

Research Abstracts at the Sixth Mediterranean Emergency Medicine Congress (MEMC VI) in Kos, Greece

Gary Gaddis, MD PhD FFAEM

The presentation of research abstracts at the Sixth Mediterranean Emergency Medicine Congress, held September 11-14, 2011, in Kos, Greece, added new medical knowledge to another very memorable Mediterranean Emergency Medicine Congress. Those who attended had a truly a special opportunity to be able to share new ideas and concepts on the same island on which Hippocrates lived centuries ago. Those of us who viewed the staging of the reading of the Oath of Hippocrates at the ancient *Asklepieion* (the reading, of course, was done in Greek) will always carry a special memory. The contrast between cutting edge modern emergency medicine, as represented by the research abstracts, and the knowledge of the ancients, was quite profound. Did you know that in Hippocrates' time, patients with certain illnesses were instructed by their physician to try to have specific dreams? If patients failed to improve, they were instructed by their physicians that they would have to dream again, but to try to dream as instructed!

Under the leadership of Research Abstract co-chairs Gary Gaddis (AAEM/United States), Eddy Lang (International/Canada), and Marc Sabbe (European Society of Emergency Medicine/Belgium), over 800 English language written abstract submissions were received and judged by an international panel of abstract reviewers.

Drs. Gaddis, Lang, and Sabbe thank all of those who reviewed the written abstracts submitted for consideration as a possible oral abstract presentation by the mid-May deadline; please see below for a list of these reviewers. The research abstract review process included reviews by one content expert from each of the three categories of attendees (European, International and United States).

From these reviews, three abstracts emerged with the highest scores, and these were presented at the Plenary Research Abstract Session just before the opening reception on the 11th. Presenters included:

- Dr. Carlo Locatelli from Italy, who presented "Acute Pneumonia after Accidental Fuel Ingestion in Adults: A Prospective Study"
- Dr. Ramakrishnan Venkatakrishnan from India, who presented "Comparison of Propofol/Fentanyl Vs Ketamine/Midazolam for Procedural Sedation & Analgesia in Emergency Department"
- Dr. Scott Weiner from the United States, who presented "Single-Operator Ultrasound-Guided IV Placement by Emergency Nurses"

The winner, as judged after these three presentations were completed, was Dr. Locatelli. The winner and the finalists were awarded plaques and financial prizes, presented by Stephen R. Hayden, MD; editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Emergency Medicine* (JEM), AAEM's official journal. On my behalf, and on behalf of the other co-chairs, we thank Dr. Hayden for the continued support of the *Journal of Emergency Medicine* which is represented by these awards.

In addition, Dr. Marcus Ong from Singapore received the Falck Foundation Sophus Falck Abstract Award for Pre-Hospital/Emergency Medical Services research, for "Nationwide Study To Improve Door-To-Balloon Times In Patients With Acute ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction Requiring Primary Percutaneous Coronary Intervention Using Prehospital ECG Transmission." The Academy of Emergency Medicine and Care in Italy received the Falck Foundation Sophus Falck Abstract Award for Best Overall Abstract for "New

Synthetic Cannabinoids Intoxications in Italy: Clinical Identification and Analytical Confirmation of the Cases."

Over 300 English language abstracts were selected for oral presentation, based upon the scoring of the written abstracts. The numerous Oral Abstract Research Session moderators (see page 7) kept these oral abstract presentation sessions on time and on track. In addition, nearly 500 poster abstracts were presented.

Richelle Cooper, MD, of the University of California at Los Angeles, again provided a supremely valuable service by screening each of the abstracts, reviewing and editing the grammar on those submissions made by non-native English speaking authors.

On behalf of the chairs, I also wish to thank all who asked questions of the presenters at the meeting. Such questions help the abstract authors to prepare better drafts of papers for submission. One can think of a meeting abstract presentation as an opportunity for a free "peer review."

Looking forward to the Seventh Mediterranean Emergency Medicine Congress (MEMC VII), to be held in Marseilles, France, please consider serving as an abstract reviewer for the next Congress! Once again, non-case report abstracts will be scored by the abstract reviewers in May and June of 2013. You may self-nominate by forwarding your name, country of residence, email address, and four areas of greatest expertise to Gary Gaddis at ggaddis@saint-lukes.org. Please send an abbreviated one-page curriculum vitae excerpt, listing your publications and presentations over the past three or four years with your self-nomination.

