

Working Groups

Newsletter of the Working Group on Myocardial Function

December 22, 2000

Dear Members of the WG,

Please find attached the final proposals that have been accepted for Stockholm 2001. I think that we scored reasonably well, given that two more sessions (one with the Cluster and the other one with WG on valvular heart disease) listed our WG as co-sponsor. At a difference with a previous correspondence within the Nucleus, however, there has been one major change: the proposal entitled "*The modulation of cardiac performance by filling pressure. From bench to bedside*" has been rejected in favor of a proposal entitled "*Functional role of human adrenoceptor polymorphism*" proposed by Dr Brodde. I do not agree with such a change, as you can see from the enclosed letter that will be send to Prof. Luscher, Chairman of the Executive Scientific Committee, but I do not think that there is more room for negotiation.

Arrangements for the winter meeting are also proceeding, although with some difficulties. As you probably already know the meeting will be held in Isola 2000 (in the French Alps, close to the Nice airport) and not in Morzine. The date also has been postponed (due to reservation problems) to March 8-11 (make sure you have the correct date). Prof. Bertrand Crozatier has been able to secure us funds for accommodating 40 persons. Travel expenses will not be covered. Previous deadline for abstract submission was December 15th; next deadline will be January 15th. It is not necessary to re-submit abstracts that have been already submitted. However, given the extra time you have I expect more contributions than what has been received up to now. Abstracts are crucial for pre-programming, so please find the time and willingness to fill out the abstract form here attached. Prof. Smiseth, WG co-Chairman has accepted to contribute to the organization of the meeting in collaboration with Prof. Crozatier and myself.

We have had a joint session with the WG on Echocardiography during the recent EuroEcho in Lisbon entitled "*Asynchrony and nonuniformity in ischemic myocardium*". My impression was that it was a useful experiment and that we need more in the future. Prof. Sutherland, Chairman of the WG on Echocardiography, is eager to foster and strengthen closer cooperation between our WGs. In particular we have been solicited to propose joint symposia for Euroecho in Nice, next year, and such proposals will be discussed at a joint meeting in Brussels on February 9-11, 2001 (Prof. Gillebert and Dr Schultz (?) will attend). The same should be done with other WGs, in particular with WG on Heart Failure, especially now that some of our members serve on the scientific committee of their annual meeting. The cooperation with basic science oriented groups is already guaranteed by the Science Cluster, within ESC, we belong to.

During the business meeting we had in Amsterdam it was raised the suggestion that we may plan a registry on "Diastolic heart failure". I talked about this informally with some of you and it has been agreed upon that such a proposal should be pursued. Prof. Hess, together with Prof. Betocchi, might start working on such a project. It is timely to remind you that our WG has just published, in Heart Failure Reviews, the proceedings of the meeting we had in Verona in February 2000 devoted to "Diastolic Heart Failure" (see attached cover page).

Prof. Little, Winston-Salem, Prof. Ovize, Lyon, Dr Rivera Otero, Valencia were unanimously elected as new members of our WG.

Our present financial statement as received from the Heart House is 12.983 Euros (see file attached).

With my best wishes for the incoming holiday season

Prof. Paolo Marino
Chairman WG on LV Function ESC