



EOH Assembly Newsletter

Edited by David Tollerud, Assembly Chair



Winter 2004

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Message from the Chair

David Tollerud

Welcome to the Winter 2004 EOH Assembly newsletter. As assembly chair, I have had a front-row seat to watch the post-separation transition of the ATS to a strong, independent, financially stable and energized organization. I have been deeply impressed with both the leadership and the membership of our organization. Deliberations at the Board level have repeatedly demonstrated the leadership's thoughtful commitment to the vision of the ATS as the pre-eminent professional organization for respiratory health professionals and researchers. Building on strong leadership of the past, and looking forward to the leadership of the future, we are indeed in good hands.

For the EOH assembly, perhaps the most exciting news concerns the website, as described elsewhere in the newsletter. Akshay Sood and his website editorial committee have done a remarkable job in elevating the EOH site and its content to attract ATS-wide attention. I would encourage all assembly members to explore the wealth of information and valuable

internet links provided by the site. Congratulations, Akshay!

The Program Committee, under the able leadership of Stephanie London, has again put together an excellent scientific program for the Orlando meeting. Susan Tarlo and the Planning Committee have sifted through the projects submitted for ATS funding and continue to generate new ideas for future initiatives as ATS finances allow for more project funding support. An exciting new initiative this year is the opportunity for assembly members to target their Fund for the Future donations to support assembly activities and projects. I encourage all assembly members to consider a charitable gift to support the continued growth of the ATS. Finally, Susan has also led an ad hoc committee to organize and seek funding for an assembly dinner at future International Conferences.

Other matters of interest to the assembly include the EOH Section on Terrorism and Bioterrorism Defense under the continued able leadership of Mark Framp-

ton, and advocacy activities spearheaded by the Washington office. The ATS is filing an amicus curiae or "friend of the court" petition in support of 14 states and the American Lung Association in their litigation to stop the EPA from enforcing new rules that would allow for an increase in air pollution from power plants and other industrial facilities, and ATS has provided comments on medical aspects of new asbestos compensation legislation. Finally, Tee Guidotti has testified on behalf of ATS on issues related to an ongoing NIOSH review of the B Reader program.

It has been a busy and productive year for the assembly, and I appreciate all of the efforts of the many assembly members who have contributed their talents and time to the society. Mark your calendar for the assembly membership meeting. See you in Orlando!



Planning Committee

Planning committee members for the coming year

Susan M Tarlo (Committee Chair)
David Tollerud (EOH Assembly Chair)
Akshay Sood (EOH Webmaster)
Josep Anto
Mark Frampton
Hillel Koren
Stephanie London
Benoit Nemery
Kent Pinkerton
Isabelle Romieu
Frances Silverman
Adam Wisniewski
Susanna von Essen

The committee welcomes suggestions from any EOH Assembly member for new

Assembly projects or other ideas.

Current Assembly projects include:

A workshop on Stress and Asthma, project chaired by Rosalind Wright, to be held Friday Oct 1-Sunday Oct 3rd 2004, Arlington, Virginia. Registration is available to those interested at <http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/eoh/savethedate.asp> (registration fee \$200). Monica Simeonova can provide more registration information, msimeonova@thoracic.org.

A workshop on Occupational Asthma (the 2nd Jack

Pepys Workshop), to be held in Toronto immediately before the ATS meeting in Orlando, on May 21st, 22nd 2004, (project chairs Susan Tarlo, Jean-Luc Malo, Moira Chan-Young and Benoit Nemery). Over 50 invited international participants will present an overview of current knowledge and discuss new directions and controversial issues. Registration for additional interested participants is \$275 (Canadian) and details can be obtained from Joan Stulac Stulacj@smh.toronto.on.ca.

Other Assembly projects include an updating of the ATS statement on health

effects of tremolite (chaired by Michael Lipsett), and ongoing preparation of an Asbestos statement.

The EOH Assembly Planning committee will meet in Orlando on Sunday May 23rd from 12noon-1:30pm.

The Planning Committee is also exploring the possibility of having an Assembly dinner in the future.

