

# CRITICAL CARE ASSEMBLY NEWSLETTER

EDITED BY JORDI MANCEBO, MD, ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN

## Message from the Assembly Chair

Jordi Mancebo, MD

### Officers of the CC Assembly:

*Assembly Chair*

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Dear Assembly on Critical Care Members,  
Warm greetings! This newsletter contains some information about the Assembly on Critical Care (CC) activities since the last ATS Interna-

tional Conference in May 2005 and about the 2006 International Conference, which will be held in San Diego, California, from May 19-24, 2006.

## Assembly on CC Projects

Clay Marsh, Planning Committee Chair

Assembly projects represent important activities of Assembly on CC members. Examples of current Assembly on CC projects are:

### 1. "International Consensus Conferences (ICC) in Critical Care"

These Conferences began in 1992 and have occurred at one to two year intervals. They were initially sponsored by the Société de Réanimation de Langue Française (SRLF), the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (ESICM) and the ATS. The European Respiratory Society (ERS) and the Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM) have also recently joined. Each Conference focuses on a critical care clinical issue about which there is some supporting evidence, but also substantial controversy. The format for the Conferences includes "expert testimony" and extensive discussions on several key questions pertinent to the topic. A consensus report is then

prepared by a "jury" and published in sponsoring societies' journals and websites. Earlier topics included: tissue hypoxia, ventilator-associated lung injury, non-invasive ventilation, ICU-acquired pneumonia, challenges in end-of-life care, pancreatitis and weaning from mechanical ventilation. Last April in Paris, France, a new conference on Hemodynamic monitoring in shock and implications for management was held. Amal Jubran, M.D., and Constantine Manthous, M.D., are the Assembly on CC representatives to the ICC organizing committee.

### 2. "Scholarship Grant for Young Fellows of Developing Countries"

This project is organized by our Assembly International Affairs Committee, chaired by Elisa Estenssoro, M.D. Its purpose is to provide assistance to promising young academic physicians of developing countries

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## Assembly on CC Projects cont'd

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so they can attend the ATS International Conference.

Candidates must be younger than 40 years of age and work in the field of critical care in their countries of origin. We are grateful to the ATS for approving funds for our initiative. Since FY 2003 we have been able to deliver five awards each year. This year, however, the ATS has approved funding for the Trainee International Travel Award Program, an ATS-wide program that will allow assemblies to provide funds to a number of individuals. You can find details about the project in the Newsletter.

### 3. "Prioritizing the Organization and Management of Intensive Care Services" (PrOMIS)

This project is an important sequel to two previous Assembly Projects. In 2000, the Committee on Manpower and Critical Care Societies (COMPACCS), which consists of representatives of the ATS, the SCCM and the American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP), published a report in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) that focused on the growing shortage of critical care providers in the United States. This effort was followed by Framing Options for Criti-

cal Care in the United States (FOCCUS), which consists of representatives of the SCCM, the American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACN) and the ACCP, as well as the ATS. FOCCUS prepared several reports to summarize the professional societies' recommendations for improving the quality, efficiency and availability of critical care services in the future. PrOMIS is another effort of the same four societies. The purpose of PrOMIS is to broaden the discussion and consensus by gaining input from other "stakeholder" groups, including patients, insurance companies and representatives of federal and state health care programs. The stakeholder groups were identified and representatives were invited to join the discussions. Organized by Drs Barnato, Angus and Rubinfeld the meeting was held September 7th and 8th outside Washington DC and a manuscript detailing the proceedings and recommendations is in its final stages of preparation. A preliminary draft of this manuscript has been submitted to the leaders of the four sponsoring professional societies.

This FY 2006, the ATS Board of Directors approved limited funding

for a new project proposal "Quality improvement activities, human subjects protection and professional ethical integrity". The leader of this project is Michael A. Rie, M.D.

These Assembly projects are directly related to the goals of the ATS. The ATS provides strong support for our Assembly projects. Some support is provided by ATS staff, who assist with organizing meetings, mailings, fundraising, etc. The ATS also provides substantial monetary support for many of our Assembly's projects.

