



World Apheresis Association

April, 2018

NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Strength of our members makes the WAA organization viable

Dear WAA Members,

It has been my pleasure to serve as President of the WAA from April 2016 to April 2018. The past two years have raced by and brought success and failure.

The board of the WAA has sponsored a successful Joint Apheresis Registry meeting in Paris in 2017 led by **Bernd Stegmayr** that has served to improve our reporting techniques and ability to link registry data to facilitate future co-operative studies. The French Society of Apheresis has resumed its strong support for the WAA and the Brazilian Society of Apheresis has joined the WAA. Our treasurer Dr **Rainer Moog** was able to successfully consolidate and access our accounts to provide an efficient means of financial operation for WAA.

We have failed to have a 2-3 day 2018 WAA meeting; however we do have an abbreviated Educational and Business meeting at ASFA in Chicago April 2018. The WAA meeting at ASFA



**Bill Clark, MD FRCP
FACP FASN FCAHS
President, WAA**

provides an opportunity to have a joint educational session with ASFA attendees to review international Registry Apheresis activity. Our journey to have a 2018 meeting in Asia took place over a 14 month time period and involved contacting over seven different national organizations, with prolonged involvement with two organizations and, although unsuccessful, has provided useful issues we need to address at our WAA/ASFA meeting in 2018 to facilitate WAA 2020.

The WAA 2020 meeting will be under the able direction of Dr **Fevzi Altuntas** President WAA 2018-2020 and will likely take place in his geographical jurisdiction.

Overall, I have learned over the past 2 years more about the organizational frailties of the WAA and the strength of its volunteer membership that make the organization viable and does have the potential to advocate for and facilitate the development of international co-operative studies.

*Yours truly,
Bill Clark, President, WAA*



Participants at the WAA Registry Meeting, Cochon Hospital in Paris, France, June, 2017 are FROM LEFT: Tarik **Kanouni**, France; Steffen **Uthoff**; Ed **Wong**, USA; Bernd **Stegmayr**, Chair; Wladimir **Szpirt**,

Denmark; Victor **Turpaud**, Industry; Gail **Rock**, Canada; Giustina **De Silvestro**, Italy; Volker **Schettler**, Germany; Tiziana **Tison**, Italy; and Thomas **Pusinelli**, Industry.



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April 2017

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produced
by the
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Please direct comments, questions or
submissions to the contact above.

WAA WEBSITE

www.worldapheresis.org

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

ASSOCIATION NAME	ACRONYM	PRESIDENT	REPRESENTING
1. Associação Brasileira de Hematologia, Hemoterapia e Terapia Celular	ABHH	Dima Dante Langhi Jr.	Brazil
2. Asociación Mexicana de Medicina Transfusional A.C.	AMMTAC	Vicencio Juárez Barreto	Mexico
3. American Society For Apheresis	ASFA	Laura Collins	USA
4. Canadian Apheresis Group	CAG	Gail Rock	Canada
5. Chinese Society of Infectious Diseases	CSID	Guiqiang Wang	China
6. European Society for Artificial Organs	ESAO	Cécile Legallais	Europe
7. European Society for Haemapheresis & Haemotherapy	ESFH	Miguel Lozano	Europe
8. Hellenic Haemapheresis Society	HHS	Christos Papadimitriou	Greece
9. Indian Society for Apheresis	ISA	Rakesh Srivastava	India
10. International Society For Apheresis	ISFA	Yoshihiro Endo	International
11. Korean Society for Apheresis	KSFA	Kyou-Sup Han	Korea
12. Philippine Society of Hematology and Blood Transfusion	PSHBT	Maria Louisa Concepcion	Philippines
13. Société Française d' Hémaphérèse	SFH	Farhad Heshmati	France
14. Società Italiana di Emaferesi	SIdEM	Patrizia Accorsi	Italy
15. Turkish Society of Apheresis	TSA	Fatih Demirkan	Turkey

The WAA Board representative (Councillor) of each association, is listed on the left side of the front cover.

Message from the Incoming WAA President



Fevzi Altuntas, M.D.
President-Elect, WAA

Dear Colleagues

I'd like to express my sincere thanks to the member societies for giving me this opportunity to be the president.

I am very grateful to the former administration, Dr. Bill Clark and the board members, for their great and valuable efforts. Needless to say, they did their best and WAA has become one of the most important organizations worldwide. As the resident, I would like to mention some of the prominent future plans on related topics: Cooperation/collaboration, research, education, industry & technology, and social responsibilities.

As an umbrella organization, we will keep covering all of the issues related to apheresis. In future the WAA will flourish by collaborating with other member societies and by establishing and developing good relationships among the member societies. In addition, we have to increase the number of member societies to spread our doctrine. After that, if we could have success in combining all member societies' databases under the WAA registry, the next step will be conducting well-organized research on therapeutic apheresis science.

As a matter of fact, education is a sine qua non event for us. So we should establish accreditation programs, seminars, and workshops either face-to-face or online regarding apheresis training in conjunction with other member societies. Without a doubt, a financially supported fellowship exchange program could be one of the other extra benefits for the apheresis world. Moreover, we should encourage other member societies to support apheresis training and activities in their countries. In this context, physicians, nurses, technicians, researchers and various industries are our targeted groups.

Currently, the developed apheresis technology has become more useful and practical with satisfactory results and evidenced safety. The WAA's collaboration with industry is extremely important in terms of having enough financial support for future activities such as congresses and educational programs. It should be kept in mind that social responsibilities lead to social activities worldwide.

