supporting education and multicenter studies in Turkey and encourage multidisciplinary communication between colleagues.

We now have two new members on the BOD of the WAA. During the 2016 WAA meeting in France, our former president Fevzi Altuntaş and current president Fatih Demirkan, were elected as president elect and vice president of Asia, respectively.

TSA activated prospective and retrospective national thrombotic microangiopathy registries in 2015. The retrospective national (TMA) registry data was presented at 2016 ASH meeting in San Diego. We hope that the national prospective TMA registry will be ready for submission at the end of 2018.

The members of our society have also made great contributions to the field of hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT) and actively participated in the establishment of HCT programs in different parts of the world that have low economic resources. In particular, the last decade witnessed a remarkable increase in HCT activity in Turkey with almost 4000 HCT procedures performed in 2016. As a result of this vision, the first national HCT activity report from Turkey and the story of the establishment of the first HCT center in Uzbekistan appeared last year in our journal, Transfusion and Apheresis Science. Our members also published a report regarding our national apheresis training program in 2016.

Following its foundation, the TSA has organized more than 60 national apheresis courses, 11 national apheresis meetings, the 15th European Hemapheresis ESFH Congress in 2005, and the 14th International Congress of the World Apheresis Association in 2012. The 12th national meeting of the TSA will take place in Istanbul (26-29 October 2017). As is our tradition, our forthcoming meeting will include an applied apheresis course for technical staff, a transfusion course for physicians and a hematopoietic cell transplantation course for nurses. We are inviting all colleagues who are interested in apheresis science to take part in this scientific journey in the fascinating city of Istanbul.

Turkish Society of Apheresis
Board of Directors
Dear Colleagues,

The purpose of the Mexican Association of Transfusion Medicine is to train all the staff working in blood banks and transfusion medicine at national level in the different areas: recruitment of blood donors, donation process, immunohematology, transfusion-transmitted infectious diseases, adverse transfusion events, cellular therapies, apheresis and others.

In 2016, the XIV National Congress was held in the city of León Guanajuato, Mexico. We performed the third diploma in apheresis and different blood bank courses were supported in different places in the Mexican Republic.

Among the activities to be carried out during 2017 we have programmed the fourth diploma in apheresis, an haemovigilance workshop and a diploma in transfusion medicine.

This year, the national congress will be held in the city of Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico, at Expo Guadalajara from the 20th to the 23th of September, Guadalajara is the second most important city in the country.

The program includes seven workshops, two for immunohematology, one for apheresis, transfusion medicine for nurses, social workers in blood banks, accreditation and haemovigilance, five plenary sessions and twelve symposia covering the different areas of the Blood Bank and The Transfusion Medicine, with national and international professors.

We will continue working to train and keep updated the personnel of the different disciplines working in Blood Bank and Transfusion Medicine, including the Apheresis area.

I look forward to meeting you all in Guadalajara.

Vicencio Juárez Barreto
AMMTA President
Dear Colleagues of WAA,

During 2016, the European Society for Hemapheresis (ESFH) has continued working for the improvement of apheresis practice and supporting apheresis related educational activities around Europe.


Not only had the members of the ESFH Board of Directors delivered some of the lectures but also the Secretary of the Society, Prof. Paul Höcker, received the WAA Cohn-de Laval award as recognition of his long standing dedication and commitment to the field of the apheresis. The Cohn—de Laval award was presented to Professor Höcker during the meeting ESFH held the General Assembly.

ESFH also offered scientific patronage to a symposium organized by Prof. Luca Pierelli and Prof. Alberto Bosi of the Università degli Studi di Torino, Italy about the hematopoietic stem cell collection and extracorporeal photochemotherapy.

ESFH is currently working in the organization of the ESFH bi-annual meeting in Valencia, in June 2018. We really hope that the scientific content of the meeting, the fine congress venue and the cultural, natural and built attractions that the city of Valencia offer, will contribute to the success of the meeting.

Last year, the website of the ESFH was changed; updating the content to allow the access from hand held devices and improved aspects related to the security of the software.