Assembly members are encouraged to organize new projects and to apply for ATS support. New assembly project applications will be available at the ATS website at [www.thoracic.org](http://www.thoracic.org). If you would like more information about current and future assembly projects, please contact Jordi Mancebo, M.D., Chair of the Assembly on CC, via e-mail at [jmancebo@santpau.es](mailto:jmancebo@santpau.es).

## Please Consider Submitting an Assembly/Committee Project Application For Funding in FY2007

For your information, the FY2007 (January 1-December 31, 2007) project application forms for Assembly/Committee projects will be available on the ATS website in April 2006 at:

<http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/projectform.asp>.

Please consider submitting an application for an Assembly/Committee project. If you have an idea for a

project application and you need assistance, please contact your Assembly Planning Committee chair Antonio Anzueto at [anzueto@uthscsa.edu](mailto:anzueto@uthscsa.edu).

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## Please Consider Submitting an Assembly/Committee Project Application For Funding in FY2007 cont'd

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The timeline for the application and review process follows:

April 2006: FY2007 forms are available.

July 25, 2006: Assembly/Committee project applications are due to the ATS office. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Early-mid August 2006: abridged versions of the proposals will be posted on the ATS site and emails will be sent to ATS Leadership, Assembly Planning Committee Chairs, Assembly Chairs, ATS Committee Chairs, appropriate ATS staff and the PRS committee, to notify them that the current, un-reviewed proposals are available. This will give everyone an opportunity to touch base with any of the applicants if

they would like to get involved with a project before it goes to the PRS for review.

August-18, 2006: Assembly Planning Committees will meet via conference call to review appropriate proposals. Any proposal that has indicated on the form that a specific ATS committee may want to become involved will be sent to the ATS committee chair and to the appropriate staff member. Committees are encouraged to work with appropriate ATS staff and review any proposals and to send recommendations to the applicant and to the PRS.

September, 2006: Revised proposals and all reviews from Assemblies and Committees are due to ATS office. This includes any proposal that

has revisions based on a review by an Assembly Planning Committee or an ATS Committee.

Early October 2006: Program Review Sub-Committee (PRS) meeting.

Early November 2006: Program & Budget Committee (P&B) meeting. Recommendations from the PRS will be provided to the P&B Committee. At the discretion of the P&B Committee, specific projects will be added to the FY2007 budget as new items.

December 2006: ATS Board reviews FY 2007 Budget.

Please contact Elisha Malanga with any questions at tel: 212/315-8693 or email: [emalanga@thoracic.org](mailto:emalanga@thoracic.org)

## Get Involved in our Assembly

Most members of the ATS look forward to the International Conference because it is a premier opportunity for scientific exchange, clinical updates, renewing past relationships and developing new collabo-

rations. There are many opportunities for members to stay involved with ATS activities between meetings. Please consider volunteering for one of the Assembly's Committees, for an ongoing Assembly pro-

ject, or to develop a new Assembly project. Interested parties should send a note to Jordi Mancebo, M.D., Chair of the Assembly on CC, via e-mail at [jmancebo@santpau.es](mailto:jmancebo@santpau.es) or to the Chair-elect.

## Assembly on Critical Care Website ([www.thoracic.org](http://www.thoracic.org))

The ATS website, [www.thoracic.org](http://www.thoracic.org) contains enormous amounts of useful information for clinicians, researchers and the lay public. The Assembly on CC section of the ATS website specifically features scientific statements, practice guidelines, literature reviews, a critical care journal club, an educational primer

on pulmonary artery catheters and information for patients and families. Recently added material includes evidence-based guidelines, an atlas of critical care procedures, critical care research and critical care ethics. A primer on mechanical ventilation will be added soon.