Taking apheresis technology, science, knowledge and experience to developing countries using all possible means should be one of our goals. Declaration of special time frames such as 'World apheresis Day' or 'World Stem Cell Donor Day' may lead to an increase in awareness. We should maintain contact with the media by all means to gain speed in reaching our goals.

For our part, we should encourage the member societies to submit abstracts and participate. The exact date and location for the next WAA joint meeting will be announced soon. The scientific committee will be working on the schedule and programs in the following days.

While doing this, your proposals about possible topics and arguments are welcome. Finally, on behalf of the whole WAA board, I wish you all the best for the 2020 Conference and I hope to see you at the next meeting! It would be a pleasure to be working with you closely on these subjects to carry WAA one step further.

Sincerely yours,

Fevzi Altuntas, MD, President-Elect, WAA

BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

Prof. Dr. Fevzi Altuntas is a faculty member at Yıldırım Beyazıt University, Faculty of Internal Medicine, Department of Hematology, Ankara, Turkey. In addition, he is the chief physician of the Ankara Oncology Training and Research Hospital, and the director of Department of Hematology, Therapeutic Apheresis and Stem Cell Transplantation Centers. In total, more than 100 autologous, allogeneic, unrelated, cord blood and haploidentical stem cell transplants are being performed annually at the Stem Cell Transplant Center of the Ankara Oncology Training and Research Hospital. He was the pioneer in the spread of apheresis centers and stem cell transplantation centers in Turkey. There has been a significant contribution to the provision of necessary training in these areas by his efforts. In this context, he is the former president of the Turkish Apheresis Association. He is a member of the International Committee of the American Society For Apheresis.

Additionally, Dr. Altuntas is the founder and president of some respectable associations in Turkey such as Turkish Society of Hematological Rare Diseases, Turkish Blood and Bone Marrow Transplant Association and Turkish Hematological Oncology Association. Also, he is the JACIE (The Joint Accreditation Committee-ISCT & EBMT) inspector of Turkey.

He established the first stem cell transplantation unit and started the first transplantation in Uzbekistan in 2014. Some of his awards due to contribution to Turkish hematology are being the owner of the Year Physician Award by Turkish Ministry of Health, appreciation by Turkish Ministry of Health for stem cell transplantation studies, and lifetime Honor Award winner by Turkish Apheresis Association. He has been researcher and study coordinator for over 30 international Phase II/III studies.

To date, Dr Altuntas has published over 90 articles in international refereed journals and more than 40 articles in national journals. The number of published national and international abstracts is over 500. He wrote more than 30 books and book chapters. His articles were cited about 1300 times. He took part in national and international journals as an editorial board member and he is still one of the Senior Editors of "Transfusion & Apheresis Science".

Collaboration of Apheresis Registries

Joint WAA/ASFA registry meeting: April 25, 2018 in Chicago



Dr. Bernd Stegmayr

**Chair, WAA
Registry Committee**

Under the auspices of the WAA, a very successful multi-registry meeting was held in Paris, France, June 13 & 14, 2017 (see photo, front cover).

Background

The objective of the June multi-registry meeting was to consider the options to cooperate on analysis of data within the various registries, to allow a larger multinational analysis of the indications, devices used,

complications and hopefully also, outcome data, with the intention that this might be accomplished under the umbrella of the WAA.

Another consideration was that by coordinating data collection and analyses, it may also be possible to develop multi centre research projects in the future.

Participants in the Paris, 2017 meeting

The existing registries which were represented at the 2017 meeting in Paris were:

- 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

In preparation 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

Next steps: joint WAA/ASFA Registry Session

Following up on the Paris, 2017 meeting, under the leadership of Dr Bill Clark, President, and Registry Committee Chair, Dr Bernd Stegmayr, the WAA has organized another special registry session entitled **World Apheresis Registries: What They Tell You**.



This special session on apheresis registries is a joint venture of the WAA and the American Society for Apheresis (ASFA). It will be held on April 25, 2018 in Chicago as part of the ASFA Annual Meeting Program. This registry session will be open to all WAA Board Members as well as to all delegates at the ASFA Annual Meeting. More information, including registration and program details can be found on the ASFA website at this link: <http://www.apheresis.org/page/ASFA2018>

Objectives and goals

1. Wide society participation and cooperation
2. Use of same variables in each registry to
3. Enable comparisons between countries
4. ? use of aggregate comparisons

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. 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 WAA ALLIED-HEALTH REPORT

Nurses contribute essential role in success of apheresis registries

The main purpose of the World Apheresis Association, according to the WAA bylaws is:

- ⇒ To foster global scientific investigation, collaborative research, clinical applications, education and exchange of information and ideas concerning apheresis and allied fields in clinical and laboratory medicine,
- ⇒ To serve as an umbrella organization for all professional Societies involved and interested in apheresis,
- ⇒ To stimulate 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, and
- ⇒ To encourage and advance high standards of administrative and technical performance in the field of apheresis.

Nurses in the apheresis units are instrumental in data collection and entry. This ensures we have accurate and complete data for analysis.

About the WAA Registry

The history of the world-wide registry dates back to 2002 when the WAA started a registry of therapeutic apheresis procedures (including collection/removal of various blood components such as stem cells).

The aim of the registry is to gain insight into the internationally used indications, extent of treatment and adverse events (either due to procedures or devices) and also to facilitate contacts among centers when treatment indications are rare and experience limited.

