In the Spotlight: CHSS Annual Meeting Program Committee Members

The Congenital Heart Surgeons’ Society will be holding its Annual Meeting at Chicago this year on 23-24 October. The Annual Meetings are important events for all society members and are very well attended. They present the society members with the opportunity to showcase their important work and learn from one another.

A program with good mix of different varieties and wide participation is critical to the success of the Annual Meetings. Hence the Data Center would like to feature the hard work done by the Annual Meeting Program Committee members. These CHSS member surgeons have taken time out of their very busy schedule and have put together a fabulous program this year. We present our note of thanks on behalf of our patients and researchers to them.

Dr. Bill Gaynor is attending surgeon at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and Associate Professor of Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine.

Dr. Jim Jaggers is the Barton-Elliman Chair in Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgery at University of Colorado and Co-Medical Director of the Heart Institute at The Children’s Hospital of Colorado.

Dr. Rick Ohye is the head of the Pediatric Cardiovascular Surgery Division and the Surgical Director of the Pediatric Heart Transplant Program at University of Michigan.

Risk Factors for Successful Palliation of Functional PAIVS

Dr. Jeff Poynter, the current CHSS Kirklin/Ashburn Fellow, has updated David Ashburn’s analysis published in 2004. The conclusion of the 2004 analysis demonstrated that a morphologically driven approach based upon the size of the tricuspid valve to guide triage to either a biventricular repair or Fontan track resulted in the most favorable outcomes. Jeff’s re-analysis of survival based upon 2011 follow-up confirms the 2004 prediction exactly (see figure).

CHSS Fall 2011 Work Weekend Dates

We would like to take this opportunity to send another invitation to the membership to visit Toronto for the Fall 2011 work weekend. We have many cohorts that are ‘ripe’ for a look at the data and await your questions to be answered. Over the next month we will be preparing the databases so you can come in and help us find the answers.

Venue: CHSS Data Center
The Hospital for Sick Children
555 University Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
M5G 1X8, Canada
Dates: 18-20 November, 2011
CHSS Fellow visits Cleveland Clinic

The Kirklin/Ashburn Fellows have been receiving world-class research at the Data Center for a decade. One of the most valuable facets of the Fellowship is the close mentoring relationship with preeminent researchers and surgeons. One of the most consistent advocates for the Fellows has been Dr. Eugene Blackstone, a founding member of the CHSS Data Center. Our current Kirklin/Ashburn Fellow, Dr. Jeff Poynter, recently spent ten days at the Cleveland Clinic visiting Dr. Blackstone’s impressive Department of Quantitative Health Sciences. The trip was extremely productive. During his visit, Jeff received extensive training on research design, statistical analysis and data management. In addition, Jeff was able to return to the Data Center with many practical suggestions to improve our day to day operations, logistics and data analysis. Jeff is looking forward to another trip to Cleveland in the future to continue his training with Dr. Blackstone. He has submitted an application for a small grant from the Hospital for Sick Children to fund his next visit.

PAIVS (Continued)

The distribution of end-states is also almost identical to the 2004 analysis, and that there have been very few late mortalities or change in end-state. Since 2004 new statistical methods (modulated renewal) give us greater ability to examine the influence of the number, type and timing of interventions on outcomes. We propose an analysis strategy which will employ modulated renewal and competing risks methodologies to identify the demographic, morphologic and procedural risk factors associated with reduced mortality prior to achievement of definitive repair.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>End-state</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biventricular Repair</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fontan</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 Ventricle Repair</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart Transplant</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death before Repair</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alive without Repair</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Demographic Transition among CHSS Patients

Your CHSS Data Center has observed changing demographic trends in research population that are similar to those in clinical care of congenital heart disease patients. Below is a crude presentation of our current demographics that shows that a significant part of our study population is formed by young adult CHD survivors. We are grateful for this persistent support of these patients, their parents and the membership, because of which we are fully geared to cater the needs of these patients by finding answers relevant to their as well as future patients’ care.

CHSS Fall Work Weekend Preliminary Agenda

Your CHSS Data Center is actively preparing to host the Fall Work Weekend. We will study in detail the PAIVS database and the functional health status analysis. We will also take a look at the Pulmonary Conduit (PC), Tricuspid Atresia (TA) and Anomalous Aortic Origin of a Coronary Artery (AAOCA) databases and come up with the relevant questions that can be answered using these databases in the future.

We will circulate the draft agenda as soon as possible. However, if you have any questions in the interim, to which you would like to seek answers from the databases, please do not hesitate to discuss them with us at the Annual Meeting. You can also contact us at chss.dc@sickkids.ca with your suggestions for the work weekend topics.