Assembly members are strongly encouraged to visit these pages, become familiar with their contents and tell others about this valuable resource (membership with the ATS is not required to view these pages). Many thanks are due to Ogie Gajic, M.D., who has been our website

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## Assembly on Critical Care Website (www.thoracic.org) cont'd

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director from May 2003 till January 2006 and did an outstanding job. Ogie's team of web assistants included Thomas Belda, R.R.T., Cons Manthous, M.D. (who formerly served as web director for the Assembly on CC), Michael Pinsky, M.D., Marc Moss, M.D., Ivor Douglas, M.D., Manu Jain, M.D., Otis Rickman, M.D., Emir Festic, M.D., John McArdle, M.D., Marcus Schultz, M.D., Ph.D., and Ellen Burnham, M.D. They have worked

very hard to make many additions and improvements, making these web pages very useful and frequently- visited sites. Ogie and his team all deserve my most sincere congratulations. Unders Ogie's tenure, our website dramatically improved. Our newly appointed website director is David Kaufman, M.D. David and his team will lead the migration process to the new ATS web pages and I hope they will continue working to make our CC

Assembly website even more successful. Please visit the Assembly on CC section of the website soon and send your feedback to David ( david.kaufman@mssm.edu ) and his website team.

I hope to see you in San Diego!

Best wishes to all –  
 Jordi Mancebo, M.D.  
 Chair, ATS Assembly on Critical Care

## Scholarship Grant for Young Fellows of Developing Countries

The project *Scholarship Grant for Young Fellows of Developing Countries* of the Critical Care Assembly started in 2003, and since then, more than 300 young doctors practicing critical care in developing countries have applied. By sending a short letter and CV, five awardees per year were chosen by the International Affairs Committee (IAC) members to attend the ATS International Conference. This has been a rather difficult task for IAC members, given the great enthusiasm, commitment and expertise shown by most applicants.

This year there will be some changes. The ATS International Lung Health Committee has finally developed a proposal to centralize International Travel Awards, in-

stead of having an individual Assembly travel award program. We were aware of this initiative, and also have been consulted about it, given the prolonged experience the IAC has had in the issue. We are proud to say that the new project is very similar to the one of the CC Assembly.

The bad news for us is that, until the whole project gets sufficient funds, there will be only three awards available for our Assembly. This however, represents an increase of the initial number of awards in the proposal and thanks to the efforts of the ATS Leadership this is going to be effective this year, which gives our assembly the total of 8 awards. Let's hope that the future fundrais-

ing efforts of the International Lung Health Committee become effective very soon, in order to keep on with the mission of the IAC: to foster the involvement of international members in the ATS and to attract more young people to the International Conference.

Lastly, the IAC announces the results of the 2006 Scholarship Grant for Young Fellows of Developing Countries: The awardees are: Olufunke O. Adeyeye (Nigeria); Ahmed Nuhu Zakariah (Ghana); Pedja Kovacevic (Bosnia); Wang Yu (China), and Olexandr Maslovsky (Ukraine). Our congratulations to all!

Elisa Estenssoro, MD

### ATS ASSEMBLY ON CRITICAL CARE 2006 SAN DIEGO SESSIONS

#### POSTGRADUATE COURSES

#### Friday, May 19

PG5	Ventilatory Management Of Patients With ARDS: A Critical Review Of Ongoing Controversies	8:00 am	4:00 pm
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**ATS ASSEMBLY ON CRITICAL CARE  
2006 SAN DIEGO SESSIONS cont'd**

**POSTGRADUATE COURSES Cont'd**Friday, May 19

PG6	Interpreting And Implementing Clinical Research In The ICU - Opportunities And Pitfalls Beyond (Or Before!) The RCT	8:00 am	4:00 pm
PG7	American Board Of Internal Medicine/ American Thoracic Society Sep Review In Critical Care Medicine: Built Around Critical Care Module 22R Recent Advances	8:00 am	4:00 pm

Saturday, May 20

PG12	Sepsis: Contemporary Epidemiology, Pathophysiology And Clinical Management	8:00 am	11:30 am
PG13	Monitoring In The ICU	1:00 pm	4:30 pm
PG18	How And When To Safely Apply Non-Invasive Ventilation (NIV)	8:00 am	4:00 pm

**CRITICAL CARE TRACK**Sunday, May 21

A4	Volume-And-Pressure Limited Mechanical Ventilation In ARDS: Translating Data Into Clinical Practice	8:15 am	11:00 am
A74	Fluid Therapy: Where It Makes A Difference	1:30 pm	4:15 pm

Monday, May 22

B4	Ventilator-Induced Lung Injury: From The Bench To The Bedside	8:15 am	11:00 am
B74	Genetic Influences On The Susceptibility To And Outcome Of Critical	1:30 pm	4:15 pm