This knowledge will help optimize treatments and provide patient information besides improvement of devices.

Centers enter non-patient-identifiable data (coded). National collaboration is suggested for merged data, such as in France, Canada and Sweden.

Registration and data retrieval is at no cost for registering centers.

Registry analyses help us in quality assessment and improvement, as well as evidence based medicine.

Centres are encouraged to join the Registry! The nurses will be there to help!



**Ms. Kerri Gallo RN
(CNeph) Canada
World Apheresis Assn.
Allied Health Liaison &
Chair, Awards Committee**

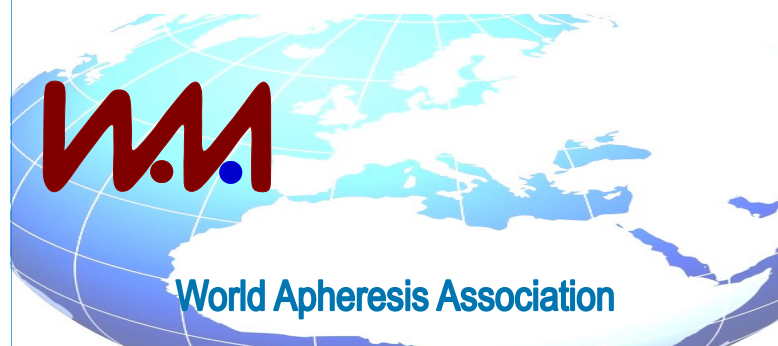


In Canada, apheresis nurses enter data directly to the Canadian Apheresis Group National Apheresis Registry, from over 40 apheresis units located at major medical centres across the country.

Upcoming Meetings



DATE	MEETING	LOCATION	CONTACT
April 25—28, 2018	American Society (ASFA) 2018 Annual Meeting	Hilton Chicago, IL, USA	www.apheresis.org/
June 2—6, 2018	ISBT35th International Congress	Toronto, Canada	http://www.isbtweb.org/
June 13—14, 2018	(ESFH) European Society for Hemapheresis Congress	Valencia, Spain	www.esfh2018.com
June 14—17, 2018	23rd European Hematology Association (EHA) Congress	Stockholm, Sweden	https://ehaweb.org/
September 12—15, 2018	European Society of Artificial Organs (ESAO) Congress	Madrid, Spain	www.esao2018.org/
September 19—22, 2018	Mexican Society (AMMTAC) XVI National Congress	Merida, Yukatan, Mexico	www.ammtac.org/
September 26, 2018	Indian Society (ISA) Annual Scientific Meeting	Bikaner (Rajasthan) India	rs6434444@hotmail.com
October 11—13, 2018	Italian Society (SIdEM) Annual XXII SIdEM Course	Udine, Italy	http://emaferesi.it/
October 13—16, 2018	American Assn. of Blood Banks Annual Meeting 2018	Boston, Mass. USA	http://www.aabb.org/
October 26—27, 2018	Turkish Society of Apheresis (TSA) National Meeting	Istanbul, Turkey	www.aferezkongre.org
November 1—3, 2018	Annual Meeting, Brazilian Society (ABHH)	Sao Paulo, Brazil	www.abhh.org.br
November 2—4, 2018	Canadian Apheresis Group (CAG) Annual Meeting	Montreal, Quebec, Canada	cag@cagcanada.ca
November 7—9, 2018	French Apheresis Society, National Congress	Montpellier, France	www.hemapherese.fr
December 1—4, 2018	60th ASH Annual Meeting & Exposition	San Diego, CA, USA	http://www.hematology.org/
October 17—20, 2019	International Society for Apheresis (ISFA) Congress	Kyoto, Japan	www.atalacia.com/isfa/



Save
the
Dates!

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR APHERESIS

12th ISFA Congress: October 17 - 20, 2019, Kyoto

Dear Colleagues,

I am honored to receive this opportunity to introduce ISFA and our Congress.



Yoshihiro Endo
President, ISFA
&
12th Congress President

The value of apheresis treatment has been recognized in many fields of medicine. For this treatment to continue developing, it is imperative that we expand our knowledge of medicine, biology, and engineering in order to refine our tools and techniques.

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 most up-to-date apheresis technologies and their clinical applications so that all may benefit from the efforts of ISFA. We have just started to discuss collaborative activity with ASFA.

ISFA Congress is held once every two years. The next congress, **ISFA 2019 (ISFA 12th Congress), will be held 2019 from 17 to 20 October 2019 in Kyoto, Japan. This congress will be co-organized with JSFA.**

The Congress will focus on Apheresis in Cardiology/Lipids, Immunology, Rheumatology, Neurology, Nephrology, Infectious Disease/Sepsis, Regulatory, Gastroenterology, Liver, and Dermatology. Additionally, we anticipate collaborating with other apheresis organizations to further advance the science and participants to the congress. Together, we can work toward fulfilling the vision of medicine established by

Hippocrates in the 5th century B.C. ISFA has a subdivision in Europe, E-ISFA, which holds its congress between ISFA's biennial congresses. E-ISFA is going to hold the 2nd E-ISFA congress from 22nd to 24th March 2018 in Vienna.

We sincerely invite you to submit abstracts and join our congresses.