Miguel Lozano, MD, PhD
President, ESFH

M. Lozano
President, ESFH
CAG Board
Dr. Gail Rock
Ottawa, Ontario
Dr. Vincent Laroche
Quebec, Quebec
Dr. John Klassen
Calgary, Alberta
Dr. Ronan Foley
Hamilton, Ontario
Dr. William Clark
London, Ontario
Dr. Uwais Qarni
Edmonton, Ontario
Dr. Mary-Margaret Keating
Halifax, Nova Scotia

CAG Annual Meeting
Sept. 22-24, 2017
Montreal, Quebec
Le Crystal Hotel and Spa
in conjunction with the Canadian Association of Apheresis Nurses

Canadian Apheresis Group
Groupe Canadien d’Aphérèse

Advocacy

Dear Colleagues,

The Canadian Apheresis Group (CAG) was originally formed in 1979 and went on to become one of the founding members of the World Apheresis Association in the mid 1980s.

Advocacy

The CAG continues to advocate for a safer blood product for patients. Solvent/detergent-treated human plasma has been placed under tightly restricted use in Canada for certain patients such as those with TTP who must also meet secondary qualifiers.

CAG members disagree with the restrictions and have joined with patients’ groups and others in an effort to have SDP available for use in all Canadian patients at the discretion of the attending physician.

The Canadian Registry

One of the main activities of our organization this year is the continued development of our national registry. Initially, apheresis centres across the country mailed quarterly reports of procedures to the central office, where the data from the paper reports were entered into a central database by CAG staff.

In 2011, we began a revision of the national registry to allow data-entry directly from apheresis centres.

By 2013 all 42 reporting centres were entering their registry data online directly from the apheresis units in major hospitals in 14 cities across Canada.

Building on the CAGs long-standing interest in the treatment of TTP (we have been involved in a number of clinical trials on various aspects of TTP over the years) we have recently been expanding our online registry to collect additional information on patients who present with a thrombotic microangiopathy (TMA) in order to track treatments and outcome and further refine treatment.

Meetings

Our organization will be represented at the WAA Board Meeting, to be held in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, on May 3, 2017.

The CAG looks forward to the discussion and outcome of the WAA registry meeting set for Paris, on June 13-14, 2017.

The CAG Annual Meeting will be held Sept. 22-24, 2017 in Montreal, Quebec.

Gail Rock PhD. MD. FRCP
Chair, Canadian Apheresis Group

Members of the Canadian Apheresis Group (CAG) and Canadian Association of Apheresis Nurses (CAAN), gathered in September 2016, in Gatineau, Quebec, for the Annual Meeting and Scientific Sessions of the CAG and CAAN. Members of the CAG—one of the founding member-societies of the WAA—support the WAA with pride and look forward to working with the various member-societies to share information and improve apheresis practice around the world.
Dear Colleagues,

The Korean Society for Apheresis (KSFA) was established in 1999, and holds an annual symposium in February. The Society consists of about 200 members including physicians and nurses.

The purposes of 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.

The President of KSFA is professor Kyou-Sup Han, M.D. (kshanmd@snu.ac.kr) of Seoul National University Hospital. The Secretary of General Affairs is professor Hyun Ok Kim, M.D. (hyunok1019@yuhs.ac) of Yonsei University Hospital.

18th Symposium
This year, our annual symposium (18th Symposium of The Korean Society for Apheresis) was held on February 22, 2017 in Seoul. The agenda topics were:
- Annual report of apheresis registration in KSFA
- Hematopoietic stem cell registry: survey report
- Current status of NK cell immunotherapy for cancer in Korea
- Safety control of plasma derived medicinal products in Japan, China, and Australia
- Emerging indications for apheresis therapy in human disease
- Target and effect of therapeutic apheresis in clinical practice
- In vitro quality evaluation of apheresis platelets in four kinds of platelet additive solutions
- Comparison between 6th and 7th issue of the guidelines on the use of therapeutic apheresis

Our next annual symposium (19th Symposium of The Korean Society for Apheresis) will be held around February 22, 2018 in Seoul.

According to the presentation by Dr. Hyungsuk Kim at the 18th Symposium of KSFA, we performed 753,890 apheresis procedures in Korea in 2016 employing about 1,000 apheresis instruments.