Tuesday, May 23

C4	Prophylactic Therapy In The ICU: Preventing Complications Before They Occur	8:15 am	11:00 am
C74	Neuro-Critical Care: The Brain And Beyond	1:30 pm	4:15 pm

Wednesday, May 24

D4	Evidence Based Medicine: Evidence vs. Practice	8:15 am	11:00 am
D74	Mechanical Ventilation: Advances In Application And Liberation	1:30 pm	4:15 pm

**SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM**Tuesday, May 23

C7	Clinical Studies In The Pediatric ICU: Update From The Pediatric Acute Lung Injury And Sepsis Investigator's (PALISI) Network	8:15 am	11:00 am
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**EVENING POSTGRADUATE SEMINARS**Sunday, May 21

E5	Improving Survival In COPD: An Achievable Goal	7:00 pm	9:00 pm
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Tuesday, May 23

E13	Treating The Inflammatory Component Of COPD: A Promising Future	7:00 pm	9:00 pm
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**ATS ASSEMBLY ON CRITICAL CARE  
2006 SAN DIEGO SESSIONS cont'd**

**CLINICAL WORKSHOP****Monday, May 22**

WS4	Promoting Excellence For Palliative Care In The ICU: Report Of The Robert Wood Johnson Demonstration Projects	12:00 pm	1:30 pm
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**SUNRISE SEMINARS****Monday, May 22**

SS111	Monitoring Sedation And Delirium In The ICU	7:00 am	8:00 am
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**Tuesday, May 23**

SS212	Developing A Medical Emergency Or Rapid Response Team	7:00 am	8:00 am
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**Wednesday, May 24**

SS312	Inspiratory Muscle Rehabilitation In The Difficult To Wean Patient	7:00 am	8:00 am
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**MEET THE PROFESSOR SESSIONS****Sunday, May 21**

MP412	Using Ventilator And Vascular Waveforms At The Bedside To Manage Cardiopulmonary Dysfunction	12:00 pm	1:00 pm
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**Monday, May 22**

MP510	A "How To" On ICU Sedation Scoring And Monitoring Delirium In The Critically Ill	12:00 pm	1:00 pm
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**Tuesday, May 23**

MP613	Principles And Examples Of Hemodynamic Monitoring	12:00 pm	1:00 pm
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**MINI SYMPOSIA****Sunday, May 21**

A84	Delivery Of Quality ICU Care: From Protocols To Process Of Care	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
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**Monday, May 22**

B15	Genetic Predisposition To Acute Lung Injury And Sepsis	8:15 am	11:00 am
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B84	New Developments In Non-Invasive Ventilation	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
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**Tuesday, May 23**

C14	Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia - Latest Advances	8:15 am	11:00 am
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**Wednesday, May 24**

D85	ARDS/ALI: Clinical Investigations	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
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D86	Understanding The Effects Of ICU Care Beyond The Individual Patient	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
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**POSTER DISCUSSION SESSIONS****Sunday, May 21**

A23	Advances In Weaning From Mechanical Ventilation	8:15 am	11:00 am
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A95	Ventilator-Induced Lung Injury	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
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**ATS ASSEMBLY ON CRITICAL CARE  
2006 SAN DIEGO SESSIONS cont'd**

**POSTER DISCUSSION SESSIONS cont'd**

**Monday, May 22**

B24	Assessment Of Cardiac Performance In The ICU	8:15 am	11:00 am
B25	ICU Management And Outcome	8:15 am	11:00 am
B95	Sepsis: Broadening Our Understanding	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
C91	Emerging Issues And Controversies In Critical Care	1:30 pm	4:15 pm

**THEMATIC POSTER SESSIONS**

**Sunday, May 21**

A123	ALI: Basic Investigation	8:15 am	4:15 pm
A124	Critical Illness And Neuromuscular Disease	8:15 am	4:15 pm
A125	Mechanical Ventilation: Modes, Complications	8:15 am	4:15 pm

**Monday, May 22**

B111	ARDS/ALI: Physiology And Ventilation Strategies	8:15 am	4:15 pm
B112	ICU: Process Of Care, Outcomes, And Complications	8:15 am	4:15 pm