Warm regards,

Yoshihiro Endo (Japan)
President, & 2019 Congress

ISFA Congress & Congress President

⇒ 1st Congress (1996)	
Kyoto, Japan	A. Yamamoto
⇒ 2nd Congress (1999)	
Saarbrücken, Germany	R. Bambauer
⇒ 3rd Congress (2001)	
Taipei, Taiwan	H. C. Chiu
⇒ 4th Congress (2003)	
Nashville, USA	G. Siami
⇒ 5th Congress (2005)	
Rostock, Germany	P. Schuff-Werner
⇒ 6th Congress (2007)	
Yokohama, Japan	T. Akizawa
⇒ 7th Congress (2009)	
Buenos Aires, Argentina	A. Kaplan
⇒ 8th Congress (2011)	
Vienna, Austria	K. Derfler
⇒ 9th Congress (2013)	
Hangzhou, China	L. Li
⇒ 10th Congress (2015)	
Cancun, Mexico	P. Moriarty
⇒ 11th Congress (2017)	
Copenhagen, Denmark	W. Szpirt

<http://www.atalacia.com/isfa/>



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(2017-2019)

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FRENCH SOCIETY FOR HEMAPHERESIS

SFH 2018 Congress featured topics announced

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Dear Colleagues

Dear friends,

In 2017 (November, 24), the SFH organized the "Day of Transfusion Medicine", a one-day apheresis and transfusion congress in Paris (Cochin Hospital). It gathered main concerns as blood donor and transfusion steps (donor selection, identity-vigilance), quality of blood products (pathogen inactivation, characteristics of fresh-frozen plasma, hepatitis E) and therapeutic apheresis (hematopoietic stem cell mobilization and collection, granulocyte collection and transfusion, extracorporeal photochemotherapy, immunoadsorption and rheopheresis). This intensive day was a success with important number of participants, quality of exchanges and participation of numerous members of companies involved in apheresis and transfusion.

The French Apheresis Society created a grant for developing research in apheresis. This grant concerns research in clinical apheresis, clinical or biological markers or efficient as well as improvement in knowledge about apheresis techniques or mechanisms of action. The apheresis team of Lyon (directed by Dr Olivier Hequet) who worked on the mechanisms of action of extracorporeal photochemotherapy in a mouse model of inflammatory immune response in an immune research department (Inserm) was granted.

The French Apheresis Society wishes to establish a collaborative group of Francophone Societies of Apheresis. Currently, Belgian, Swiss, Algerian, Moroccan, Tunisian and French Apheresis Societies are interested to participate to

discussions and meeting. The participation of other francophone societies is in progress.

The French Apheresis Society developed an interactive directory on therapeutic apheresis centers to facilitate the ability of clinical teams to join the apheresis teams.

In November 2018 (7-9th), the national French Apheresis Society congress will take place in Montpellier. The congress program will include :

- educational sessions for nurses and physicians
- scientific and practical sessions
- clinical trial sessions
- apheresis techniques
- and several industrial symposia will also be scheduled

Sincerely yours,

Farhad Heshmati, MD PhD

President

Olivier Hequet Councilor

of the

French Society for Hemapheresis



F. Heshmati MD, PhD
President, SFH



www.hemaphere.se.fr



BRAZILIAN ASSOCIATION OF HEMATOLOGY, HEMOTHERAPY AND CELL THERAPY

Meetings, educational programs and publications

*Dear Colleagues
of the WAA.*

About the ABHH

- Non-profit Civil Association;
- Scientific, Social and Cultural Character;
- 2,800 members
- Congregates physicians devoted to the practice of hematology, blood transfusion, cell therapy and as well as other professionals in related fields.



**Dante Langhi Jr.,
MD, PhD
President, ABHH**

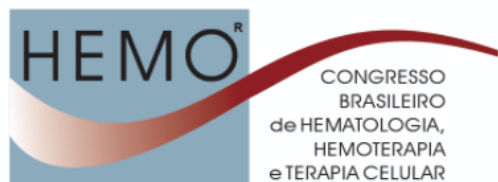
EVENTS CALENDAR FOR 2018:

Scientific Activities and Meetings in Brazil

Partnership with International Societies:

- **Highlights of ASH in Latin America:** in partnership with American Association of Hematology (ASH)
Rio de Janeiro, April 27 and 28
- **Latin America MDS Foundation Symposium:** in partnership with MDS Foundation
São Paulo, SP, Brazil, October 31
- **Annual Meeting:** Brazilian Congress of Hematology, Hemotherapy and Cell Therapy
HEMO: São Paulo, SP, Nov. 01 -

03



31/Out a 3/Nov/2018 - São Paulo/SP/Brazil

Committee Regional Meetings

- 9th Brazilian Lymphoma Meeting: São Paulo-SP, April 6th
- Sickle Cell Disease Meeting: São Paulo -SP, June 8-9
- Blood Transfusion Medicine and Cell Therapy Meeting: São Paulo-SP, Brazil, August 17

- Rare Diseases Meeting: Goiânia-GO, Brazil, September 14-15

Distance Education & e-Learning Programs

- Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia and Hodgkin Lymphoma
- Aplastic Anemia

Publications

- Hematology, Transfusion and Cell Therapy
- 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, Extraméd,

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

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Website:
www.abhh.org.br

ABHH Annual Meeting

**São Paulo/Brazil
Nov. 1—3, 2018**

www.abhh.org.br



AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR APHERESIS

Highlights of another eventful year for ASFA

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Margaret Hannan, BS, LPN, AT
(ASCP), CQA(ASQ)

Ex-Officio

Editor, JCA

Jeffrey L. Winters, MD, QIA
Mayo Clinic, Rochester (MN)

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Executive Director

John Barclay, BSc, MBA

Project Manager

Carla Ford, B. Comm

Senior Project Coordinator

Maria dela Cruz

Project Coordinator

Ernest Ho, BA

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 another busy year for ASFA. Highlights of our activities and events include:

ASFA 2018 Annual Meeting

The 39th Annual Meeting will be held in Chicago, Illinois from April 25 to 28, 2018 at the Hilton Chicago. 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 2018 Regional Meeting

The next ASFA Regional Meeting will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio on September 7, 2018 at the Hoxworth Blood 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



Laura Collins, RN,
PSN, HP(ASCP)
President, ASFA

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.

