



INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION OFFICE OF PEDIATRIC ENDOCRINE SOCIETIES

www.COPEinternational.org

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Australasian Paediatric
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Asia Pacific Paediatric
Endocrine Society (APPES)

British Society for Paediatric Endo-
crinology and Diabetes (BSPED)

Canadian Pediatric Endocrine
Group (CPEG)

European Society for Paediatric En-
docrinology (ESPE)

International Society for Pediatric
and Adolescent Diabetes (ISPAD)

Israel Society of Paediatric
Endocrinology (ISPE)

Japanese Society for Pediatric En-
docrinology (JSPE)

The Lawson Wilkins Pediatric Endo-
crine Society (LWPES)

Sociedad Española de Endocri-
nología Pediátrica (SEEP)

Sociedad Latino Americana de En-
docrinología Pediátrica (SLEP)

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NEWSLETTER

Setting the standard of clinical diabetes care

HbA1c has been used for decades to evaluate diabetes care in clinical practice. Three standards have been used worldwide; DCCT, Japan (~0.5% below DCCT) and Sweden (~1.0% below DCCT). This has been confusing for doctors trying to evaluate international papers where no clear equivalent to DCCT numbers has been given, and for patients searching the Internet for information. The International Federation of Clinical Chemists (IFCC) has recently managed to analyze the "true" HbA1c by mass spectroscopy and this level is ~1.5-2.0% below the DCCT numbers.

*Everyone agrees that the IFCC method should be used to calibrate laboratory machines and that this is a major step forward. However, there has been a considerable debate as to which numbers to use in clinical practice. The organizations IFCC, ADA, EASD and IDF have in 2007 signed a Consensus Statement which says that HbA1c results are to be reported world-wide in **DCCT units** (%) using a master equation based on the IFCC calibration, **IFCC units** (mmol/mol) and HbA1c-derived average glucose (**ADAG**) based on the results of an international study that presented preliminary results at EASD 2007 in Amsterdam. Thus, we will keep the "clinical gold standard" of DCCT HbA1c numbers, which so many studies and clinical guidelines have been using, but they will be based on the more accurate calibration of the IFCC method. Reporting ADAG as well will simplify the understanding of the risk of long-term complications when talking to patients and relatives. This is a very good example of how collaboration and negotiation between laboratory and clinical organizations can find a solution that benefits both the scientific community, clinical care providers and people with diabetes. See last page for the full statement.*

This is the final newsletter of my tenure as Coordinator. I would like to thank all those who contributed to COPEs for the last two years and encourage them and others to continue their support in this ongoing effort. Special thanks to Jeff Hitchcock from Children with Diabetes for hosting the website and Novo-Nordisk for sponsoring the printed newsletter. I now hand over to the new COPEs Coordinator, Dr. Luciano Cavallo from Bari, Italy.

Ragnar Hanas, MD, PhD
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We are always in search of items of interest to the international community for inclusion in this newsletter and on the COPES website (www.COPESinternational.org). Contact the Coordinator or Vice Coordinator with your suggestions.

Upcoming Events

Dates and locations in **bold** are annual meetings of the affiliated societies.

2007

OCTOBER 15-18
Broome, Western Australia

APEG Annual Scientific Meeting 2007
Email: apegasm@willorganise.com.au
www.willorganise.com.au/apeg07

OCTOBER 24-27
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

11th Annual CDA/CSEM Professional Conference and Annual Meetings
Email: john.boggan@diabetes.ca
www.diabetes.ca/section_professionals/profconference.asp

NOVEMBER 7-9
Yokohama, Japan

41st Annual Meeting of JSPE
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2008

April 3-5

CPEG 2008 Scientific Meeting
www.cpeg-gcep.blogspot.com/
E-mail: cpeg.gcep@gmail.com

April 23-25
Madrid, Spain

30th Congress of SEEP
www.seep.es/prcong.htm
E-mail: congreso@seep.es

May 2-6
Honolulu, Hawaii

LWPES Annual Meeting, held in conjunction with the PAS Annual Meeting
www.lwpes.org/meetingsEvents/annualMeeting.cfm

June 6-10
San Francisco, USA

ADA 68th Scientific Sessions
<http://scientificsessions.diabetes.org>

August 12-16
Durban, South Africa

34th Annual Meeting of ISPAD
Contact: Kuben Pillay
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www.ispad2008.com

SEPTEMBER 7-11
Rome, Italy

44th EASD Annual Meeting
www.easd2008.com

SEPTEMBER 20-23
Istanbul, Turkey

47th ESPE Meeting
Contact: Atilla Buyukgebiz
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Inciralti, IZMIR, TR-35340, Turkey
Tel: +90 232 278 8411 / 90 232 464 4540
Fax: +90 232 278 8411 / 90 232 464 9240
E-mail: atilla.buyukgebiz@gmail.com
www.congrex.com/espe2008/

OCTOBER 2-4
Yonago, Tottori, Japan

42nd Annual Meeting of JSPE
Contact: Susumu Kanzaki, MD, PhD
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Upcoming Events

(continued)

Dates and locations in **bold** are annual meetings of the affiliated societies.

