Bone & Mineral News

Newsletter of the Australian & New Zealand Bone & Mineral Society

President's Report

November 2002

The Australian & New Zealand Bone & Mineral Society is the peak body in Australasia representing health and medical researchers in the field of bone and mineral metabolism. The meeting in Adelaide, an outstanding scientific success, illustrates how vibrant our Society is. We had 250 participants at the meeting, with more than one third of our membership attending. The Society is extremely grateful to our international speakers John Bilezikian, Steven Cummings and Steven Goldring. On behalf of the Society I would like to thank all of those involved, particularly the Chairmen of the programme and local organising committees, Associate Professor Howard Morris and Dr Rob Moore, as well as our industrious secretariat, Ivone Johnson and our conference organisers, Jenny Blanchard and Doreen Presnall. Part of the meeting involved sessions in conjunction with the Bone and Joint Decade and we had two successful workshops – one with the International Society of Densitometry and the other a confocal workshop.

We now focus on our 13th Annual Scientific meeting (International Conference on Metabolic Bone Disease, 10-13th June 2003), which will be held at Coolum following the Osaka Meeting in collaboration with the International Bone & Mineral Society. This meeting will showcase and celebrate the career of Professor T J Martin. Assoc. Professor Ego Seeman has put considerable effort as the Convenor of this meeting, putting together, along with the programme organising committee and Council, a very exciting programme.

Council has actively established links and collaborations with other organisations involved in bone and mineral metabolism, with the aim to foster excellence in research and clinical practice in the field, and to promote community support and education, as well as an understanding of important public health issues in the field.

The Council has strengthened its committee structure with the paediatric bone group subcommittee being chaired by Dr Chris Cowell, the research sub-committee by Assoc Professor David Findlay, the Medical Affairs sub-committee by Professor Geoff Nicholson and the website sub-committee by Assoc. Professor Roger Price. There are separate reports from each of these sub-committees and in addition Assoc Professor Nick Pocock will report on the Society's activities in regard to bone densitometry training, accreditation and standardisation.

Council has also been formalising and strengthening its links with lay organisations and in particular, Osteoporosis Australia and Osteoporosis New Zealand. Osteoporosis Australia has had a key role in the establishment of osteoporosis as a National Health Priority Area and together with other organisations, Judy Stenmark, CEO of Osteoporosis Australia, Assoc Professor Nick Pocock and myself participated in an Arthritis and Muscular-Skeletal Conditions workshop in September sponsored by the NHPAC. This workshop focused on osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis and osteoporosis, and gave us the opportunity to emphasise gaps in current programs, identify priorities and suggest action that may be taken.

The Society is also developing a strong relationship with the Royal Australian College of Physicians and following approval from the AGM the Society will adopt the Memorandum of

Understanding, subject to Council agreeing on the composition of the Specialist Advisory Committee, which has been developed. As part of this increased collaboration, the Society will be coordinating a symposium at the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Royal Australian College of Physicians in May.

The Society has also been establishing stronger links with international societies, in particular, the International Bone & Mineral Society. The Society has agreed on a form of joint membership of both ANZBMS and IBMS, which will significantly add to membership benefits.

Members of our Society, Professor John Eisman and Assoc. Professor Ego Seeman have recently been recognised by the American Society of Bone & Mineral Research, with Professor John Eisman being appointed Editor of the Journal of Bone & Mineral Research and Assoc. Professor Ego Seeman receiving the Fred Bartter award. Council and the Society congratulate both of them on these important achievements, which reflect not only on them personally, but also on the health of bone and mineral research in this country. Assoc. Professor Ego Seeman has also recently been re-elected to the Board of the International Osteoporosis Foundation and Professor Ian Reid and Assoc. Professor Ego Seeman are on the Board of the International Bone & Mineral Society. Professor Phil Sambrook and Professor Ian Reid are on the Council of the Asia and Pacific Osteoporosis Foundation.

In recognition of the ongoing contribution that life members make to our Society and in order to facilitate their attendance at our meetings, Council has decided to make available a "meetings" grant to contribute to their costs.

Associate Professor Michael Hooper

Treasurer's Report

The general state of the Society's accounts were reported to members in October, so I want to highlight a few initiatives that were initiated by Council during the 2001-2002 year.

