

“Adrenaline Rush”

E-Newsletter for the New Zealand Resuscitation Council

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Editorial

The greatest feature of the Resuscitation Community of New Zealand is how we are all so keen to help out and contribute. We are a small but passionate group. While sometimes we see our size as a limitation it can in fact be our greatest asset.

Lately my main efforts have been directed towards trying to ‘save’ my very threatened Intensive Care Unit – 24 sewerage leaks in 4 years is not a good look for New Zealand's busiest Critical Care! With this little distraction, the conference, the guideline review, the policy development etc etc, sadly something had to give. It has been Adrenaline Rush.

Concerned that he hadn't been receiving any editions lately (like the rest of you!) Paul Winder, our Great Southern Man [you can tell he's from Southland because of his six fingers and he can't say purple properly], approached me lately offering to help.

Thus it is with some sadness, but also with great pleasure (as I know he will be more reliable than I have been) that I hand over the editorial reins to Paul. I won't be gone from Adrenaline Rush completely though as I will still be making my contribution as the Chair of the Medical Advisory Committee.

If you wish to make a contribution you can either send it on to me or Paul.

From the Chair

The Executive Committee and members of the Medical Advisory Committee of the NZRC had a useful meeting with Ian Jacobs (Chairman) and Peter Morley (Deputy Chairman) of the ARC during the recent NZRC conference held in Auckland. The discussion focussed on ways in which the 2 Councils could work most effectively together. The ARC and the NZRC together collaborate as “ANZCOR” (Australian and New Zealand Committee on Resuscitation) to participate in the International Committee on Resuscitation (ILCOR). ILCOR has membership is set by regions rather than individual national resuscitation councils (e.g. the European Resuscitation Council, the Resuscitation Councils of Asia) with some very rough approximation of number of delegates allocated according to size of region. ANZCOR has 3 delegates to ILCOR, 2 from Australia and 1 from New Zealand.

At our recent meeting we agreed that since it has been the long standing commitment of both Councils to release unified resuscitation guidelines, that we would release these new guidelines with ANZCOR as the issuing organisation for both countries. Experts from both the ARC and the NZRC will jointly revise the current guidelines to incorporate any changes necessary with the release of the ILCOR CoSTR statements in October of this year. Those people participating in this work have confidential pre-publication access to the consensus statements and recommendations. This is an important step forward in achieving consistency and portability of resuscitation training/credentials

between Australia and New Zealand and sets the scene for further co-operation with respect to training materials, research, conferences and other activity.

I will be in the UK on sabbatical from September 2010 to Jan 2011. I would like to hold a general meeting of Council prior to September in order to make sure that everybody is well informed regarding guideline reviews and the revision of our educational resources. My intention is to spend some of the time available during my sabbatical for revising the NZRC resources in order to have them ready for publication in early 2011. We will set a date for the next general meeting of the NZRC and circulate this in the near future.

Medical Advisory Committee

Well "On the Horizon" is now over the horizon. I am sure you would all agree that this year's conference was one of the best, if not the best conference we have ever held. The standard of the facilities, the organisation, the presentations were out-standing.

To this end I am greatly indebted to the wonderful organisation skills of Lindsay Mildenhall and Gabrielle Nuttall as well as Louise Watson from the conference organisers.

This year was always going to be a big year for the Medical Advisory Committee though with the impending guideline review, policy statement development, and resource re-editing. July will see a delegation crossing the Tasman to work together with our Australian counterparts towards ANZCOR documents. Personally, I am really looking forward to this. Watch this space!

From the CINZ Chair

I must admit that it took me a while to recover from "On the Horizon". The event was one of the largest and most successful meetings organised by the NZRC and for me personally one of the most enjoyable. The conference content and also the opportunity to network and catch up with colleagues from around New Zealand and Australia proved both enlightening and informative. Our invited overseas guests and local presenters contributed to a quality forum. There was healthy discussion and debate and also the opportunity to interact with industry representatives.

The conference social evening provided fine food and entertainment. It was also a fitting backdrop for the awarding of the Sir David Hay medal to Duncan Galletly for the enormous contribution that he made to the NZRC and his vision that is now the CORE framework. Congratulations go to Chris Hendry who was awarded the CORE 3 Instructor trophy and to Anna Lawson and the team from Wanganui who received the CORE 4-7 Instructor trophy.

Of course the conference was preceded by the CINZ workshop. It's always difficult to put together a workshop for those at the top of their game. Rob Frengley managed to surpass previous efforts. The theme of this year's workshop again focused on the "human factors" associated with teamwork and was an excellent follow-on from our previous meetings. The day long contributions made by Rob, Jane Torrie, Kaylene Henderson, Brian Robinson, Caroline Zhou, Sean Cope and Tim Skinner were well

received by all participants. On behalf of all of us that participated, many thanks to you all. The feedback that I have received from delegates has been very positive and the meeting has again been an outstanding success.

The 2010 CINZ Annual General meeting followed the workshops and as Chairman, I was pleased to be able to report on the many positive events that have occurred over the previous year. These included a summary of the NZRC's strategic plan, the "Closing the Loop" meeting and the development of Adrenaline Rush as an information medium. Thanks were extended to Steve Jenkins and Andy Swain for their individual contributions to Education Committee and also to Steve, Andy Davies, Chris Craig and Sarah Walker for their contributions to CORE Instructor training. I'm also pleased to report that the meeting unanimously passed a motion to carry over the existing CINZ Executive.

Kevin Nation



Figure 1 Paul Winder congratulates Anna Lawson



Figure 2 Chris Hendry and the CORE 3 Instructor Trophy



Figure 3 Andy Swain discussing important stuff with Jerry Nolan



Figure 4 Steve Jenkins and Sean Fitzell from Palmerston North

Letters to the Editor

Hi Rob,

Thought you might like to include this little funny in the next Adrenaline Rush....

At a CORE course I was doing recently I had a couple of junior doctors in the class. We had had a great day and I was marking the tests.

For those who are familiar with the Level 7A test you will know this question:

"List three possible treatments for hyperkalaemia"

Here is one of his answers that I did not expect..... "Take the banana out of the patients mouth".

I certainly had a good laugh at that one and he also went onto list some more clinically driven answers!

Regards

Anna

Anna Lawson
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So its time for me to sign-out as 'Editor in Chief' for Adrenaline Rush. Good luck Paul!
(p.s. Never mind me, good luck at getting Richard's contributions to you on time!)