

New SASOG committee

The SASOG committee for the term 2005 - 2007, comprising both elected and co-opted members, is:

Professor Franco Guidozzi – President (Southern Gauteng)
 Dr M Pillay – Secretary (KwaZulu-Natal)
 Dr RG White – Treasurer (Southern Gauteng)
 Professor GB Lindeque – Immediate Past President (Northern Gauteng)
 Dr AL Alperstein (Western Cape)
 Dr JBF Cilliers (Free State)
 Professor G Dreyer (Northern Gauteng)
 Dr P Godi (Nelspruit)
 Dr P Koll (Southern Gauteng)
 Dr JFA Kriel (Eastern Cape)
 Dr JJC la Grange (Western Cape)
 Dr GZ Mbambisa (Umtata)
 Professor E Mhlanga (KwaZulu-Natal)
 Dr M Mseleku (Southern Gauteng)
 Dr H Nel (Northern Gauteng)
 Dr JO Olarogun (Western Cape)
 Dr HM Sebitloane (KwaZulu-Natal)
 Dr PJ Swart (Northern Gauteng)
 Dr Van Heyningen (KwaZulu-Natal).

The opportunity to co-opt members has been very important in addressing transformation and, with it, incorporating to an extent the demographics of our discipline in the composition of the council. It has enabled an improvement of representation on the council and it is hoped that this will not only further improve the image of SASOG among our community, but also confirm the adopted motion of SASOG to ensure the ideals of inclusivity.

SAMS president to serve IMS

The president of the South African Menopause Society, Dr Tobie de

Villiers, has been elected to the committee of the International Menopause Society (IMS) and was also elected treasurer-elect.

Currently working at Panorama Mediclinic, Cape Town, as a consultant gynaecologist with a special interest in menopause and osteoporosis, De Villiers is also vice-president of the National Osteoporosis Foundation of South Africa and editor of the *SAMS News*.

Source:

www.samenopausesociety.co.za

Events

O&G Update – 11 - 13 May 2006, CSIR Convention Centre, Pretoria.
 Contact: SASOG Northern Gauteng.

IUGA international meeting – July 2006 in Cape Town.

Final details, dates, venue, etc. to be confirmed.

O&G Refresher Course – 30 November - 2 December 2006, University of Cape Town.
 Contact: Marta Collins, tel 021 406 6407, fax 021 448-6263, mcollin@curie.uct.ac.za

Recommendations on use of SP during pregnancy

The World Health Organization (WHO) regional office for Africa has recently introduced recommendations on the use of sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine (SP) for intermittent preventive treatment (IPT) during pregnancy in areas of moderate to high resistance to SP in the African region.

The WHO recommends a package of interventions for the prevention and control of malaria during pregnancy, comprising IPT to address the heavy burden of

asymptomatic infections, use of insecticide-treated nets (ITNs), and access to effective case management for malaria illness and anaemia. Currently SP is the only antimalarial medicine for which data on efficacy and safety for IPT are available from controlled clinical trials, and WHO recommends that at least two doses of SP are given during regularly scheduled antenatal visits after the first trimester. However, over the last decade, a steady increase in the rate of treatment failure with SP in children under the age of 5 years has been reported in the region. Thus, the usefulness of SP for IPT in countries facing moderate to high levels of SP resistance needed to be evaluated.

On the basis of this review, the following recommendations have been made:

- In areas with up to 50% parasitological failure at day 14:
 - continue implementing or adopt a policy of at least two doses of IPT with SP
 - implement also other control measures such as ITNs and anaemia and malaria case-management
 - evaluate the impact of IPT on an ongoing basis.
- In areas with above 50% parasitological failure at day 14:
 - place the greatest possible emphasis on effective control measures such as ITNs and anaemia and malaria case management
 - continue IPT with at least two doses of SP if the policy is already being implemented and evaluate the impact on an ongoing basis
 - consider adopting IPT with SP only when evidence on efficacy in such settings is available.

Source: www.afro.who.int