



World Apheresis Association

November, 2020

NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Apheresis role in the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic

*Dear Members
of the World
Apheresis
Association.*

First of all, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the members of all of our societies for collaborating in my presidential continuum. As the president of the World Apheresis Association, it was my pleasure to have the opportunity to work with you. Honestly, everyone did their best, and the WAA has become one of the most influential apheresis organizations worldwide.



Fevzi Altuntas, MD
WAA President

As you know, the WAA was founded in 1986 with seven member societies; by the year 2020, I am honored to say that the WAA now represents 17 member societies as an international umbrella organization. We are glad to welcome two new member societies: the **Uzbekistan Hematology and Transfusiology Association** and the **Hematological Rare Diseases Society from Turkey**, which were approved as members during the WAA interim meeting in Portland, Oregon, USA.

Today, the WAA is undoubtedly one of the most prestigious organizations in its field. For that, I am grateful to every single one of our member societies who have worked hard to become much better. Everyone

under this umbrella of the WAA invigorates this organization.

Our Worldwide Apheresis Registry

In 2002, the WAA started a worldwide registry of therapeutic apheresis procedures. The WAA Registry is available for use by all member societies for data entry and analysis. As of today, over 80,000 procedures in more than 20,000 patients are included in the database, and many publications in peer-reviewed literature have used this database. I would like all of you to encourage others to join this registry whenever possible. With a strong registry, the WAA can facilitate large scale studies, and could provide new insight into internationally used indications, treatments, and adverse events.

Furthermore, I invite all our members to support the WAA journal, **Transfusion and Apheresis Science**, by sending their experiences and knowledge to increase international collaborations.

As a president of the WAA, I've had the opportunity of working with you towards achieving our mutual goals. We have to establish facilities that enable us to exchange information on all aspects of apheresis worldwide. Most diseases we deal with in the field of therapeutic apheresis are rare. Therefore, in order to verify the efficacy of treatment approaches in large

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**17th International Congress of
World Apheresis Association**
Harbiye Military Museum & Convention Center, Istanbul - TURKEY
New date: **OCTOBER 17 - 20, 2021**





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November 2020

THE WAA NEWSLETTER
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Our Sponsor

As we go to press near the end of this year and, because of Covid, many months after what was to be our publication date for distribution at the biannual meeting in April in Istanbul, we are delighted to bring you information from the member societies of the WAA. This newsletter has been sponsored by Terumo, one of the major corporations providing the sophisticated devices that make our procedures possible. To them, many thanks! To all of you, Happy New Year—may we meet again in 2021!



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Seventeen member-organizations of the WAA in 2020 (listed in alphabetical order)

ASSOCIATION NAME	ACRONYM	PRESIDENT	COUNTRY
1. Associação Brasileira de Hematologia, Hemoterapia e Terapia Celular	ABHH	Dima Dante Langhi Jr.	Brazil
2. Asociación Mexicana de Medicina Transfusional A.C.	AMMTAC	Lucía Zamudio Godínez RN	Mexico
3. American Society For Apheresis	ASFA	Laura Collins, RN	USA
4. Canadian Apheresis Group	CAG	Gail Rock	Canada
5. Chinese Society of Infectious Diseases	CSID	Guiqiang Wang	China
6. European Society for Artificial Organs	ESAO	Piotr Ladyzynski	Europe
7. European Society for Haemapheresis & Haemotherapy	ESFH	Miguel Lozano	Europe
8. Hellenic Haemapheresis Society	HHS	Eirini Grapsa	Greece
9. Hematological Rare Diseases Society	HRDS	Mehmet Ali Erkurt	Turkey
10. Indian Society for Apheresis	ISA	Rakesh Srivastava	India
11. International Society For Apheresis	ISFA	Andre Kaplan	International
12. Korean Society for Apheresis	KSFA	Chae Seung Lim	Korea
13. Philippine Society of Hematology and Blood Transfusion	PSHBT	Marilou A. Abiera	Philippines
14. Société Française d' Hémaphérèse	SFH	Farhad Heshmati	France
15. Società Italiana di Emaferesi	SIdEM	Angelo Ostuni	Italy
16. Turkish Society of Apheresis	TSA	Fatih Demirkan	Turkey
17. The Association of Hematologists and Transfusiology of Uzbekistan	AHTU	Saidov Alonur Bakhtinurovich	Uzbekistan

The WAA Board representative (Councilor) of each association, is listed on the left side of the front cover.

