



ANZCA SIG in Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine

Annual Report 2009

Executive:

Dr Mike Bennett (NSW)
Dr Bob Webb (QLD)
Dr David Smart (ANZ Hyperbaric Medicine Group)
Dr Brian Spain (NT)
Dr Margaret Walker (TAS - Chair)
Dr David Wilkinson (SA)
Dr Mike Davis (NZ)

There will be elections held in 2010 for membership of the executive, and I would encourage all interested parties to nominate.

Membership:

The SIG currently has 210 Members, and 4 associate members. This represents an increase of 7 members since last year.

Honours obtained:

Congratulations to Dr Robert Wong, who was awarded the ANZCA Medal. Dr Mike Bennett was elected Vice-President of SPUMS. Dr Simon Mitchell is now Associate Professor Mitchell.

ANZCA Certificate:

Post-nominal:

ANZCA Council have approved the use of the post-nominal "Cert DHM (ANZCA)" for holders of the ANZCA certificate in DHM who are registered, up-to date with subscriptions, and show evidence of ongoing continuing education.

Facility accreditation:

Fremantle Hospital had its routine five yearly review of accreditation for training for the Certificate in Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine, and was re-accredited for a further five years. The Alfred Hospital and Townsville Hospital have been accredited for training for 5 years.

Accredited Units currently are: Royal Hobart Hospital, Prince of Wales Hospital, Fremantle Hospital, Christchurch Hyperbaric Medicine Unit, The Alfred Hospital, Townsville Hospital.

ACECC is a joint initiative of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists, the Australian Society of Anaesthetists and the New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists.

ANZCA HOUSE 630 ST KILDA ROAD MELBOURNE VIC 3004
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All other non-accredited units are strongly encouraged to apply.

Examinations:

A written and oral examination for the Certificate in DHM awarded by ANZCA was held in November 2009. There were 3 candidates, and all were successful. Successful candidates were: David Cooper, Ian Dey, Neil Banham.

Examiners are:

Dr Mike Bennett (NSW)
Dr David Smart (Tas)
Dr David Wilkinson (SA)
Dr Robert Wong (WA)
Dr Barbara Trytko (NSW)
Dr Margaret Walker (Tas)

Dr Mike Bennett is Chair of the Examination Committee in Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine.

The next exam will be held according to demand.

Introductory course in Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine:

The annual ANZHMG course was again held this year in March at the Prince of Wales Hospital under the supervision of Dr Mike Bennett. Again, there were attendees from across Australia, Asia, Pacific and Europe. Attendance at this course is one of the requirements for the ANZCA Certificate, as it covers a wide range of subjects in Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine, with lectures, tutorials and discussions contributed by faculty from around the country. The next course will be held 22nd February – 5th March 2010.

Scientific Meetings:

Members of the SIG have been active in attending scientific meetings and presented papers at national and international conferences, including the meetings of the South Pacific Underwater Medicine Society (SPUMS), European Underwater & Baromedical Society (EUBS), Undersea & Hyperbaric Medical Society (UHMS), as well as the Australian Diving & Hyperbaric Medicine Meeting hosted by the Hyperbaric Technicians & Nurses Association (HTNA).

The SIH hosted a problem-based learning session at the Cairns ANZCA ASM 2009, organised and facilitated by Dr Robert Webb.

The SIG will hold its next scientific session at the ANZCA ASM in Hong Kong 2011.

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Research:

Members of the SIG are currently actively involved in many research projects. The HORTIS trial radiation proctitis arm has now been published by the International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, Physics. Recruitment in the other arms of the HORTIS trial is still continuing, with the trial co-ordinators keen to produce another report in the next year or two. The chronic wound database, co-ordinated by Prince of Wales Hospital, continues to collect valuable data about outcomes for patients both with and without HBO. The Hyperbaric Oxygen Lower Limb Trauma trial (HOLLT) continues to recruit patients, and is co-ordinated through the Alfred Hospital in Melbourne.

Dr Margaret Walker
Chair, ANZCA SIG in Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine

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