What's new at the ATS-EOH Assembly Web-page

Akshay Sood

Year 2003-2004 was an exceptional year for the ATS-EOH assembly web page. The web page (<http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/eoh/default.asp>) finally shed its bare-bones look and established its presence at the ATS web site in a big way. The ATS Web Editorial Board formally recognized the assembly's increasing cyber-presence by upgrading its status to a 'section'. The assembly welcome page got a new exciting look and the 'EOH CME

Calendar' was launched this year. A major boost to our readership came from our 'Clinical Cases'. This area on the web page was amply used to announce new and emerging environmental and occupational lung diseases such as 'Popcorn lung', 'Inhalational injury from illicit methamphetamine production', and 'Hot tub lung' in an interactive and illustrated format. In addition, the 'EOH links' area on the web page allows easy access to useful Internet

resources in the field of EOH, including specialized clinical tests that are available only at select sites in North America. The area on 'EOH Training and Educational Opportunities' lists such programs for easy and convenient access.

What should you expect to read at the EOH assembly and section web pages in the near future? An Epidemiology-on-the-Net site, Palm loadable document on pulmonary function tests and

EOH Links to the Gene Express among other exciting postings are being developed. The EOH assembly also invites individuals to submit material for publication at its website. Work submitted is peer reviewed before being posted on the site.

ATS International Conference – Orlando, 2004

Below is a list of symposia, minisymposia, poster discussion and thematic poster sessions that have been programmed by the EOH program committee. We

thought that this might be of assistance to some members in planning their ATS travel before the official program comes out. As you can see we have EOH sessions over

each of the four days and hope that you will be able to attend for the entire meeting. Not listed here are a number of sessions programmed by other assemblies that EOH is

co-sponsoring because we believe that the content is of interest to our members. Please refer to the Final Program for co-sponsored sessions.

ATS Assembly On Environmental & Occupational Health 2004 Orlando Sessions

Date/Time	Session Code	SYMPOSIA
<i>Sun. 5/23 1:30-4:15 pm</i>	A78	Emerging Issues In Air Pollution: What's Hot, What's Not?
<i>Mon. 5/24 8:15-11:00 am</i>	B7	The Workplace Contribution To Chronic Airway Disease
<i>Mon. 5/24 1:30-4:15 pm</i>	B79	COPD: Genetics, Biology, And Clinical Aspects
<i>Wed. 5/26 8:15-11:00 am</i>	D7	Agricultural Exposures And Respiratory Health: A Neglected Occupational Target
SUNRISE SEMINARS		
<i>Mon. 5/24 7:00-8:00 am</i>	SS112	The Indoor Air And Asthma
<i>Tues. 5/25 7:00-8:00 am</i>	SS214	Airborne Chemical Agents Of Bioterrorism
<i>Wed. 5/26 7:00-8:00 am</i>	SS313	The Obesity Epidemic: How Does It Weigh In On The Pulmonologist?
MEET THE PROFESSORS		
<i>Sun. 5/23 12:00-1:00 pm</i>	MP412	Early Detection Of Lung Cancer
<i>Mon. 5/24 12:00-1:00 pm</i>	MP512	Molds In Our House – A Health Hazard?
<i>Tues. 5/25 12:00-1:00 pm</i>	MP 614	The Use Of Induced Sputum In The Assessment Of Occupational Lung Diseases
MINI-SYMPOSIA		
<i>Sun., 5/23 12:00-1:00 pm</i>	A13	Air Pollution Health Effects In Children
<i>Mon. 5/24 8:15-10:45 am</i>	B14	The Hygiene Hypothesis Revisited – Infections, Endotoxin, And Pets In Asthma And Allergy
<i>Mon. 5/24 1:30-4:15 pm</i>	B83	Occupational Asthma: Diagnosis And Identification Of Agents
<i>Tues. 5/25 8:15-11:00 am</i>	C15	Particulate Air Pollution: A Source Of Oxidative Damage?
<i>Tues. 5/25 1:30-4:15 pm</i>	C85	Tobacco Smoke Exposure In Early Life



ATS Assembly On Environmental & Occupational Health 2004 Orlando Sessions cont'd

Date/Time	Session Code	POSTER DISCUSSION SESSION
<i>Sun. 5/23 8:15-11:00 am</i>	A26	Occupational Lung Disease Update
<i>Mon. 5/24 8:15-11:00 am</i>	B24	Particulate Air Pollution: Mechanisms Of Health Effects
<i>Mon. 5/24 1:30-4:15 pm</i>	B95	Ozone Health Effects
<i>Tues. 5/25 8:15-11:00 am</i>	C24	Genetics And Genomics In Environmental Health
<i>Tues. 5/25 8:15-11:00 am</i>	C25	Adult Asthma: Epidemiological And Clinical Update
<i>Tues. 5/25 1:30-4:15 pm</i>	C93	Diet And Lung Disease
<i>Wed. 5/26 1:30-4:15 pm</i>	D94	Particles And Cardiovascular Disease

