

ASAE-news

AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF ANAESTHETISTS EMAIL NEWSLETTER



March 2009

Welcome to the second edition of the ASA e-news for 2009!



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ASA Council Update

The ASA Council met over the weekend of the 14 and 15 March. The meeting included a Board of Directors Financial Development session. Council expressed its deep sympathy for the horrific fires that struck Victoria last month.

The main issues facing Council include the National Registration and Accreditation (NRA) legislation, pilot programs currently being conducted with non medical practitioners engaged in roles that are integral to the safe administration of an anaesthetic, the impact of constraints on re-accreditation in some areas and the impact of the global financial crisis on the business of the ASA. Full details will be in my report in the *ASA news* due in three weeks. In the meantime I can assure you that we are weathering the financial storm well and I don't envisage any major changes to our forward planning.

Since Council met a Senate Inquiry into the NRA has been announced. This will provide us with an opportunity to again raise our concerns regarding to the ramifications of the implementation of this proposal in relation to medical education, training and treatment standards. However it does not mean that we will not continue to lobby at a State level. I again urge you to contact your local members.

Launch of the electronic RVG

The ASA is pleased to announce that, in collaboration with Tony Stewart from Cutting Edge Software, the digital version the RVG is now available to download for the iPhone. Please [click here](#) for more information and to access the RVG viewer.

I would like to thank Tony Stewart for the development and Drs Rob Storer, Waleed Alkhazrajy, Chris Jones, James Cooper, Sean Davies and Adjunct Professor Martin Culwick for their assistance in the testing of the RVG iPhone application.

Medical Oxygen Connections Change

Professor John Russell has prepared advice for members regarding changes to medical oxygen connections. [Click here](#) to read more.

Standards Australia – Draft of AS2896 Medical Gas Systems

Installation and testing of non-flammable medical gas pipeline systems

Please [click here](#) for instructions on accessing the draft and for making a contribution or comment. Comments close 3 April 2009.

Practice Managers Workshop

The Practice Managers Workshop (PMW) took place at the Menzies's Hotel in Sydney on Friday 13 March. The PMW was highly successful with the venue packed to capacity, over 400 anaesthetists were represented! Stay tuned for further announcements regarding the date and venue of the 2010 PMW.

ASA Awards and Grants for 2009

The new ASA Awards and Grants Program for 2009 is available [here](#). Please remember that the deadline for applications for the awards and grants is 30 June 2009. Don't hesitate to apply!

The Australasian Regional Anaesthesia Collaboration (ARAC)

We need your help collecting data! The Regional Anaesthesia Special Interest Group endorses the ARAC aimed at collecting accurate and meaningful data on complications of peripheral nerve/plexus blockade and invites all anaesthetists from anaesthesia groups and departments (public, private, large or small) to participate. Please visit www.regional.anaesthesia.org.au, for more details or contact [Dr Michael Barrington](#).

Upcoming Events

We are looking forward to the ASA's 68th National Scientific Congress which this year will be held at the Darwin Convention Centre from 5 to 8 September 2009. More information can be found at www.asa2009.com

For information on the Australian Symposium on Ultrasound and Regional Anaesthesia (ASURA), which will be held 20 to 23 November 2009 please click here www.asura2009.anaesthesia.org.au

Diners Club

Should you have any queries relating to your card and media statements please call the Diners Club customer call centre on 1300 360 060.

Do you enjoy photography?

We are looking for anaesthesia-related photos for our publications. For more information please contact Avril Cronk at the ASA HQ on (02) 9327 4022 or send your photos to acronk@fed.asa.org.au