Christine and T Jack Martin Research Travel Grant. This grant is offered by the ANZBMS in memory of Christine Martin and to honour the outstanding and major scientific contributions of Professor T Jack Martin to bone and mineral research and his contributions to associates and trainees in teaching, research, and administration. We thank Merck Sharp and Dohme who support this Grant which provides funding up to a value of \$15,000. This year the grant was awarded to Catherine Middleton-Hardie from the Cornish Lab in Auckland to pursue work on the relationship between OPG and idiopathic hyperphosphatasia. Members are advised that this grant is now open for 2003 for travel to be undertaken in 2004.

Funding of Local Activities: Council also acknowledged that our Constitution states that one of the objectives of the society is to: "Arrange, promote, foster, develop and assist the study of research and in the acquisition dissemination and application of knowledge and information concerning bone and mineral metabolism"

This is usually met by our ASM, but local seminar series/Bone groups would also fall under such an objective of the Society. At this stage, Council did not feel that development of State branches of ANZBMS similar to the Arthritis Foundation was necessary. We did support, however, the proposal to provide some funding for local groups to assist in costs for seminar series or regular Bone and Mineral groups. It was acknowledged that these are often supported by Industry, but that council should support such activities where Industry support cannot be obtained. Conditions for funding include that organisers:

- Be financial members
- Provide a list of speakers and seminar schedule to Council

- Indicate if any companies are co-sponsoring the series
- Advertise that ANZBMS is a sponsor of the series and advertise for new membership to ANZBMS.

Funding may be allocated to a "series" or on a sessional basis (eg \$50.00 per seminar). Such funding would be available on application to the Hon Treasurer and at the discretion of Council based on available funds at the time.

Life-Member Travel Grants: At the October Council Meeting, we agreed that Life Members have contributed in significant ways to the Society and act as Mentors and Role Models to other members. To assist Life Members to attend the ASM, Council will now provide up to \$2000 as a travel grant to assist with registration, travel and accommodation.

ANZBMS Outstanding Abstract Awards: Last year Council passed a resolution to introduce two travel grants to full members based on abstract scores. The Council of ANZBMS wished to recognise the high standard of bone and mineral research presented at the Annual Scientific Meeting. The Program Organising Committee will now award two prizes of \$1000 to the abstracts receiving the highest score. In order to be eligible for an ANZBMS Outstanding Abstract Award the applicant:

- Must be a financial member of ANZBMS at the time of application. If you are not a current financial member you must apply for membership by 19 March 2003 for this year's ASM
- Must be the author presenting a paper to the ANZBMS Meeting.
- Must have made a substantial contribution to the work and be first author of a paper to be presented to the ANZBMS Meeting.
- (1) Applicants for the ANZBMS Young Investigator Awards will not be eligible to receive an Outstanding Abstract Award concurrently at the same meeting.
- (2) Applicants who receive an Outstanding Abstract Award will not be eligible for a Travel Grant concurrently at the same meeting

IBMS Co-Membership: This has finally been agreed and the co-membership will be sponsored by Aventis within their Partnership agreement finalised at the ASM in Adelaide. Options for co-membership and for additional subscription to cover the cost of the hardcopy edition of Bone will now appear on your membership renewal or membership application forms.

Progress in Osteoporosis: A discount rate for members has been negotiated with the publishers of Progress in Osteoporosis, edited by Ego Seeman. An option to include this subscription in your membership will now appear on your membership renewal or membership application forms.

The high quality of our Annual Scientific Meeting is recognised internationally. With these additional benefits now available to members, we believe that ANZBMS is providing many rewards to members beyond that of Affiliation with the Professional Society covering the field of Bone and Mineral Research. Council will continue to review and improve the service that our Society provides to members.