Principles of Apheresis Technology: The 6th edition of the Principles of Apheresis Technology is now available. This publication provides a basic overview of the theory and application of apheresis. More information and ordering available here: <http://asfamalachite-mgmt.site-ym.com/store/ListProducts.aspx?catid=156637>

ASFA 2018-2021 Strategic Plan

ASFA's 2018-2021 Strategic Plan can be found here: https://storage.googleapis.com/about-asfa/ASFA2018-2021_StrategicPlan_FINAL.pdf

Apheresis Meetings Endorsed by ASFA

ASFA is proud to endorse the UC San Diego Essentials and Advances in Apheresis Therapies conference (February 22-24, 2018) and the University of Virginia Therapeutic Apheresis Academy conference (September 20-22, 2018).

More exciting announcements will be made in the near future!

*Laura Collins
President, ASFA*



EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF ARTIFICIAL ORGANS

Vienna, Austria site of ESAO 2017 Annual Congress

Dear Colleagues,

The European Society of Artificial Organs (ESAO) is a worldwide association for promotion of tissue & 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 frontline of artificial organ research.



Cécile Legallais
President, ESAO

Apheresis is one important part of these activities, including the 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 in. This is part of the WAA apheresis registry system.

In January, our Winter School took place with the picturesque scenery of Semmering, Austria, and its surrounding mountains as background. The topic was "Therapeutic Apheresis, Biomaterials & Cellular Therapies". The scientific committee was represented by Prof. Viktoria Weber (Danube University Krems), Prof. Michael B. Fischer (Danube University Krems), and Dr. Volker Witt (St.

Anna Children's Hospital Vienna). Sixty participants attended the two-day sessions, enjoying both scientific and skiing activities.

The next ESAO Annual Congress will be organized in Madrid (Sept 12-15, 2018) by Prof. Juan F. del Cañizo and our Spanish colleagues. It is now time to submit abstracts (www.esao2018.org/).



There you can meet the heads of the other ESAO working groups: Bioartificial Organs (D. Stamatialis), Education (V. Weber), Heart Support (S. Sonntag and T. Verbelen), Tissue Engineering (N. Neves), Uremic Toxins (A. Argiles and J. Jankowski), and yESAO (A. Molteni and M. Mueller).

Finally, this year we also announce SAGE Publishing as the new publisher for our "blue" journal: the International Journal of Artificial Organs (12 issues per year) with our website <http://journals.sagepub.com/home/JAO>. 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 on our homepage www.esao.org.



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The ESAO Office is hosted by
Danube University

Krems, Austria
Anita Aichinger, Secretary
Viktoria Weber, ESAO Officer

Ares Menon
Corporate Members Chair

Sincerely,
Cécile Legallais,
President
and
Sunny Eloit, Secretary

**ESAO Annual
Congress
Madrid, SPAIN
September 12—15, 2018**

Prof. Juan F. del Cañizo,
Congress President

www.esao2018.org/

ITALIAN SOCIETY OF HEMAPHERESIS AND CELL MANIPULATION

Society offers up-to-date information, education and networking

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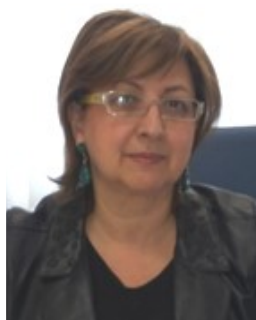
Alberto Zanella, Milano

**Annual XXII
SIdEM Course**
Refresher Course in
Emaferesis for
Nursing and
Technical Personnel

Udine, Italy

Oct. 11-13, 2018

<http://emaferesi.it/>



Patrizia Accorsi
President, SIdEM

*Dear
Colleagues
and Friends,*

Officially formed in 1984, SIdEM (Italian Society of Haemapheresis and Cellular Manipulation) is represented by a

broad range of healthcare professionals (physicians, nurses and laboratory technicians) and preserves its ideal to encourage and train professionals by providing the most up-to-date information on apheresis technologies with emphasis on therapeutic and productive apheresis, overview of blood components for transfusion use, and collection and manipulation of products for cellular therapy for stem cell transplantation purposes.

One of the SIdEM's missions is to promote study groups focusing on best practice and standards in the apheresis field and we have recently published the "Standards for Therapeutic Apheresis Unit (TAU). Best practice for HPC mobilization and collection, GvHD management. A policy for the disposal of autologous hematopoietic progenitor cells" which can be found on our website. Presently there are approximately 361 members.

SIdEM interactive activities continue with the collaboration with the scientific societies GITMO (Italian Group of Bone Marrow Transplantation) and SIMTI (Italian Society of Transfusion Medicine and Immunohaematology) on the "Guidelines for disposal of cryopreserved autologous haematopoietic stem cells".