The majority (98%) of the procedures were done at blood centers to collect plasma (484,636), single-donor platelets (21,566), and double-component (plasma + platelet) collection (234,324). PCS-2 (Haemonetics) and Auto-C (Fresenius Kabi) are being used for donor plasmapheresis, and Amicus (Fresenius Kabi), MCS (Haemonetics), and Trima (Terumo BCT) are being used for donor plateletpheresis.

In hospitals, 6,698 therapeutic plasmapheresis, 4,850 hematopoietic stem cell collections, 609 therapeutic cytapheresis, and 528 donor granulocyte collections were performed. COBE Spectra (Terumo BCT) was the most popularly used instrument in hospitals followed by Spectra Optia (Terumo BCT) and Amicus.

FACT Symposium
This year, we are cosponsoring the Fresenius Kabi Advanced Course on Transfusion Technology (FACT) symposium which will be held on March 30, 2017 at the JW Marriott Hotel in Seoul. The program is held for the first time in Korea and is planned for sessions on automated component collections, plasma self-sufficiency, leukoreduction, therapeutic apheresis, and stem cell transplantation by speakers from USA, Germany, Korea, and India.

We publish a regular journal, the Korean Journal of Blood Transfusion, in conjunction with the Korean Society of Blood Transfusion three times a year.
Committees of the World Apheresis Association: 2016 - 2018

Nomination Committee
Paolo Perseghin, Chair
Bob Weinstein
Oliver Garraud
Wolfgang Ramlow

Registry Committee
Bernd Stegmayr, Chair
Gail Rock
Farhad Heshmati
Bill Clark
Tanik Kanouni
Giustina De Silvestro

Education Committee
Hans Vrielink, Chair
Bob Weinstein
Kerri Gallo
Bill Clark
Vicencio Juárez Barreto
Volker Witt

Bylaws Committee
Tom Price, Chair
Fevzi Altuntas
Volker Witt

Awards Committee
Kerri Gallo, Chair

Membership Committee
Bob Weinstein, Chair
Hans Vrielink
Alfredo Mendrone
Fatih Demirkan
Olivier Hequet

Sponsorship, Fundraising & Industry Liaison
Rainer Moog, Co-Chair
Bill Clark, Co-Chair
Thomas Pusinelli
Miguel Lozano
Joseph Schwartz
Jinlin Hou
Ravi Sarode

Planning Committee WAA 2018 Congress
Bill Clark, Co-Chair
Fevzi Altuntas, Co-Chair
Paolo Perseghin
Hans Vrielink
Kyou-Sup Han
Kerri Gallo
Olivier Garraud
Susan Huang
Jeffery Winters
Gail Rock
Jinlin Hou
Farhad Heshmati
OUR THIRTY YEARS OF HISTORY!

In 2016, the World Apheresis Association (WAA) marked our 30th anniversary of the first WAA International Congress. The umbrella organization of the WAA was formed in Dijon, France, in the mid 1980s. The first formal WAA meeting, the First International Congress, was held in Tokyo, Japan May 20 - 23, 1986.

While it started with only seven national organizations as members, today, 15 national or regional organizations now make up the WAA membership, giving a comprehensive view of apheresis activities throughout the world.

In 1984, these seven National/Regional Societies, recognizing a need for better communications, founded the World Apheresis Association at a planning meeting in Dijon, France.

The seven founding member-societies of the WAA were:
- ASFA – American Society for Apheresis
- CASG - Canadian Apheresis Study Group
- ESFH – European Society for Haemapheresis
- GLHEMA – Group Latino American of Hemapheresis
- ISAO – International Society for Artificial Organs
- JSTP – Japan Society of Therapeutic Plasmapheresis
- SFEP – Société Francaise d’Echanges Plasmatiques

The executive positions that make up the WAA Board, as well as the names of the individuals who currently hold each post are listed in the sidebar of the cover of this newsletter.

The current member-societies and the name of the President of each society are listed on the bottom of Page 2.