Mark Forwood

ANZBMS ASM 2003

ABSTRACT DEADLINE 19th MARCH 2003

Website Committee

Anne Kovach our contract Webperson has modernised and redesigned the Website, including minor redesign of the logo. The pull-down headings have been revised, to allow more direct access to resources (and to accommodate the expanding role of the Society), particularly the "Resources" option, which will include links to kindred organisations, journal subscriptions, Society position statements (downloadable), accreditation guidelines (downloadable), courses, "hot" references etc. There will also be a provision for password protected pages, though at this stage it is not foreseen that this facility is necessary for all members, as updating of password information would be a major chore. Once the website is up and going, the intention is to allow minor changes henceforth to be made by ANZBMS staff. We will have our own domain name; www.anzbms.org.au. The main innovation is the provision of on-line credit card payment facility, which will come at a cost, but not significantly more than we already pay for manual credit card access (since the merchant's fee on the card is the major component of the total cost). It is expected that this facility will be ready to receive payment of Society membership fees for 2003, and also for paying registration fees for the International Conference on Metabolic Bone Disease, June 2003. Major sponsors will be able to have their logos placed on the Homepage as part of their sponsorship deal.

Roger Price

Medical Affairs Sub-committee reports that *w*orking parties to establish draft Position Statements have been set up for:

- 1. Role of Dietary Calcium in Bone Health Chair: Kerrie Sanders
- 2. Vitamin D Chair: Julie Pasco
- 3. Ultrasound in fracture risk assessment Chair: Nick Pocock
- 4. Paget's Disease Chair: Michael Hooper
- 5. Bone Markers Chair: Markus Seibel
- 6. Assessment and Treatment of Osteoporosis Chair required

Geoff Nicholson

Annual Scientific Meeting - 2002 Programme Organising Committee (POC) Report

Our 2002 meeting held in Adelaide was a major success as assessed by the record number of registrants and proffered papers as well as feedback received by the Organising Committee. The scientific programme this year accommodated 23 Invited Presentations, 48 Oral presentations and 90 Poster presentations which is probably the largest number included in an ANZBMS two and one-half day meeting format. We scheduled 3 concurrent sessions for 3 of the total of 11 sessions during the meeting. Over 250 participated which was also most gratifying including over 150 members, 42 non-members plus a significant number of day registrants with great interest for the **Osteoporosis: Opportunities and Challenges Day.**

We were very grateful to our international guests, Professor Steven Cummings, Professor Steven Goldring, and Professor John Bilezikian particularly for agreeing to participate a number of times during the meeting. The excellence of their contributions significantly added to the scientific standard of the meeting as well as to its general interest and educational value for all regrants both basic scientists and clinicians.

Organisation for the **Osteoporosis Day** was greatly enhanced by the cooperation of Professor Les Cleland who was co-opted to the POC and to Pauline Kelly and her colleagues of Osteoporosis SA. It also received strong support and sponsorship from Osteoporosis Australia for which we are most grateful. The support shown by Allied Health Professionals for the day vindicated all our plans.

The success of the meeting was also dependant on the support of our sponsors for which we are extremely grateful. We particularly acknowledge the support of our major sponsors Merck Sharp & Dohme, Eli Lilly Australia, and Aventis Pharma, as well as the sponsorship of Novartis Pharmaceuticals Australia and our exhibitors. Each has contributed in various ways to ensure the quality of the meeting and therefore to its success.

Finally I thank the meeting's organising team in the very capable hands of Jenny Blanchard in Adelaide, Ivone Johnson at the ANZBMS office in Sydney and Bonnie Robinson in Perth who was responsible for preparing the conference book. It has been a great pleasure to work with them throughout the year of preparation. As well I thank my fellow members of the POC and the LOC, chaired by Rob Moore, for their enthusiastic work, support and wise counsel.

Howard Morris Chair, Programme Organising Committee 2001-03

Osteoporosis NZ (ONZ)

ONZ Inc. is a small, but very active and effective not for profit organisation, it's aim is to reduce the incidence of Osteoporosis in New Zealand. We accomplish this by providing information to health professionals and the public, targeting education programmes to those at risk, providing evidence based information for those with Osteoporosis and providing a national voice for advocacy for patient services so that those who have Osteoporosis are well managed and that the medicines that are available are at a reasonable cost.

Recent activities include holding a DEXA Workshop for health professionals involved in bone density scanning. This multi-disciplinary workshop, sponsored by Merck Sharp and Dohme NZ Ltd, was held in Auckland July 2001 and attended by 80 people from around the country.

This year the ONZ Scientific Committee, together with the Scientific Advisory panel (23 participants) developed and published "Guidelines for the Treatment of Steroid Induced Osteoporosis", which will be distributed to all GP's, orthopaedic surgeons, and physicians.