SIdEM is in the process of publishing a scientific paper "Retrospective study on defining collection time (4 days vs. 5 days) in donors for mobilization of haematopoietic stem cells for use in allogeneic transplantation". SIdEM continues to collect data provided from different Centers across the country for the National Registry of Therapeutic Apheresis data.

The XVIII SIdEM National Congress and Symposium on Cell Therapy and Health Technology was held on October 11-14, 2017 at the "Dean Martin Congress Centre" in Pescara.

The next Annual XXII SIdEM Course is scheduled to be held in Udine on October 11-13, 2018. For this event, we are planning to extend our invitation to healthcare professionals throughout Europe (Austria, Slovenia and Croatia).

..

Patrizia Accorsi
President, SIdEM



THE CANADIAN APHERESIS GROUP

Challenges, changing times and building for the future



Dr. Gail Rock
Chair, CAG

Dear Colleagues,

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

recently been undergoing a time of change.

Back in the early days of the CAG, most of its founding and early members were then the young pioneers of the discipline in Canada. Recently, as many of our early members have retired within a few short years, we have witnessed a disbanding of much of the senior team of Canadian apheresis physicians who had worked together for decades on many projects including studies, collaboration on various publications and the evolution of the CAG National Apheresis Registry.

As the CAG organization evolves, we are happy to welcome many new and younger members from across Canada who are making great contributions to the CAG and who are very capable to carry on the work and traditions of the group.

The Expanding Canadian Registry

One of our key activities continues to be the development of our national registry. Initially, apheresis centres across the country mailed 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 and 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.

Capturing data on the TMAs

Building on the CAG's ongoing 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 extended our online registry to collect further information on thrombotic microangiopathy (TMA) patients, to track treatments and outcome with the aim to further improve treatment.



Although the CAG's database was the first nation-wide apheresis registry, we have been comparatively late in expanding it to collect data on the TMAs, as various other jurisdictions have been collecting TMA data for some years now.

Facing fiscal challenges

The delay in collection of TMA data in Canada is largely due to the economic situation. Economic conditions and the great restriction in hospital budgets that we have witnessed in Canada over the past several years, has been a major challenge facing our organization.

WAA involvement

The CAG is an active participant in a special session on apheresis registries, which will be hosted jointly by the WAA and the American Society for Apheresis (ASFA), at the ASFA 2018 Annual Meeting in Chicago on April 25th.



The CAG is proud that one of our long-standing members, Dr. Bill Clark, London, Ontario, has served as WAA President from 2016—2018. Dr Clark will mark the end of his term as WAA President by chairing the WAA Board Meeting on April 25, 2018 in Chicago.

The CAG Annual Meeting will be held November 2—4, 2018 in Montreal, Quebec.

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

CAG Board

Dr. Gail Rock
Ottawa, Ontario

Dr. Vincent Laroche
Quebec, Quebec

Dr. Ronan Foley
Hamilton, Ontario

Dr. William Clark
London, Ontario

Dr. Uwais Qarni
Edmonton, Ontario

Dr. Mary-Margaret Keating
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Save
the
date



CAG Annual Meeting
Nov. 2—4, 2018
Le Crystal Hotel

MONTREAL



THE INDIAN SOCIETY FOR APHERESIS

Focus on immunotherapy and educational activities

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For further information
on the ISA organization
please Email:

rs6434444@hotmail.com



Dr. Rakesh Srivastava
President, ISA

*Dear
Colleagues,*

The Indian Society for Apheresis (ISA) is a group of physicians, scientists, nurses, technicians,

corporate bodies and other responsible citizens of the country who are active in this science or interested in developing and promoting the field of apheresis. From 1987 when ISA was founded to the day, 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 colitis, 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. The 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 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.



This year's annual scientific meeting will be held at Bikaner (Rajasthan) on September 26th 2018. This meeting will have a focus on therapeutic apheresis and immunotherapy and cellular therapy. The meeting will have an array of presentations by luminaries in the field from our country and from overseas.

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

Rakesh Srivastava
President, ISA



**2018 Annual
Scientific Meeting**

**Bikaner (Rajasthan)
on
September 26, 2018**

TURKISH SOCIETY OF APHERESIS

Progress with Education and Standardization



President, TSA

**Vice-President, Asia, WAA
(2016-2018)
Prof. Fatih Demirkan**

The Turkish Society of Apheresis (TSA) was established in 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. Conducting multicenter studies and preparation of national guidelines on different aspects of apheresis science are important aims of the TSA.

Our society activated prospective and retrospective national thrombotic microangiopathy (TMA) registries in 2015. The retrospective national TMA registry was presented at the 2016 ASH meeting in San Diego and published this year in the Transfusion and Apheresis Science (TAS) journal. We hope that the national prospective TMA registry will be ready for submission at the end of 2018.

This year, the TSA published its first position statement on peripheral progenitor cell mobilization in patients presenting with lymphoma and myeloma. Publication of national guidelines on different aspects of apheresis science will be one of the important tasks of our society in the future.

Supporting educational activities are of the utmost importance for the TSA. In line with this policy, the TSA provided educational grants for two hematologists. Tugce Nur Yigenoglu, MD visited MD. Anderson Cancer Center under the supervision of Prof. Hagop Kantarjian in 2017. On the other hand, Volkan Karakus found the opportunity to work with Prof. Ravi Sarode

during the January-March 2018 period at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

The 13th national meeting of the TSA will take place in Istanbul (26-27 October 2018).