OCTOBER 11-14
Lima, Peru

XX SLEP meeting
Contact: Dr. Miguel Chavez
E-mail: mchavez@upch.edu.pe

OCTOBER 29 - NOVEMBER 1 **5th Biennial APPES Scientific Meeting**
Seoul, Korea

Email: appes@willorganise.com.au

NOVEMBER 8-12
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

13th International Congress of Endocrinology
Contact: Ruth Clapauch
E-mail: rclapauch@uol.com.br
www.ice2008rio.com/

NOVEMBER 17-19
Canberra, Australia

APEG Annual Scientific Meeting
E-mail: apegasm at willorganise.com.au
www.apeg.org.au

2009

SEPTEMBER 9-12
New York, USA

8th Joint ESPE/LWPES Meeting
Contact: Paul Saenger
Fax: +856.439.0525
E-mail: phsaenger@aol.com and lwpes-espe2009@ahint.com.
www.lwpes-espe2009.org

SEPTEMBER 16-19
Ljubljana, Slovenia

34th Annual Meeting of ISPAD
Contact: Tadej Battelino, MD, PhD
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SEPTEMBER 26-OCTOBER 1
Vienna, Austria

44th EASD Annual Meeting
www.easd.org/customfiles/easd/45th/45th-welcome.html

OCTOBER 1-3
Tochigi, Japan

43rd Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society for Pediatric Endocrinology
Contact: Osamu Arisaka, MD
E-mail: arisaka@dokkyomed.ac.jp

2010

SEPTEMBER 5-11
Buenos Aires, Argentina

35th Annual Meeting of ISPAD
Contact: Olga Ramos, MD
E-mail: ramoso@interlink.com.ar

For more international events, visit www.endo-society.org/apps/Events.

Notes and News

About APEG

(received from Lyndell Wills, APEG secretariat)

The Australasian Paediatric Endocrine Group (APEG) is the professional body in Australia and New Zealand which represents those involved in management and/or research of children with disorders of the endocrine system including diabetes mellitus.

The Australasian Paediatric Endocrine Group was formed in 1982 as an initiative of Dr Norman Wettenhall in Melbourne. It now represents over 120 members in Australia and New Zealand. The APEG Annual Scientific Meeting is held towards the end of the year in a different Australian or New Zealand City. The 2007 event sees APEG Celebrate 25 years as an Association. APEG is also pleased to announce the launch of the new association website at www.apeg.org.au. This site aims to provide a resource for members, families with paediatric endocrine disorders or diabetes and for all doctors, particularly paediatricians involved in managing children with endocrine disorders or diabetes.

Within the website you will find information about APEG, its committee and sub-committees. There are downloadable pdf versions of the 'Hormones & Me' booklet and position statements and management guidelines are also available. In addition, there is information on research opportunities, paediatric endocrine training, conferences and our Annual Scientific Meeting.

APEG also releases a quarterly newsletter which is sent to all members, and is also available for viewing on the website.

ADA/EASD/IFCC/IDF Consensus Statement on the Worldwide Standardization of the Hemoglobin A1C Measurement

Diabetes Care 2007;30:2399-2400.

1. *A1C test results should be standardized worldwide, including the reference system and results reporting.*
2. *The new IFCC reference system for A1C represents the only valid anchor to implement standardization of the measurement.*
3. *A1C results are to be reported worldwide in IFCC units (mmol/mol) and derived NGSP units (%), using the IFCC-NGSP master equation.*
4. *If the ongoing "average plasma glucose study" fulfills its a priori-specified criteria, an A1C-derived average glucose (ADAG) value calculated from the A1C result will also be reported as an interpretation of the A1C results.*
5. *Glycemic goals appearing in clinical guidelines should be expressed in IFCC units, derived NGSP units, and as ADAG.*

The pediatric endocrinology list serve is a lively international forum for discussing a wide range of interesting topics. To subscribe, send an email message to peds-endo-subscribe@yahoo.com or go to health.groups.yahoo.com/group/peds-endo for more information.

COPES is a non-profit organization supported by academic and industrial sponsorships from international companies and organizations. The Coordination Office sends newsletters free of charge to all members of the societies through their secretaries and maintains the website, www.COPESinternational.org.

The COPES newsletter publishes information on the meetings of the affiliated societies and other meetings of interest. Reports on activities of the Affiliated Societies and information on meetings, workshops, courses, fellowships, and exchange programs, as well as selected letters and brief summaries or reviews pertaining to newsworthy items are published in the Newsletter and on the website. All contributions are welcome, so please mail or fax your correspondence to the Coordinator or Vice-Coordinator.

The COPES Newsletter welcomes advertisements and sponsorship from international companies and organizations. Please contact the Coordinator for rate details.