At the IOF Patient Societies Conference in Naples in May 2001, ONZ won the IOF-Lilly Policy Initiative Award – a prize of \$10,000US. Our winning project: *Bone Making - Challenging New Zealand Health Providers and Funders, a pilot project for the diagnosis and management of osteoporosis* produced results which form the basis of a series of meetings to be held with the Minister of Health and other members of parliament this month – November 2002.

For World Osteoporosis Day 2001, ONZ launched *Choice Action* - a Unit of Work for Year 10 secondary school students that was distributed to every secondary school in New Zealand at the beginning of the school year. The resource, sponsored by Mainland Products Ltd, was written for teachers of health education, physical education and home economics and is designed to be taught collaboratively. Ongoing requests for the resource are an indication of its success.

World Osteoporosis Day in New Zealand this year recognised the achievements of active, older New Zealanders with the launch of the "You Deserve a Medal" Awards programme at Government House on 23 October 2002. Four people aged over 70 years were presented with medals by the NZ Sportsman of the Century, Dr Peter Snell, in recognition of their continuing active lifestyle and the contribution they make to

their communities. An exercise physiologist, Dr Snell is an associate professor at the Department of Internal Medicine at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Centre and is a strong advocate of the benefits of exercise in maintaining good health as you age.

ONZ endorses appropriate exercise programmes for older people, such as the recently launched "Upright and Active" programme developed by Sport Waikato with assistance from ACC. "Upright & Active" aims to prevent falls by strengthening muscles and improving balance – a trainable skill that can be relearned. Research by Professor John Campbell, geriatrician and Dean of The Faculty of Medicine, Otago Medical School, shows regular strength and balance retraining exercises can significantly reduce the incidence of falls and related injuries.



World Osteoporosis Day 2002 in New Zealand" - Triple Olympic gold medallist and NZ Sportsman of the Century, Dr Peter Snell along with the NZ Governor General, Dame Sylvia Cartwright, awarding Mr Bill Childs with a "You Deserve a Medal" award.

Densitometry Sub-committee

Accreditation

The NATA designed questionnaire to assess DXA centre compliance with the Accreditation Guidelines has been completed and posted on the ANZBMS web site. It can be downloaded as a PDF document. ANZBMS members who provide DXA services are encouraged to use the questionnaire to ensure that their DXA centre meets the requirements for accreditation. At present the system remains voluntary. The next phase for the ANZBMS DXA accreditation will be the introduction of an on-line system for accreditation registration and the compilation of a list of accredited providers.

Workshops

A successful ANZBMS/RANZCR workshop was held in Sydney at St Vincent's Hospital in July with over 100 attendees. A/Prof Hooper, A/Prof Pocock, Ms Nicole Culton and Dr Peter Downey were involved in the workshop. A second workshop is planned to be held in Melbourne.

MSAC submission

Osteoporosis Australia, with input from the ANZBMS, was instrumental in drafting a submission to the MSAC to increase the availability of bone density testing to at-risk groups. The submission was supported by a cost-benefit analysis provided by the Quintiles group. The additional indicators suggested for Medicare funding were:

- all men and women over 65 years of age; and
- anyone over the age of 50 years with a family history of low trauma fracture hip and/or vertebral.

PBAC Submission

At the same time as the MSAC application is being considered, in order that women identified by increased availability of DXA can receive subsidized therapy, a number of pharmaceutical companies have submitted applications to the PBAC requesting a widening of the PBS for specific osteoporosis therapies, to include availability on the basis of BMD criteria.

Reference Ranges

At present there is no standardization of the reference ranges used at DXA centres throughout Australia, with a majority of providers using reference ranges provided by the three major manufacturers (Lunar, Hologic and Norland). These however differ, significantly and can result in discordance in diagnoses, depending on which machine the patient is scanned. This has been a particular problem with femoral neck T scores.