**Tuesday, May 23**

C126	Monitoring In The ICU	8:15 am	4:15 pm
C127	ALI: Mediators, Inhibitors, Signaling, Surfactant	8:15 am	4:15 pm
C128	Non-Invasive Ventilation	8:15 am	4:15 pm
C129	Mechanisms And Biomarkers Of Critical Illness	8:15 am	4:15 pm
C130	Miscellaneous Topics In Sepsis And Shock	8:15 am	4:15 pm

## ***Patients to Speak At Sixteen Designated ATS International Conference Symposia***

The ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (ATS PAR) has selected patients to provide a patient perspective at sixteen of the 2006 ATS International Conference Symposia. This concept has worked exceptionally well within the format of the PAR Symposia for the last four years and at over 25 ATS symposia at the 2004 and 2005 International Conferences.

This is the third year that patient speakers will participate 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:

## Patients to Speak At Sixteen Designated ATS International Conference Symposia Cont'd

ASSEMBLY	SESSION CODE	TITLE	DATE/TIME
AII	B7	Genotypic and Phenotypic Predictors of Response to Asthma Therapy: What do NHLBI Clinical Research Studies Tell Us?	Monday, May 22 8:15-11:00 am
BS	A7	Respiratory Lung Health and the Family: The Influence of Family on Adherence, Disease Management, and Health Outcomes	Sunday, May 21 8:15-11:00 am
BS	D9	Community Involvement in Pulmonary and Critical Care Research: What, Why and How?	Wednesday, May 24 8:15-11:00 am
CP	A2	Novel Outcomes for Novel Therapies in COPD	Sunday, May 21 8:15-11:00 am
CP	D2	Update in the Diagnosis and Management of Pulmonary Vasculitis	Wednesday, May 24 8:15-11:00 am
CC	B74	Genetic Influences on the Susceptibility To and Outcome of Critical Illness	Monday, May 22 1:30-4:15 pm
CC	C7	Clinical Studies in the Pediatric ICU: Update From the Pediatric Acute Lung Injury and Sepsis Investigator's (PALISI) Network	Tuesday, May 23 8:15-11:00 am
MTPI	C6	Diagnosis and Management of Nontuberculous Mycobacterial Infections - The New ATS Guidelines	Tuesday, May 23 8:15-11:00 am
NRSG	A8	Critical Care of the Geriatric Patient	Sunday, May 21 8:15-11:00 am
NRSG	B6	Biobehavioral Considerations in Prolonged Mechanical Ventilation	Monday, May 22 8:15-11:00 am
PED	A9	Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia: Not Just the Other Inherited Lung Disease	Sunday, May 21 8:15-11:00 am
PC	D75	Taking the Next Step, Improving Outcomes in Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension	Wednesday, May 24 1:30-4:15 pm
RCMB	B77	Evolving Concepts of Stem Cells and Lung Repair	Monday, May 22 1:30-4:15 pm
RCMB	D7	New Developments in the Genetics of Respiratory Disorders	Wednesday, May 24 8:15-11:00 am
RNS	D76	Sleep, Breathing and Metabolic Function	Wednesday, May 24 1:30-4:15 pm
RSF	A79	Impact of Smoking on Lung Function: Therapeutic Implications and Biological Mechanisms	Sunday, May 21 1:30-4:15 pm

### ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) Symposium and Poster Session

#### ATS PAR Symposium

The ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) is pleased to announce the fifth ATS PAR Symposium to be presented at the ATS International Conference in San Diego on Monday, May 22nd from 8:15-11:00 a.m. The topic will be "COPD and Comorbidities: Treating the Whole Pa-

tient" chaired by Sharon I. S. Rounds, M.D and John W. Walsh. The program includes the following:

- COPD As A Systemic Condition - S. I. S. Rounds, M.D., Providence, RI
- Panel: Experience of Patients With COPD And Co-

Morbidities - J. W. Walsh, Miami, FL

- COPD and Cardiovascular Disease - D. D. Sin, M.D., Vancouver, BC, Canada
- Obesity, Wasting and BODE Index - B. R. Celli, M.D., Boston, MA

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