This version is designed for 8.5"x11" printed layout.

... continued from front cover

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

numbers of patient populations, we need international collaborations.

It is essential to have an active registry providing the data for future randomized control trials. We, our international societies, also look forward to greater collaboration to secure strong engagement with the industry for developing new apheresis technologies.

Apheresis Vital to SARS-CoV-2 Therapy

As you know, the whole world continues to fight against the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. However, the virus continues to spread rapidly. Unfortunately, SARS-CoV-2 has infected more than 50 million people to date and has killed more than 1.2 million people.

Although SARS-CoV-2 vaccines are being rapidly developed and trials are still ongoing, it is not yet clear when they can be applied to large populations in developing countries.

In large-scale randomized studies, anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody containing convalescent plasma therapy has been found to be effective in reducing the need for mechanical ventilation and a vasopressor, and the length of stay in an intensive care unit in severe or critically ill COVID-19 patients. In addition, several studies have revealed that convalescent plasma can decrease case the fatality rate. All of these findings show the importance of apheresis in the current pandemic.

The WAA is ready to provide intellectual and scientific support by all professionals in the field of blood transfusion and apheresis, in order to meet future requirements regarding collection of convalescent plasma.

The WAA board has recently met by teleconference and has agreed to move the date of the **17th International Congress of the World Apheresis Association** which was scheduled for **October 2020** to

October 17-20, 2021, as it seems unlikely that the current course of the pandemic will permit a live meeting much before that time. The scientific program covers various topics related to apheresis, especially the most up-to-date apheresis technologies, and their clinical applications.

As the WAA represents international members who are the nurses, technicians, and other individuals besides physicians, educational programs will be held during the congress for allied health professionals. I hope that the meeting will be well attended and successful, providing both scientific and social value to our members and guests.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all of the member societies and board members.

Fevzi Altuntas, MD
World Apheresis Association
President, Ankara, Turkey

EDITOR'S MESSAGE: our pandemic postponements

As we near the end of this extraordinary year, the WAA is sending you our annual newsletter which was originally intended for distribution at the Congress last April. Due to the unprecedented and amazing circumstances of the past eleven months, our congress and many others have been postponed and we now look forward to the in person meeting with our hoped for rescheduled date of October 2021, again, in the wonderful city of Istanbul.

Our President, Dr. Fevzi Altuntas, notes in his address the many challenges that are facing the medical communities at this time. In our overview of societies we have included the information from earlier this year and know that you will appreciate that some of the information will have been

subsequently updated as new boards and members have been elected over the past months. Nonetheless, the annual reports will inform you as to what has been going on with our various member societies and we know you will all be impressed to see how active they have been.

It is particularly of note that apheresis practice is playing a major role in this Covid pandemic with many nations and programs organizing to collect and use convalescent plasma to provide antibodies to affected patients. Additionally, plasma exchange is being used to treat the cytokine storm and other manifestations of this devastating virus. There are sure to be many important publications sharing information on the effectiveness of these procedure in treating this disease and its many ramifications.

The need to postpone our biannual meeting has required us to delay the appointment of the new board whose election was ratified during this year. This is only appropriate considering these difficult times and we thank the current board members for continuing in their positions and welcome the opportunity to celebrate the new members at our next board meeting.

To all of our members: stay well and do take care during these difficult times.

SEE YOU IN ISTANBUL!!!!



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE REPORT



Dr. Robert Weinstein, Chair
WAA Membership Committee

Two new member-societies join WAA in 2019

The World Apheresis Association continues to grow, as two new member-societies have joined during the past year.

The Turkish Hematological Rare Diseases Society is an Ankara-based non-profit, non-governmental organization devoted to education and research related to rare diseases with frequency no greater than one in 2000.