In order to standardize the results from DXA, the Australian and New Zealand Bone Mineral Society (ANZBMS), after reviewing the various reference ranges available, has recommended that the population derived reference data from the Geelong Osteoporosis study (GOS) be adopted as the new Australian Reference Range for the interpretation of DXA bone density results. With an appropriate conversion factor the GOS T-Score threshold for osteoporosis in the proximal femur (derived using a Lunar densitometer), does not differ significantly from the NHANES-III T-Score threshold which was developed in the USA using Hologic densitometers. In the lumbar spine there is no comparable widely accepted reference range and the GOS will differ to varying degrees from existing manufacturer supplied reference ranges. In most cases the difference in lumbar spine GOS derived T scores, from manufacturer generated T scores, will be 0.5 or less. The differences however may become more pronounced at lower T scores and a 0.5 difference in T score can affect clinical decision making with respect to intervention in many cases.

To facilitate the process of standardization of reference ranges the data from the GOS has been converted to equivalent units for the other two major brands of densitometer used in Australia (Hologic and Norland). The reference ranges available from the Geelong data include the lumbar spine region (L2 - L4) and four proximal femur sites. Individual vertebral reference ranges and other combinations of vertebrae (e.g. L1-L4 commonly used with Hologic machines) are not yet available for the non-Lunar instruments as appropriate conversation equations are not available at this stage. It is envisaged that this problem will be rectified within the next 6 months.

The data to convert existing densitometers to the new reference ranges have been made available to the Hologic, Lunar and Norland agents and DXA providers are encouraged to contact their bone densitometer agent in order to update to the new Australian Reference Range.

Nick Pocock

Research Sub-committee

The Research Committee seeks to progress Bone and Mineral research by ANZBMS members and others in the basic and clinical research community. The recent success of Australian- and New Zealand-based research is demonstrated by the number and quality of abstracts submitted to the 2002 ASM and the excellent Australasian abstracts presented at the 2002 ASBMR. However, this research is accomplished in an environment of inadequate funding. Although bone and joint diseases together represent the current number one health cost item, paradoxically, only a small fraction of the health and medical research budget is currently spent on trying to further understand the causes of bone and joint diseases and in developing better treatment strategies. The ANZBMS has joined with other advocacy bodies, such as ASMR and the BJD, to support diseases of bone and joints being granted high priority status in terms of Government funding. While the Research Committee will continue to explore strategies for increasing funding of skeletal research, it is essential for individual ANZBMS members to explain their work in community and Government forums, and to highlight important findings. One mechanism for doing so has been set up by the ASMR, of which ANZBMS is an affiliate Society, and involves providing ASMR with examples of progress that has been enabled by public funding. Members are encouraged to support all activities that will raise the profile of the work, in which we are engaged, and to be generous in promoting widespread public education of the value and significance of our work. **David Findlay**

Life Member

A Resolution was passed at the Annual General Meeting to award **Jane Moseley** with Honorary Life Membership of ANZBMS.

This honour is made in recognition of Jane's dedicated work to the Society and her contributions to understanding of bone biology. Jane served on the ANZBMS Council for 6 years and as honorary secretary for 4 of those years. Jane unselfishly gave much wisdom, enthusiasm and time to the running of the Society. Amongst her many contributions to Bone Research, as an Associate Professor at St Vincent's Institute in Melbourne, she contributed to the discovery of parathyroid hormone related protein and to the elucidation of its biological functions. In addition, Jane has been a wonderful mentor and role model for many young scientists.

News from the pharmaceutical industry—Aventis

From 1 November 2002, Actonel 5mg (risedionate sodium) is PBS-reimbursed for the treatment of osteoporosis (i.e. indicators include reimbursement for men)

Osteoporosis Australia (OA)

A big year, but extremely gratifying nonetheless to see so much happening in the osteoporosis world. The big news is that Osteoporosis has just been included as part of the new 7th National Health Priority – 'Arthritis & Musculoskeletal Diseases'. This is great news for osteoporosis sufferers as the focus of the priority will be on Osteoarthritis, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Osteoporosis. This will translate to increased services and programs for people with osteoporosis in the next 4 years as well as an increased focus on research from a government point of view.

It was therefore great to have the Federal Health Minister – The Hon. Senator Kay Patterson launch World Osteoporosis Day, at Parliament House, Canberra on October 17. Senator Patterson joined Mal Meninga and Barbara Holborow, both OA Ambassadors, along with Maxine McKew (OA Patron) and Philip Sambrook (OA Medical Director) in really helping to hit home the message of building strong bones and early diagnosis and treatment. OA had posted all politicians a 'Bone Pin' attached to a card stating 'show some spine' and support World Osteoporosis Day. It was encouraging to see so many pollies walking the hallowed halls of parliament wearing their little silver pins.

