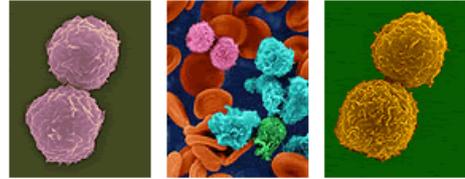




*South African Stem Cell
Transplantation Society*



SASCeTS 2011 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Friday 12/02/2010 17:00
The President Hotel, Bantry Bay
Cape Town

The meeting was opened and brought to order by Professor N Novitzky as the designated Chairman of the society.

Present:

D Thompson, D Reynders, A Davidson, Y Naidoo, J Poole, R Crookes, T Schlaphoff, V Borril, E Du Toit, M Du Toit, J Thomson, D Brittan, N Novitzky(Chair).

Apologies:

The minutes of the 2008 AGM were accepted without changes.

Chairman's report:

This was delivered by Professor Novitzky.

Society matters:

The society is now registered as a society and Dr Moodley was thanked for his efforts in this regard. The cost of registering the society was also discussed, it was hoped that the funds might be covered by pharmaceutical sponsors and an invoice was made in this regard.

Website:

This is now fully functional and will hopefully prove to be a valuable resource. Dave Woolley has been key in the hosting of the site. The aim in the near future will be to use the website as a platform from which to register transplants. There is 128 bit encryption which would keep the data secure. The data will be password protected with two levels of access i.e. the Exco and a smaller subcommittee. The question was raised if this could be used in conjunction with the EBMT registration website. An alternative that this could be used is to generate a hard copy which could then be sent to EBMT.

Accreditation:

There has been a call from health insurers to establish accredited units that are able to perform transplants. This process should be done as a matter of urgency. This should be a society driven process, if not there is a realistic chance that the health insurers would impose their own criteria for accreditation at the detriment of the society. It was pointed out that to

properly established accreditation systems for units would take long but a start will need to be made.

A point was raised that there should be a distinction between units that offer only auto versus those that offer both allo and auto transplants.

The hospital groups should also be engaged in this process as this would certainly have an impact on them with regard to funding.

A comment was made that state hospitals should also be encouraged to engage in the process as it was pointed out that of the last 93 transplants performed very few if any were performed in the state sector hospitals.

The question of laboratory accreditation was raised. Most of the labs are accredited.

Prof Novitzky suggested that he would set up a draft document in this regard. This will include topics such as guidelines and indications for transplant, basic and full accreditation. This can then be discussed. It was suggested that a smaller committee should be established to review the matter and give input and feedback. Coastal and the Inland centres should be represented.

Register:

All transplants should be registered. This will hopefully be done on the website in the near future with a link to the EBMT register.

Conference matters:

The next conference was proposed for early in 2011. A rough date of the 11th was tabled. The venue was discussed and Durban and Johannesburg were proposed.

The introduction of workshops and a nurses program was felt to be of great value and worth repeating next year.

Possible topics and themes were suggested such as accreditation and an apheresis workshop were suggested. The final planning would be guided by the committee.

Date of the next AGM will coincide with the next annual SASCetS meeting.