THEMATIC POSTERS

<i>Mon. 5/24 8:15 am-4:15 pm</i>	B45	Adult Asthma
<i>Mon. 5/24 8:15 am-4:15 pm</i>	B46	Allergens, Endotoxin, And Tobacco Smoke In The Environment
<i>Tues. 5/25 8:15 am-4:15 pm</i>	C52	Environmental And Occupational Pulmonary Toxicology
<i>Tues. 5/25 8:15 am-4:15 pm</i>	C53	Occupational Lung Disease
<i>Tues. 5/25 8:15 am-4:15 pm</i>	C54	Occupational Asthma
<i>Tues. 5/25 8:15 am-4:15 pm</i>	C55	Air Pollution: Health Effects And Mechanisms

Occupational Asthma Workshop

Jack Pepys

Friday May 21st and Saturday morning May 22nd 2004 in **Toronto**, Ontario, Canada (just before the ATS Annual Meeting)

Supported by the American Thoracic Society, Ontario WSIB, Quebec IRRST and CSST, and CIHR

Location: The Residence Amphitheatre, Gerrard St, Toronto (opposite Toronto

General Hospital)
60 International invited participants and up to 100 registrants

Objectives:

Discuss and present topics covering various aspects of occupational asthma by specialists in this area

Offer to a general audience a state-of-the-art exposure to a wide range of aspects of occupational asthma

International Advisory Committee:

Susan M Tarlo
David Bernstein
Jean-Luc Malo
Cristina Mapp
Moira Chan-Yeung
Anthony Newman-Taylor
Benoit Nemery

Information

General information: Dr Susan M Tarlo, MB BS FRCP(C)

Toronto Western Hospital, EC4-009

399 Bathurst St,
Toronto,
Ont M5T 2S8

E-mail:
susan.tarlo@utoronto.ca
Registration fee \$275
(including breakfasts, Friday lunch and dinner)

Registrations via Joan Stulac, Stulacj@smh.toronto.on.ca

The ATS Statement On Health Effects Of Tremolite And Related Amphiboles

Marc Schenker

The committee has produced a draft statement that is being revised and reviewed by the committee. It is expected that a final draft of

the statement will be completed this spring before the Annual Meeting. The committee has worked hard to include recent work on the

subject, address relevant mineralogical and exposure data as well as health effects, and provide a basis for sound public health policy.

We look forward to presenting the statement to the ATS board for review and dissemination.

ATS-DLD-78 Respiratory Disease Questionnaire

George O'Connor

The committee developing a revision of the ATS-DLD-78 Respiratory Disease Questionnaire has developed a near-final draft of a revised

adult questionnaire, and a draft pediatric questionnaire is following close behind. The adult questionnaire has been sent for external re-

view, and formal assessment of reading level and layout will be undertaken soon. A study comparing responses between the 1978 version

and the new version is planned. It is hoped that adult and pediatric questionnaires will be ready for dissemination later in 2004.

Diagnosis of Nonmalignant Diseases Related to Asbestos

Tee Guidotti

The Committee on the Diagnosis of Nonmalignant Diseases Related to Asbestos has finished its deliberations and has prepared its report providing criteria for diag-

nosis. The document was approved by the Board of Directors of ATS on 13 December 2003. This document is in the final stages of revision to take into account

suggestions arising from the Board's review and will be submitted to *AJRCCM* shortly. The Committee is also collecting graphic representations of both typical

and unusual presentations of nonmalignant asbestos-related disease to illustrate the document and for *AJRCCM's* web-based archival resource.

Slate of candidates nominated for the EOH assembly

We now have a complete slate of candidates nominated for the EOH assembly:

Please come to the EOH Assembly meeting on Monday May 24th 4:30pm – 6:30pm to vote!