A/Prof. Peter Ebeling and Dr David Findlay have joined our Medical & Scientific Advisory Committee with Peter Ebeling also taking over from Terry Diamond as medical editor of Osteoblast. Some of you may also know that A/Prof Rebecca Mason joined our board in March as the official ANZBMS representative and A/Prof. Ego Seeman has also joined as the IOF representative. OA is also hoping to launch our Research Foundation in early 2003 where we will be supporting bone related research around Australia. We will be kicking this off with funds raised from the Bone Ball (March 2002) and from our Cocktail Party (November 21). Hope to see some of the Sydney people at this smaller fundraising event.

New Position papers on Osteoporosis & Post-Menopausal Women and Osteoporosis and Exercise are scheduled for publication in Australian Family Physician in coming months. As well are new fact sheet for consumers on 'Osteoporosis & Corticosteroids' will be available shortly (see www.osteoporosis.org.au).

I wish you all a merry Christmas and new year and look forward to working with all at ANZBMS in 2003.

Judy Stenmark CEO

ANZBMS ASM 2002 Merck Sharpe & Dohme FUN RUN/WALK

The unseasonable wild weather during the first two days of this year's ASM didn't make the Merck, Sharpe & Dohme Fun Run/Walk an attractive proposition, and what was billed as a balmy afternoon outing was obviously going to be more challenging than expected. Nevertheless, despite anxious glances at the sky and sea throughout the day and numerous calls to cancel the event, we proceeded as planned. Clearly you can't hold back some people because there were approximately 30 enthusiastic entrants limbering up at the start line.

My starter's pistol didn't see the light of day as it would not have been heard in the 50-knot gale into which the runners started, and any plans to take a cooling run along the water's edge were dashed by the high tide. The waves crashing over the esplanade onto the footpath however had the same refreshing effect! With the two appointed course-marshals lurking somewhere in the warmth of the hotel there was some confusion about the exact location of the rounding mark, and several runners (including the eventual winner) covered much more ground than was necessary. However, there was no doubt that all entrants appreciated the tail wind to the finish.

Congratulations to **Sandra Iuliano-Burns** for being the first female home and to **Terry Diamond** for finishing hot on her heels. Both winners received copies of the Merck Manual for their performance. Congratulations also to all the other competitors for participating in this event.

We appreciate the sponsorship of Merck, Sharpe & Dohme and acknowledge their donations to Osteoporosis New Zealand and The Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation.

Rob Moore

Chair LOC 2002

Recommended Reading in Osteoporosis E Seeman

Epidemiology and pathogenesis

Steven R Cummings and L Joseph Melton III Epidemiology and outcomes of osteoporotic fractures Lancet 2002; 359: 1761-67 John A Kanis Diagnosis of osteoporosis and assessment of fracture risk. Lancet 2002; 359: 1929-36

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Biomechanics and exercise

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Burr DB, Robling AG, Turner CH. Effects of biomechanical stress on bones in animals. Bone 2002 May;30(5):781-6

Power J, Loveridge N, Rushton N, Parker M, Reeve J. Osteocyte density in aging subjects is enhanced in bone adjacent to remodeling haversian systems. Bone 2002 Jun;30(6):859-65

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Seeman E. An exercise in geometry. J Bone Miner Res 2002 Mar;17(3):373-80

Robling AG, Hinant FM, Burr DB, Turner CH. Improved bone structure and strength after long-term mechanical loading is greatest if loading is separated into short bouts. J Bone Miner Res 2002 Aug;17(8):1545-54

Treatment

Robert Marcus, Mayme Wong, Hunter Heath III, and John L Stock. Antiresorptive Treatment of Postmenopausal Osteoporosis: Comparison of Study Designs and Outcomes in Large Clinical Trials with Fracture as an Endpoint. Endocrine Reviews 2002; 29: 16-37

Modelska K, Cummings S. Tibolone for postmenopausal women: systematic review of randomized trials. J Clin Endocrinol Metab 2002 Jan;87(1):16-23

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Delmas PD. Treatment of postmenopausal osteoporosis. Lancet. 359:2018-26, 2002

2002 Award Recipients

The Roger Melick 'Young Investigator Award' was given to **Kun Zhu** who presented data on *Effects of milk supplementation on bone mineral accretion and bio-markers of bone turnover in Chinese adolescent girls.*

The Chris Nordin poster prize was presented to **Nathan Pavlos** with a poster entitled *Expression* of dominant-negative rab3d impairs osteoclast-mediated bone resorption.