During the congress, multidisciplinary sessions regarding apheresis science in the field of neurology, nephrology, infectious diseases, transplantation and hematology will be organized.

Another important event of the meeting will be a thrombotic microangiopathy workshop with participants from various disciplines. We are inviting all colleagues who are interested in apheresis science to take part in this scientific journey in the fascinating city of Istanbul.



General Secretary, TSA

Assoc. Prof. Emre Tekgündüz

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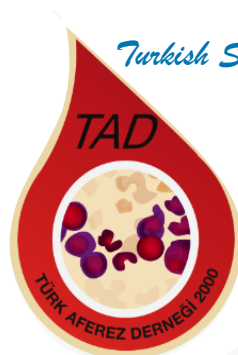
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WEBSITE:
www.aferez.org
www.aferekongre.org

Prof. Fatih Demirkan, President

*Assoc. Prof. Emre Tekgündüz,
General Secretary*



Turkish Society of Apheresis

**13th National
Apheresis
Congress**

**Istanbul
26-27 October,
2018**

www.aferez.org
www.aferekongre.org

**13. Ulusal Aferez Kongresi
26-27 Ekim 2018, İstanbul**



MEXICAN ASSOCIATION OF TRANSFUSION MEDICINE

Beautiful city of Merida to host AMMTAC 2018 in September

Mesa Directiva 2016-2018

Miembros Honorarios

QFB. Elisa Quintanar **García** †
Dr. Héctor Rodríguez **Moyado**
Dra. Marcela **Contreras**

Presidente

Dr. Vicencio Juárez **Barreto**

Vicepresidente

LE. Lucía Zamudio **Godínez**

Secretaria

Dra. Ma. de Lourdes Gasca **Leyva**

Tesorero

EBC. Julio César Martínez **Álvarez**

Vocales de Actividades

Admisión

QFB. Ma. Araceli Arrazola **García**

Científicas y Académicas

Dra. Ana Luisa D'Artote **González**

Apoyo

E.E. Lidia Cruz **Rodríguez**

Comités

Enfermería

Maestra Lucía Luna **Mendoza**

Trabajo Social

Maestra Celina Prado **Rodríguez**

Miembro Institucional de la WAA

Miembro Institucional del GCIAMT

www.ammtac.org
ammtac@ammtac.org
ammtac@gmail.com

Mailing Address:

Petén 418, Col. Vértiz Narvarte,
Delegación Benito Juárez,
CP. 03600, Ciudad de México.



Miembro Institucional de la WAA



Miembro Institucional del GCIAMT

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 the national level in the different areas: recruitment of blood donors, the donation process, immunohematology, transfusion-transmitted infectious diseases, adverse transfusion events, cellular therapies, apheresis and others.



Presidente
Dr. Vicencio Juárez **Barreto**

In 2017, the XV National Congress was held in the city of Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico. We performed the fourth 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 2018 are: we have programmed the fifth diploma in apheresis, the second haemovigilance workshop and the sixth diploma in transfusion medicine.

XVI AMMTAC 2018—Merida, Yucatan

This year, the national congress will be held in the city of Merida, Yucatan, Mexico, from the 19th to the 22nd of September, Merida in one of the most beautiful cities in the country. The program includes seven workshops, two for immunohematology, one for apheresis, one for transfusion medicine for nurses, social workers in blood banks,

accreditation and haemovigilance, five plenary sessions and twelve symposia covering the different areas of 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 the Blood Bank and Transfusion Medicine, including the Apheresis area.

I look forward to meeting you all in Merida.

*Vicencio Juárez
Barreto,
AMMTAC
President*



Asociación Mexicana de Medicina Transfusional, A.C.
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Delegación Benito Juárez, C.P. 03600, CDMX
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EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR HEMAPHERESIS

Collaboration with industry to produce new webinars

Dear Colleagues of WAA,

During 2017, the European Society for Hemapheresis (ESFH) has continued working for the improvement of apheresis practice and supporting apheresis related educational activities around Europe.

The society has started a new form of collaboration with Terumo BCT that will increase the education capability of the web which is the webinar.

The webinars allow interested members to join the presentation of the topic live but since the presentation is also recorded, the members who cannot join the presentation live, will be able to follow the talk with the synchronized slides at their convenience through the links that will be found on the web.

ESFH has continued preparing the organization of the ESFH bi-annual meeting in Valencia, in June 2018. This year will be the 20th meeting of the society and the

local organizing committee, led by Dr. Nelly Carpio, is working hard to assure that the meeting meets all the expectation of the attendees. We really hope that the scientific content of the meeting, the fine congress venue and the cultural, natural and structural attractions that the city of Valencia offers, will contribute to the success of the meeting.

Please see the webpage with information about the meeting <https://www.esfh2018.com/index.php>.