Assembly Chair (2005-7)

Susan Tarlo
Carrie Redlich

Program Committee Chair-elect (2004-5)

Kent Pinkerton
Jack Harkema
Maritta Jaakkola

Nominating Committee Members (2004-5)

Isabelle Romieu
Josep Anto
Akshay Sood
Steve Kleeberger



CME Opportunity

STRESS AND ASTHMA WORKSHOP

October 1-3, 2004, Arlington, VA

Co-sponsored by the American Thoracic Society, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) and the Fetzer Institute

We would like to invite you to a multi-disciplinary Workshop on Stress and Asthma which will be held in Arlington, VA from October 1 - 3, 2004. This workshop brings together experts both within and outside the fields of asthma and allergy to bridge overlapping human and animal research providing insights into links between stress and asthma and allergy development and disease expression. Observations from both clinical experience and empirical research discussed in this workshop also promises to influence how we go forward in understanding disparities in asthma morbidity.

The goals of the Workshop are:

- To address the issue of measuring stress in scientific studies including the challenge of inferring psychological factors (i.e., stress) from physiological signals (hormonal, autonomic, immune)
- To identify pathways or mechanisms that may link stress to lung disease morbidity
- To integrate experimental knowledge from basic science, animal research, and human studies and address future directions for research

in this important area

- To consider stress as an environmental factor that may help explain socioeconomic and ethnic disparities in asthma

The Workshop will generate a consensus document on the state of knowledge, the most promising new hypotheses, and critical research needs projected over the next few years.

For more information, please go to <http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/eoh/savethedate.asp>. To register please go to <http://www.thoracic.org/>

assemblies/eoh/docs/regform.doc and download the registration form. If you have any questions regarding the Workshop, please contact Monica Simeonova at the ATS Office at msimeonova@thoracic.org, tel.: 212-315-8696.

Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR)

Paula Polite

Patients to Speak At Nine Designated ATS International Conference Symposia

The Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) has selected patients to provide a patient perspective at nine of the 2004 ATS International Conference Symposia. This concept has worked exceptionally well within the for-

mat of the PAR Symposia, which were held at the 2002 and 2003 International Conferences. Three of the patient speakers are members of the PAR; however the majority of the patients were recruited by members of the PAR.

This is the first year that patient speakers will partici-

pate within the Assemblies' Symposia. The patients will make a five-minute presentation at the symposia to offer insight into their personal journeys; to address their diagnosis, treatment, and how the disease has dramatically altered their lifestyles, family, career and relationships. They will share their insight into what

patients would like physicians and researchers to know about physician/patient relationships; and the importance and relevance of the work in which investigators and researchers are engaged.

The symposia at which a patient-perspective will be presented are listed below:

Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) cont'd

Assembly	Session Code	Title	Date/Time
BS	C8	Helping Teens Breathe Easier	Tues. 5/25/04 – 8:15am-11:00am
CP	D3	New And Emerging Developments In Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency	Weds. 5/26/04 – 8:15am-11:00am
CC	B74	Surviving Intensive Care – Theory And Practice Of Optimizing ICU Care For Better Long-Term Recovery	Mon. 5/24/04 – 1:15pm-4:15pm
EOH	B79	COPD: Genetics, Biology And Clinical Aspects	Mon. 5/24/04 – 1:15pm-4:15pm
MTPI	C5	Management Of Lung Disease Due To Nontuberculous Mycobacteria	Tues. 5/25/04 – 8:15am-11:00am
NUR	A76	Clinical Considerations In The Care Of The Patient With Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis	Sun. 5/23/04 – 1:15pm-4:15pm
PEDS	D5	Redefining Pediatric Obstructive Sleep Disordered Breathing (SDB) In The 21 st Century: From Arbitrary Thresholds To Evidence-Based Diagnostic Criteria	Weds. 5/26/04 – 8:15am-11:00am
PC	B72	Pulmonary Hypertension: More Than Just PPH	Mon. 5/24/04 – 1:15pm-4:15pm
RCMB	B77	At The Interface Of Injury And Repair: Cellular And Development Basis Of (Re)Modeling In Lung Disease	Mon. 5/24/04 – 1:15pm-4:15pm



***Environmental and Occupational
Health Assembly Membership Meeting***

**Monday May 24th
4:30pm-6:30pm**

**ROSEN PLAZA HOTEL
(Salon 4 Level 2)**