The Christine and T Jack Martin Research Travel Grant was awarded to **Catherine Middleton-Hardie** to pursue work on the relationship between OPG and idiopathic hyperphosphatasia.

ANZBMS welcomes new members:

Anne Cassando Robyn Craven Ian Gotis-Graham Jane Jenkins Helen Maclean Judy Stenmark

Dates for the Diary

<u>2003</u>

February 12-15 2003—International Soceity for Clinical Densitometry (ISCD) Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA, USA. Contact: Douglas Stroh Ph (202) 367 1132, Fax: (202 367 2132, Email: iscd@iscd.org

February 15-18 2003—2nd International Worshop on the Genetics of Bone Metabolism and Disease, Davos, Switzerland, Abstract Deadline: 25th November, 2002. Full details: http://www.ectsoc.org/genbone2003/index.htm

May 8-12 2003—30th European Symposium on Calcified Tissue, Rome, Italy Website: http://www.ectsoc.org/rome2003

May 29-31, 2003, - The First Pacific Congress of Bone Morphometry in Takamatsu City. Japan Ph: 81 87 891 2193, Fax: 81 87 891 2196, Email: orthon@kms.ac.jp, Website: www2.convention.co.jp/APBM

June 2-7, 2003— IBMS-JSBMR 2003

1st Joint Meeting of the International Bone and Mineral Society and the Japanese Society for Bone and Mineral Research Congress Secretariat: IBMS-JSBMR 2003, Japan Convention Service, Inc. Sumitomo, Seimei Bldg. 13F, 4-14-3, Nishitemma, Kita, Osaka 530-0047, Japan Phone: +81/6 6311-2131 Fax: +81/6 6311-2130 Email: ibms@convention.co.jp Contact: Ms. Kiyomi Masutani or Ms. Keiko Nishimoto ABSTRACT DEADLINE: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2002 PLEASE VISIT THE MEETING WEB SITE AT WWW.IBMS-JSBMR2003.ORG

June 10-13, 2003—International Conference on Metabolic Bone Disease

Hyatt Regency, Coolum, Queensland A combined meeting of the Australian and New Zealand Bone and Mineral Society and the International Bone and Mineral Society to celebrate the career of Prof. TJ Martin. *Contact:* ANZBMS, 145 Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000 Ph: 61 2 9256 5405 Fax: +61 2 9251 8174 Email: anzbms@racp.edu.au Website: www.racp.edu.au/anzbms

July 6-10, 2003—12th Workshop on Vitamin D, Maastricht, The Netherlands Website: http://vitamind.ucr.edu

July 9-11, 2003—Bone and Tooth Society Annual Meeting, Sheffield, United Kingdom Website: http://www.batsoc.org.uk

July 15-16, 2003—Advances in the Molecular Pharmacology & Therapeutics of Bone Disease, Oxford, United Kingdom Website: http://www.paget.org.uk/

July 16-19, 2003—International Symposium on Paget's Disease, Oxford, United Kingdom Website: http://www.paget.org.uk

June 22-26, 2003—National Osteoporosis Society 9th Bath Conference on Osteoporosis, Bath, United Kingdom Website: http://www.nos.org.uk

September 4-7, 2003—IOF World Wide Conference of Osteoporosis Patient Societies Istanbul (Turkey) Email: sandrine@ioflyon.org. Abstract deadline 16th April 2003

September 14-17, 2003 - Endocrine Society of Australia Annual Scientific Meeting

Melbourne Australian Science Network Pty Ltd (ASN) P O Box 200 Balnarring VIC 3926 Tel: 03-5983 2400 Fax: 03-5983 2223 Email: mp@asnevents.net.au

