



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As the 04/05 academic year is now in full swing, most of us hopefully having had an enjoyable summer, it is now time to focus on the goals of the Society for the upcoming year. In June, the Society had a very successful and energizing meeting in Edmonton. Two issues, identified as crucial to the continued development of the Society, were (1) the active recruitment of new members and (2) the establishment of national standards for training in colposcopy.

I need not remind members that colposcopy is integral and central to any cervical cancer screening program. Presently, there are active ongoing meetings with respect to cervical cancer screening taking place at both the provincial and national levels and over the next couple of years, these meetings will result in decisions that will impact very significantly on how cervical cancer screening will be carried out in this country in the future - and thus affect us all. The SCC Executive believes we must be at the forefront of these discussions, with a particular focus, of course, on clarifying the role of colposcopy within such programs.

The SCC Executive will spearhead the effort to represent the interests of colposcopists across the country. However, our voice - how seriously we will be taken - is very much dependent on the depth of our membership. Accordingly, we are asking members to make a very concerted effort over the next few months to help us achieve the goal of doubling our membership prior to next year's annual meeting. This could be accomplished if each active member, even those of us who have been around a long time, recruits just one new member to the Society.

Therefore may I ask each of you to right now grab your to-do-list and make a note to approach just one individual in your local area to become a member of our Society this year. If we can each recruit just one person prior to the new year, then the Executive will be in a far stronger position to deal effectively on behalf of colposcopists across the country.

The Executive has also concluded that the issue of establishing national guidelines for training in colposcopy is critical to our position on the role of colposcopy in cervical cancer screening. Training guidelines have now been established in Great Britain and Australia and we believe that it is essential that the SCC take the leading role in having a set of guidelines created and adopted for Canada. Quite frankly, if we don't do it, it is likely that someone else will. Accordingly, we will shortly be circulating a draft of proposed guidelines to the membership for input and comment. We are hoping to ratify a final set of guidelines at our next annual meeting in June '05. Therefore may I ask everyone to examine the guidelines carefully and thoroughly and provide us with as many comments as possible. And while I think of it, doesn't this seem like a good point to use for recruitment? Any individuals joining the Society this year will have the opportunity to be involved in the creation of these critical guidelines - a process that might not come again for a long time - and which might not come at all if we do not swell our ranks and show that we are THE voice of colposcopy in Canada.

I'm really looking forward to this year in colposcopy. It's going to be a big one!

- Monique A. Bertrand, MD

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR'S REPORT by Dr. Jim Bentley

The SCC will be once again presenting a concurrent session at the SOGC Ontario CME on the 27th of November. This is in addition to presentations that will be made by SCC members:

- Dr. Michael Shier will be giving a plenary session on HPV vaccines,
- SOGC President and SCC member Dr. Gerry Stanimir will be talking about the new guidelines for pap testing.

We have planned an interesting program for the Concurrent session:

- Dr. Peter Bryson will be addressing "VIN: Diagnosis and Management".
- Dr. Michael Shier will be giving an overview of colposcopic scoring.
- Dr. James Bentley will present on the issues surrounding diagnosis and management of low grade lesions, and also try to discuss ways we may be able to use HPV testing in our colposcopy clinics. The session will finish with a series of cases designed to test your knowledge.

**You may register
on-line at www.sogc.org.**

THE SCC EDUCATION REPORT

By Drs. Jim Bentley and Peter Bryson



Back row: Drs. Jim Bentley, Lutz Gissmann, Marie-Claude Renaud, Peter Bryson, Fernando Guijon and Michael Shier; Front row: Ms. Hélène Soublière, Drs. Monique Bertrand, Susan McFaul and Betsy Brydon

The SCC held its 18th Annual Postgraduate Comprehensive Colposcopy Course at the SOGC Meeting in Edmonton June 25th, 2004 plus a Subspecialty Course on June 29th. There were over 92 registrants for the PG Course.

The PGC morning component focused on Vulvovaginal diseases including topics such as VIN by Dr. Jim Bentley, vulvar dermatoses by Dr. Peter Bryson, vaginal colposcopy by Dr. Michael Shier, and vulvodynia by Dr. Glenn Gill. The afternoon was focused on cervical dysplasia with talks on new screening technologies by Dr. Monique Bertrand, how to treat recurrent dysplasia after treatment by Dr. Jim Bentley, and the management of the adolescent with dysplasia by Dr. Alex Schepansky. Dr. Marie-Claude Renaud ended the afternoon with a lively interactive slide session on the diagnosis and treatment of lower genital tract neoplasia.

There were 58 registrants for the SCC Sub-speciality Session. At this session, abstracts were presented by Drs. Samson, Dodge and Ms. Sheppard. These were followed by presentations including options in management of LSIL by Dr. Bentley, management of the abnormal glandular smear by Dr. McFaul and management options, is it LEEP or nothing, by Dr. Guijon.