Their activities are focused in the Balkans, Central Asia and the Middle East.

According to their bylaws, the society was "...founded to carry out training and studies regarding Hematological Rare Diseases, cellular therapy, stem cells, apheresis, gene therapy, immunotherapy and transfusion, to support studies conducted, to create resources to combat Hematological Rare Diseases, to promote cooperation by bringing individuals, institutions and foundations together, to provide required aid for people with

Hematological Rare Diseases, to undertake tasks in public and physicians training. " Notably, they are the host-society for the 17th International Congress of WAA, April 16—19, 2020 in Istanbul.

The Uzbekistan Hematology and Transfusiology Association, founded in 2006, consists of 423 members from regions throughout Uzbekistan.

Its main objectives are:

- To develop and optimize hematological and transfusiological care to all patients with blood disorders in Uzbekistan
- provide scientific investigation, research, clinical application, education and exchange information related to apheresis in hematology and Transfusiology
- implement new evidence-based methods in blood collection and plasma into every day practice of blood centers.

Their most recent meeting was held April 25—26, 2019 in Tashkent.

Robert Weinstein, MD
Professor Emeritus, Department of Medicine
University of Massachusetts Medical School

Your New WAA Executive Board 2021 - 2023

President	Dr. Hans Vrieling	The Netherlands
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Allied Health Liaison	Christine M. Fernandez RN, MSN	USA
Industry Rep	Tim Brown	USA



WAA APHERESIS REGISTRY REPORT

International Apheresis Registry remains high priority

Since a very successful multi-registry meeting was held in Paris, France, June 13 & 14, 2017, under the auspices of the WAA, the International WAA Registry has remained a top priority of the umbrella organization.

BACKGROUND

The objective of the June multi-registry meeting was to consider the options to cooperate on analysis of data within the various registries, to allow a larger multinational analysis of the indications, devices used, complications and hopefully also, outcome data, with the intention that this might be accomplished under the umbrella of the WAA.

Another consideration was that by coordinating data collection and analyses, it may also be possible to develop multi centre research projects in the future.

PARIS 2017 MEETING REPRESENTED BY SIX REGISTRIES

The existing registries which were represented at the 2017 meeting in Paris were:

- The Italian Therapeutic Apheresis Registry
- The French Registry
- The ASFA Rare Disease Registry
- The German Lipoprotein Apheresis Registry
- The Canadian Registry
- The WAA Apheresis Registry

In preparation for the June registry meeting, a questionnaire, based on the information requested by Prof. Bernd Stegmayr, was developed. The questionnaire was sent to a representative of each registry so that the information could be collated and shared with all participants prior to the meeting to establish a baseline from which to proceed.

Samples of screen shots of the various registries were also collected to allow evaluation of the commonality among systems prior to the meeting.

Following up on the Paris, 2017 meeting, under the leadership of Dr Bill Clark, President, and Registry

Committee Chair, Dr Bernd Stegmayr, the WAA has organized another special registry session entitled ***World Apheresis Registries: What They Tell You.***

This special session on apheresis registries was a joint venture of the WAA and the American Society for Apheresis (ASFA). It was held on April 25, 2018 in Chicago as part of the ASFA Annual Meeting Program. The registry session was open to all WAA Board Members as well as to all delegates at the ASFA Annual Meeting.

ABOUT THE WAA REGISTRY

In 2002, the WAA decided to start a world-wide registry of therapeutic apheresis procedures including entering data on collection of blood stem cells.

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN THE REGISTRY

- **Registration and data retrieval is at no cost for registering centers.**
- **More information is available at this link: www.worldapheresis.org**

REGISTRY COMMITTEES

The WAA Registry Committee 2016-2018

Chair: Bernd Stegmayr

Members:

- Farhad Heshmati, France
- Gail Rock, Canada
- Tarik Kanouni, France
- Giustina De Silvestro, Italy
- Bill Clark, WAA Past-President

The WAA Registry Committee 2018-2020

Chair: Volker Witt, Austria

Members:

- Gail Rock, Canada
- Tarik Kanouni, France
- Giustina De Silvestro, Italy
- Serdal Korkmaz, Turkey
- Fevzi Altuntas, WAA President

THE WAA ALLIED-HEALTH REPORT

Allied health partners contribute vital expertise

By Christine Fernandez
WAA Allied Health Liaison

The 17th International WAA Congress to be held in Istanbul, Turkey is quickly approaching. The scientific and educational programs are full of interesting topics and state-of-the-science updates on apheresis medicine.