M. Lozano
President, ESFH

Miguel Lozano, MD, PhD
President, ESFH

ESFH BOARD 2015-2017

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ESFH Past President
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(Austria)

E-Mail: office@esfh.org

ESFH
EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR HEMAPHERESIS
20th CONGRESS



2018
13th / 14th JUNE
VALENCIA
HOSPITAL LA FE



Welcome to
20th European Society for Hemapheresis (ESFH) Meeting

**ESFH upcoming
BI-ANNUAL
MEETING
Valencia, Spain
June 2018**

For scientific support,
and information on Euro-
pean aspects of Aphere-
sis, visit the ESFH web-
site:

www.esfh.eu



**European Society for
Hemapheresis**

Acknowledging our 2016 - 2018 WAA Committee Members

Planning Committee WAA 2018 Congress

Bill Clark, Co-Chair
Fevzi Altuntas, Co-Chair
 Paolo Perseghin
 Hans Vrieling
 Kyou-Sup Han
 Kerri Gallo
 Olivier Garraud
 Susan Huang
 Jeffery Winters
 Gail Rock
 Jinlin Hou
 Farhad Heshmati

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Paolo Perseghin, Chair
 Bob Weinstein
 Oliver Garraud
 Wolfgang Ramlow

Registry Committee

Bernd Stegmayr, Chair
 Gail Rock
 Farhad Heshmati
 Bill Clark
 Tarik Kanouni
 Giustina De Silvestro

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 Bob Weinstein
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 Bill Clark
 Vicencio Juárez Barreto
 Volker Witt

Bylaws Committee

Tom Price, Chair
 Fevzi Altuntas
 Volker Witt

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Kerri Gallo, Chair

Membership Committee

Bob Weinstein, Chair
 Hans Vrieling
 Alfredo Mendrone
 Fatih Demirkan
 Olivier Hequet

Sponsorship, Fundraising & Industry

Rainer Moog, Co-Chair
Bill Clark, Co-Chair
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 Miguel Lozano
 Joseph Schwartz
 Jinlin Hou
 Ravi Sarode



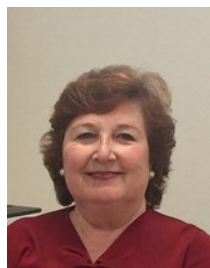
ESFH
 EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR HEMAPHERESIS
 20th CONGRESS



2018
 13TH / 14TH JUNE
 VALENCIA
 HOSPITAL LA FE

Dear Colleagues,

On Behalf of the Scientific and Local Organizing Committees, it is our pleasure to invite you to the upcoming Congress of the European Society for Haemapheresis taking place in Valencia, Spain from June 13th to June 14th, 2018.



Nelly Carpio
 Chair

The meeting will cover relevant aspects regarding clinical, technical and quality management, as well as novel research areas in apheresis and transfusion medicine. Topics discussed in this meeting will include extracorporeal photochemotherapy, plasmapheresis and self-sufficiency in Europe, ultrasounds and peripheral vein access, CAR-T cell therapies, poor mobilizers management, pathogen inactivation technologies, immunoabsorption and thrombotic microangiopathies.

Further, we are happy to offer you the opportunity to visit Valencia, where you could find a perfect combination of tradition and modernity. Located in the East of Spain, on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea, the city has a unique charm and is one of the cities in Europe that has experienced the most significant growth over recent years in terms of events and international recognition.

We look forward to seeing you in Valencia!

KEY DATES:

Abstract submission deadline: March 31, 2018

Early bird Registration deadline: March 31, 2018

Local Organizing
 Committee

OVER 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 Française 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.

Our current member-societies and the names of each society president are listed on the bottom of Page 2.

History of WAA International Congresses

XVI	Apr. 27 – 29, 2016	Paris, France
XV	Apr. 2 – 5, 2014	San Francisco, USA
XIV	Sept. 13 – 16, 2012	Istanbul, Turkey
XIII	Sept. 1 – 4, 2010	Interlaken, Switzerland
XII	Mar. 17 – 20, 2009	Buenos Aires, Argentina
XI	Mar. 2 – 4, 2007	Yokohama, Japan
X	May 5 – 8, 2004	Miami Beach, USA
IX	Sept. 7 – 10, 2002	Paris, France
VIII	July 25 – 28, 2000	Perth, Australia
VII	Oct. 9 – 13, 1998	Sao Paulo, Brazil
VI	Nov. 11 - 14, 1996	Florence, Italy
V	Mar. 9 – 12, 1994	Houston, USA
IV	June 3 – 5, 1992	Sapporo, Japan
III	Apr. 9 – 12, 1990	Amsterdam, The Netherlands
II	May 18 – 20, 1988	Ottawa, Canada
I	May 20 – 23, 1986	Tokyo, Japan

History of WAA Presidential Terms

2016-2018	Dr. William Clark	Canada
2014-2016	Dr. Paolo Perseghin	Italy
2012-2014	Dr. Hiroshi Tsuda	Japan
2010-2012	Dr. Robert Weinstein	USA
2009-2010	Dr. Bernd Stegmayr	Sweden
2007-2009	Dr. Noritoshi Suibuya	Japan
2004-2007	Dr. Loic Guillevin	France
2002-2004	Dr. Peter Ivanovich	USA
2000-2002	Dr. Thomas H. Price	USA
1998-2000	Dr. Horst Klinkmann	Germany
1996-1998	Dr. Mauro Valbonesi	Italy
1994-1996	Dr. Francis S. Morrison	USA
1992-1994	Dr. Tetsuzo Agishi	Japan
1990-1992	Dr. C. Th. Smit Sibinga	The Netherlands
1988-1990	Dr. Gail Rock	Canada
1986-1988	Dr. Gerard Rife	France



World Apheresis Association PUBLICATIONS

OFFICIAL JOURNAL: Transfusion and Apheresis Science

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:

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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.

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- 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