Our guest speaker this year was Prof. Lutz Gissmann, PhD, from Heidelberg, Germany. Dr. Gissmann is currently Head of the program "Genome Modifications and Carcinogenesis" in the Program "Applied Tumor Biology" at the German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ) in Heidelberg, Germany. His primary scientific interest is in the area of Papillomavirus infections and HPV carcinogenesis in humans and the development of HPV vaccines. At the PGC, he gave an eloquent presentation entitled: "HPV, epidemiology, history and the role of HPV testing in screening and triage". At the Subspecialty course, he brought us up to date on the development of the HPV vaccine with his presentation, "HPV Vaccination - Where we are now and what's in the future". Vaccine may be available as early as 2006. Dr. Gissmann welcomes email requests for copies of his talks and you can reach him with this request at: l.gissmann@dkfz-heidelberg.de

We wish to thank Superior Medical Ltd. for their support of the SCC courses and also for donating the Colposcopy Biopsy instruments door prize. A draw for the instruments was held at the conclusion of the PG Course and the lucky winner was Dr. Christian Adam of Fredericton, NB.

The SCC Program Committee welcomes ideas for our national meeting at the SOGC ACM next June in Québec City. You may send these to the SCC National Coordinator, Hélène Soublière in Ottawa by email at hsubliere@sogc.com, or by phone at 1-800-561-2416 ext. 250.



L to R: Tia Star (Superior Medical Ltd), Dr. Monique Bertrand and Dr. Christian Adam

SCC Executive Officers (2004-2005)

Monique A. Bertrand, MD, President
S.C. Peter Bryson, MD, President-Elect and Secretary-Treasurer
Terence J. Colgan, MD, Past-President

Executive Council:

Monique Bertrand, MD
S.C. Peter Bryson, MD
Terence J. Colgan, MD
James Bentley, MD
Lizabeth Brydon, MD
Fernando Guijon, MD
Susan McFaul, MD
Marie-Claude Renaud, MD
Michael Shier, MD
V. Cecil Wright, MD

Committees & Chairs:

Susan McFaul, MD, Bylaws
Michael Shier, MD, Finance
Fernando Guijon, MD, Membership
V. Cecil Wright, MD, Newsletter
S.C. Peter Bryson, MD, Nominating
James Bentley, MD, Programme and Education

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SCC News

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The Society of Canadian Colposcopists acknowledges and thanks the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada for its continuing financial support of the Society for Secretariat services and other support essential to our success.

EDUCATION CORNER: Atypical Glandular Cells (AGC)

By Dr. Susan McFaul

The Bethesda System (TBS) for reporting cervical and vaginal cytologic diagnoses introduced a new category, atypical glandular cells of undetermined significance (AGUS), in 1988. This new category was used to describe "cytological changes in endocervical and endometrial cells that exceed those typical of reactive changes but are quantitatively and/or qualitatively not diagnostic of adenocarcinoma. AGUS may be due to inflammation, a premalignant or malignant condition. The incidence of AGUS is less than 1% of all PAP smears in most studies (range 0.19-2.1%). It does not vary with age, however the clinical problem causing the AGUS is more likely to be of cervical origin in younger women, and of endometrial origin in older women.

The Bethesda System classification was revised in 2001 to atypical glandular cells (AGC) with subclassification according to degree of pleomorphism and site of origin. Until this time, there had been no standard approach to the management of AGC. Women with "AGUS reactive" smears were often followed with cytology alone, although up to 20% may have had a neoplastic lesion. In 2001 the reactive descriptor was eliminated. Women with "AGUS not otherwise specified (NOS)" may

not have been investigated as vigorously as those with "AGUS neoplastic" however both groups had a similar incidence of a neoplastic lesion (40-50%). There are now consensus guidelines for management of AGC.

TBS 1988

AGUS
Endocervical - reactive
- neoplastic
Endometrial
Not otherwise specified

TBS 2001

AGC
AGC NOS - endocervical
- endometrial
- glandular not specified
AGC favour neoplastic
- endocervical
- endometrial
- glandular not specified
Adenocarcinoma in situ (AIS)
Adenocarcinoma - cervical
- endometrial
- other

2001 Consensus Guidelines for Management of AGC:

- Colposcopy, endocervical curettage for everyone
- AGC endometrial: endometrial sampling 1st
- Age greater than 35yo or abnormal bleeding: endometrial sampling
- AGC neoplastic or AIS: knife cone biopsy if no invasive disease on initial work up
- AGC NOS:
 - CIN on initial work up manage as per CIN
 - negative initial work up: PAP Q4-6 months x4 then return to yearly screening
- persistent AGC with negative workup: possible extrauterine malignancy, other investigations may be required and longer follow up increases rate of detection of underlying malignancy.

Summary: colposcopy + ECC +/- endometrial sampling for everyone

Editor's note: The Bethesda recommendations relate basically to the United States. Modified guidelines are being prepared for Canada and these may be further modified by individual provincial recommendations.