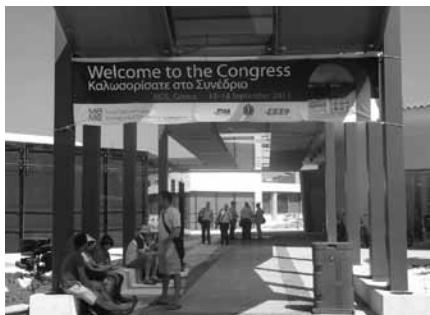
Finally, it would be remiss of me to not mention the invaluable role of Amy Kuhl toward the planning and logistics of the Congress. She was quite literally the wind beneath my wings, making my role in the planning and preparations proceed much more smoothly. I cannot thank her enough for her dedicated and supremely effective efforts!

Research Abstract Reviewers:

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|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Marc Afilalo | Mark Langdorf |
| John Allegra | Luan Lawson |
| Helen Askitopoulou | Chris Lee |
| Michel Baer | Carlo Locatelli |
| Heatherlee Bailey | Anoop Manocha |
| Laurie-Ann Baker | Andrew McRae |
| Abdel Bellou | Angela Mills |
| Cory Brulotte | Brent Morgan |
| Brian Burgess | Terry Mulligan |
| Francesco Della Corte | Ana Navio |
| Erwin Dhondt | Eric Piette |
| Christopher Dodt | Antonia Quinn |
| Nathalie Flacke | Ewa Raniszewska |
| Jeff Freeman | Kevin Rodgers |
| Gary Gaddis | Marc Sabbe |
| Lee Garvey | Erik Saude |
| Colin Graham | Jana Seblova |
| Chris Hall | Luis Serrano |
| Anwar Hasan | Fernando Soto |
| Said Idrissi | Ingrid Vicas |
| Ziad Kazzi | Salvador Villanueva |
| Lisa Kurland | Joe Vipond |
| James Kwan | Millie Willy |
| Eddy Lang | |

continued on page 7

Photos from the Sixth Mediterranean Emergency Medicine Congress (MEMC VI) in Kos, Greece



Welcoming delegates to MEMC VI!



Attendees explore the poster hall during a break



A full house for the general session



A bustling exhibit hall



Greek dancers entertained guests at the
Opening Reception



MEMC VI attendees at the ruins of the Askleion



Scientific presentation by Dr.
Anantharaman



Dr. Carlo Locatelli receives first place
in the JEM Abstract Competition



MEMC founders Francesco Della
Corte, Antoine Kazzi and Roberta
Petrino along with EuSEM President,
Abdel Bellou (center)



Opening address by AAEM president,
Dr. Howard Blumstein

Research Abstracts at the Sixth Mediterranean Emergency Medicine Congress (MEMC VI) in Kos, Greece - continued from page 6

Oral Research Abstract Session Moderators:

Arif Alper
Kurt Anseeuw
Raed Arafat
Jeffrey Arnold
Ridvan Atilla
Paul Barach
Thomas Beattie
Matthias Brachmann
Diane Calello
Maaret Castren
Michael Christ
Tudor Codreanu
Herman Delooz
Deborah Diercks
Polat Durukan

Murat Ersel
Jeffrey Freeman
Ioannis Galatas
Luis Garcia Castrillo
Carlos Garcia Rosas
Beatrice Hoffmann
Judd Hollander
Said Idrissi
Alan Jones
Antoine Kazzi
Gerald Kierzek
Eddy Lang
Mark Langdorf
Luan Lawson
Lisa Mills

Lisa Moreno-Walton
Stephen Morris
Ana Navio
Cem Oktay
Marcus Ong
Nicola Parenti
Steve Photiou
Paul Porter
Kevin Reed
Eric Revue
Kevin Rodgers
Marc Sabbe
Nikolas Sbyrakis
Michael Silverman
Scott Silvers

Melanie Stander
David Talan
David Thorisson
VuKiet Tran
Arif Tyebally
Franck Verschuren
Brian Walsh
Marvin Wayne
Scott Weiner
Joanne Williams
Millie Willy
Ozlem Yigit
Kum Ying Tham
Aslihan Yuruktumen