### History of WAA International Congresses

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<td>San Francisco, USA</td>
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<td>Sept. 13 – 16, 2012</td>
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<td>XIII</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<td>III</td>
<td>Apr. 9 – 12, 1990</td>
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<td>II</td>
<td>May 18 – 20, 1988</td>
<td>Ottawa, Canada</td>
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<td>I</td>
<td>May 20 – 23, 1986</td>
<td>Tokyo, Japan</td>
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### History of WAA Presidential Terms

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<th>Country</th>
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<tr>
<td>2016-2018</td>
<td>Dr. William Clark</td>
<td>Canada</td>
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<td>2014–2016</td>
<td>Dr. Paolo Perseghin</td>
<td>Italy</td>
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<td>2012–2014</td>
<td>Dr. Hiroshi Tsuda</td>
<td>Japan</td>
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<td>2010–2012</td>
<td>Dr. Robert Weinstein</td>
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<td>2009–2010</td>
<td>Dr. Bernd Stegmayr</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
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<td>2007–2009</td>
<td>Dr. Noritoshi Suibuya</td>
<td>Japan</td>
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<td>2004–2007</td>
<td>Dr. Loic Guillevin</td>
<td>France</td>
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<td>2002–2004</td>
<td>Dr. Peter Ivanovich</td>
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<td>2000–2002</td>
<td>Dr. Thomas H. Price</td>
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<td>1998–2000</td>
<td>Dr. Horst Klinkmann</td>
<td>Germany</td>
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<td>1996–1998</td>
<td>Dr. Mauro Valbonesi</td>
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<td>1994-1996</td>
<td>Dr. Francis S. Morrison</td>
<td>USA</td>
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<td>1992-1994</td>
<td>Dr. Tetsuzo Agishi</td>
<td>Japan</td>
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<tr>
<td>1990-1992</td>
<td>Dr. C. Th. Smit Sibinga</td>
<td>The Netherlands</td>
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<tr>
<td>1988-1990</td>
<td>Dr. Gail Rock</td>
<td>Canada</td>
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<tr>
<td>1986-1988</td>
<td>Dr. Gerard Rifle</td>
<td>France</td>
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Transfusion and Apheresis Science
The Official Journal of the WAA

One of the ways that the World Apheresis Association meets its goals is through the exchange of scientific information through our official journal, *Transfusion and Apheresis Science*.

*Transfusion and Apheresis Science* is the official journal of the World Apheresis Association (WAA) and of three of the WAA Member-Societies including:
- European Society for Haemapheresis (ESFH)
- Società Italiana Di Emaferesi e Manipolazione Cellulare (SIDEM)
- Turkish Society of Apheresis (TSA)

Co Editors-in-Chief:
- Gail A. Rock, PhD, MD, FRCP
- Ravindra Sarode, MD

Senior Editors:
- Fevzi Altuntas, MD
  Ankara, Turkey
- Mehraboon Irani, MD
  Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA
- Paolo Perseghin, MD, Monza, Milan, Italy
- Volker Witt, MD, Vienna, Austria

**The "LISTENING POST"**

The "Listening Post" is a regular, special section, published in each issue of *Transfusion and Apheresis Science*. It contains articles by and for Apheresis Nurses around the world.

Submissions welcome, please contact: Listening Post Editor, Eduard Cojocari
E-mail: cag@cagcanada.ca

Recent Listening Post titles:
- Apheresis Education: One Center Curriculum Design Experience
- Rupture of the Stem Cell Bag Before Stem Cell Infusion: Evolving Standard Operating Procedures
- Advantages of Joining a Professional Apheresis Organization
- Adrift in the World of Therapeutic Apheresis: One Center’s Experience in Using Arterio-Venous Fistulas during Apheresis Procedures
- A Message from the World Apheresis Association Allied Health Representative 2016 – 2018
- The American Society for Apheresis (ASFA) is pleased to offer a Qualification in Apheresis (QIA) in partnership with The Board of Certification (BOC) of the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) starting in January of 2016!
- One Centre Experience with Implementing Extracorporeal Photopheresis in a Pediatric Setting

**The WAA Newsletter**

- Highlights important developments in apheresis
- Contains up to date news from member Societies
- Announces new member societies
- Details upcoming meetings and events
- Promotes the exchange of information
- Includes lists of officers and executive boards
- Offers a networking opportunity for apheresis physicians and practitioners world-wide