Welcome to the Society of Canadian Colposcopists

The SCC Membership Committee & Executive Council would like to welcome to the Society its new members:

- Zakaria Al-Moumen, MD, Winnipeg, Manitoba – Active Member Category II
- Lizabeth Brydon, MD, Regina, Saskatchewan, Active Member Category I
 - Laurette Geldenhuys, MD, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Associate Member
 - Lucy Gilbert, Montréal, MD, Québec, Active Member Category I
 - Walter H. Gotlieb, MD, Montréal, Québec, Active Member Category I
 - Annick Hamel, MD, Montréal, Québec, Active Member Category I
- Oluyomi Sobowale, MD, Peterborough, Ontario, Active Member Category I

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

By Dr. Peter Bryson

I have summarized below the minutes of the SCC annual business meeting which took place at the SCC postgraduate course at the SOGC ACM in June. A copy of the minutes is available upon request from Hélène Soublière at hsoubliere@sogc.com or at 1-800-561-2416.

1. President's Report - Dr. Monique Bertrand

- SCC accomplishments over the past year: council meets regularly via teleconference; bilingual newsletter; participation in and contribution to the Pan Canadian Forum for Cervical Screening; signing of SOGC/SCC Memorandum of Agreement
- Primary SCC goal: the recruitment of women to a screening program

2. Membership Report - Dr. Fernando Guijon

- Society comprised of 159 Active/Associate members; 20 Honorary Members and 22 Retired members
- Proposal to accept new membership applicants prior to next annual meeting approved
- On request, we will transition Active members to Retired members upon reaching the age of 65 or at retirement
- There are no dues for Retired and Honorary members; both are entitled to Society correspondence but aren't entitled to vote

3. Bylaws Report - Dr. Susan McFaul

- The following proposed bylaw amendments will be circulated in April 2005 and submitted for a vote in June 2005:
- Goals and Objectives – A: "to provide the highest quality of care in the detection and treatment of diseases and pre-invasive lesions of the lower genital tract"
 - Article 6, section B: the Past-President will

Chair of the Nominating Committee (rather than the President-Elect)

4. Nominating Committee - Dr. Peter Bryson

Nominations will be submitted to the membership for a vote at the 2005 annual meeting. Nominations are:

- a) Dr. Jim Bentley as Secretary-Treasurer for 2005-2007
- b) Dr. Marie-Claude Renaud as Programme Director for 2005-2007

5. Financial Report - Dr. Peter Bryson

- The Society's financial position for the years 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 was presented
- Council to take into consideration the auditor's recommendation to invest some of our funds

6. Cervical Cancer Screening Guidelines

- Dr. Monique Bertrand
- The guidelines developed following the November 2003 national consensus conference to be published in the fall 2004
- The development of the Ontario Guidelines is ongoing and progressing well. There is no target date for the release of these guidelines as of yet.

7. Past-President Award Ceremony

In order to acknowledge SCC Past-Presidents for their contribution to the Society, we have had special awards (gavels) made. Dr. Bertrand presented a gavel to Dr. Michael Shier and thanked him for his many years of participation on the Executive. Due to their absence at this meeting, awards will be presented to Drs. Cecil Wright, Terry Colgan, Denny DePetrillo and Lou Benedet at a later date.

CALENDAR

SOGC 23rd Ontario CME
Toronto, Ontario
November 25-27, 2004

SCC Postgraduate Course
Toronto, Ontario
November 27, 2004

ASCCP – Advanced Colposcopy and Lower Genital Tract Dermatology
Las Vegas, Nevada
December 2-5, 2004

ASCCP - Comprehensive Colposcopy, Santa Fe, New Mexico
February 2-5, 2005

SGO Annual Meeting on Women's Cancer, Miami Beach, Florida
March 19-23, 2005

ASCCP - The New Vulvovaginal Diseases, Bethesda, Maryland
April 28-May 1, 2005

22nd International Papillomavirus Conference and Clinical Workshop
Vancouver, BC
April 29-May 6, 2005

ACOG Annual Clinical Meeting
San Francisco, California
May 7-11, 2005

IFCPC 12th World Congress of Cervical Pathology and Colposcopy
Cancun, Mexico
June 5-9, 2005

SOGC 61st Annual Clinical Meeting
Québec City, Québec
June 16-21, 2005

SCC Postgraduate Course
Québec City, Québec
June 17, 2005

SCC Sub-Specialty Meeting
Québec City, Québec
June 21, 2005

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Included with this newsletter is an application for membership to the SCC with a brochure on benefits of membership. Please pass it on to a colleague who is not yet a member.

- Benefits of membership:** Quarterly issues of the Journal of Lower Genital Tract Disease
- Semi-annual newsletter
 - Access to the Annual Post-Graduate and Sub-Specialty courses in conjunction with the June SOGC ACM
 - Access to Other Post-Graduate courses in conjunction with the SOGC Regional CME's
 - Remain in touch with and contribute to current Clinical Practice Guidelines as they pertain to cervical cancer screening, colposcopy and treatment
 - Access to the Society's website (to be launched next year)
 - Etc....