September 17-19, 2003— ADS/ADEA Combined Annual Scientific Meeting

Melbourne Australian Science Network Pty Ltd (ASN) P O Box 200 Balnarring VIC 3926 Tel: 03-5983 2400 Fax: 03-5983 2223 Email: ads.dea@asnevents.net.au

September 19-23. 2003—American Society for Bone and Mineral Research (ASBMR) 25th Annual Meeting and Anniversary Celebration Minneapolis Convention Center Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA The Abstract Submission Deadline is April 16, 2003, via www.asbmr.org. For more information, call (202) 367-1161, email asbmr@dc.sba.com, or check our web site www.asbmr.org

November 3-5, 2003 194th Meeting of the Society for Endocrinology Contact: Society for Endocrinology, 17/18 The Courtyard, Woodlands, Bradley Stoke, Bristol BS32 4NQ, UK. Tel: +44 (0) 1454 642210 Fax: +44 (0) 1454 64222 E-mail: conferences@endocrinology.org Website: www.endocrinology.org/sfe/confs.htm **November 27-29, 2003**—International Conference on Progress in Bone and Mineral Research 2003, Viena, Austria Contact: Veinna Academy of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research Email bone2003@medacad.org

<u>2004</u>

June 5-9, 2004—31st European Symposium on Calcified Tissues, Nice, France Contact Website: http://www.ectsoc.org.

August 21-25, 2004— Endocrine Society of Australia Sydney

October 1-5, 2004—American Society for Bone and Mineral Research (ASBMR) 26th Annual Meeting Washington State Convention and Trade Center Seattle, Washington, USA For more information, call (202) 367-1161, email asbmr@dc.sba.com, or check our web site www.asbmr.org

<u>2005</u>

June 25-29, 2005—Second Joint Meeting of the European Calcified Tissue Society and the International Bone and Mineral Society, Geneva, Switzerland Contact Website: http://www.ectsoc.org

October 18-22, 2005—11th World Congress on the Menopause, Buenos Aires, Argentina Contact website: www.anajuan.com/menopause

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Australian and New Zealand Bone and Mineral Society http://www.racp.edu.au/anzbms

American Society for Bone and Mineral Research http://www.asbmr.org

Australian Diabetes Society http://www.racp.edu.au/ads

Australian Society of Medical Research http://www.asmr.org.au

American Endocrine Society http://www.endo-society.org

Bone and Joint Decade http://www.boneandjointdecade.org

BoneKEy-Osteovision http://www.bonekey-ibms.org

Endocrine Society of Australia http://www.racp.edu.au/esa

European Foundation for Osteoporosis http://www.effo.org

Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology http://www.faseb.org

International Bone and Mineral Society(IBMS) http://www.ibmsonline.org

International Osteoporosis Foundation http://osteofound.org

International Myeloma Foundation http://www.myeloma.org/imf.html

International Society for Clinical Densitometry http://www.iscd.org

International Sun Valley Hard Tissue Workishop http://www.utah.edu/radiobiology/

National Health Medical and Research Council(NHMRC) http://www.health.gov.au/nhmrc

National Osteoporosis Foundation http://www.nof.org

Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation http://www.oif.org

Osteoporosis Sydney Support Group http://www.osteoporosis.com.au

Osteoporosis and Related Bone Diseases -National Resource Center http://www.osteo.org

Osteovision http://www.osteovision.ch

Paget Foundation for Paget's Disease of Bone and Related Disorders http://www.paget.org

Council of the Australian & New Zealand Bone & Mineral Society (2001-2003)

Associate Professor Michael Hooper (President)

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ANZBMS MEMBERSHIP

The Annual Membership fee for the ANZBMS is \$82.50 for full members, \$33.00 for student members and (\$30.00 for 3 years) for retired members. The Society currently has 380 members. New members are always welcome and an application for membership form is available on the ANZBMS website: www.racp.edu.au/anzbms. Members are encouraged to contact the Secretariat if they have any editorial that they wish to contribute to the newsletter that may interest our readers. Please forward any editorial to:

The Secretary, ANZBMS 145 Macquarie Street SYDNEY NSW 2000 Ph: 02-9256 5405 Fax: 02-9251 8174 Email: anzbms@racp.edu.au Website: www.racp.edu.au/anzbms