The program will cover a diverse range of topics and content, from basic principles to more advanced topics including Cellular Therapies, Apheresis Instrumentation, Therapeutic Apheresis, and Quality and Compliance.

In addition to these topics the Apheresis Registry session will provide updates from around the world. These presentations are an excellent source of information and data on trends and outcomes in all areas of donor/patient care.

WAA AWARDS

The delivery of the esteemed WAA Awards are always a highlight of the Congress. The **Cohn de Laval Award** is the WAA's most prestigious award, designed to recognize individuals who have made major contributions to the discipline of apheresis. The award is presented at the WAA Congress by the WAA President.

The recipient may be practicing or retired but must be available to accept the award at the biennial Congress and is invited to present a lecture during the Congress.

The **Abel-Rowntree-Turner Award**, also known as the WAA Young Investigator's Award, recognizes an individual under the age of 35 who is contributing to scientific research in the field of apheresis medicine. The awardee will present their original scientific work during the Congress.

Today's allied health practitioner provides care in a variety of settings across many sub-specialties. These practitioners bring a unique, critical perspective to session discussions and enrich the overall experience of the meeting.

CRUCIAL CONTRIBUTION OF ALLIED HEALTH APHERESIS PRACTITIONERS

The field of apheresis Medicine is expanding rapidly, particularly in the area of cellular and gene therapies. In the past five years the research pipeline across the world has grown exponentially, overflowing with new programs and applications.

Allied health practitioners' contributions and expertise in these areas are vital to networking and collaboration efforts on ways to better understand the impact of cellular therapy collection techniques, particularly on the quantity and quality of apheresis collections which are being used as



Christine Fernandez, RN, MSN, OCN, CENTRE, receives the American Society for Apheresis Presidential Award, from ASFA President, Dr. Joseph Schwartz. The presentation was made at ASFA's 40th Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon in May 2019. Ms. Fernandez was given the award for her major contributions and outstanding service to the Society over a number of years.

Continued, next page...

ALLIED-HEALTH REPORT, continued

raw starting materials for sophisticated drug products.

In today's dynamic health care environment and rapid pace of evolving science, it is critical to standardize and validate the training of staff in the apheresis area. Staff education and training is frequently a challenging task: When do we schedule training so all the staff can attend? How do we secure enough resources? Are all staff equally qualified? These are all important questions that must be addressed.

APHERESIS QUALIFICATION

During the WAA 2020 international congress there will be a session on the **Qualification in Apheresis (QIA)** process and exam available through the American Society for Apheresis (ASFA) in partnership with The Board of Certification (BOC) of the American Society for Clinical

Pathology (ASCP). This exam provides an international platform for validating individual apheresis competency.

This qualification exam provides a mechanism for individuals to be recognized as having the necessary competence to perform the apheresis roles they seek through qualification.

There are seven different tracks for eligibility based on education and training in the field of apheresis medicine, which includes a new track recently added by ASCP which creates another option for allied health practitioners to obtain qualification.

Upon meeting specific educational and work experience requirements, candidates are eligible to complete an online examination. Successful

candidates are awarded a credential (QIA) demonstrating their proficiency.

The QIA session at the 2020 WAA Congress will provide information on the registration process, the resources available to prepare for the exam, and an overview of the topics covered by the exam itself. An eligible applicant does not have to be a member of ASFA or ASCP but must satisfy the requirements of at least one of the enrollment routes.

I hope you will join me and other allied health colleagues from around the globe for the 17th International WAA Congress., now scheduled for the fall of 2021. There will be many opportunities to network and share thoughts and ideas. See you in Istanbul. Soon, we hope!

17th International Congress of World Apheresis Association

Harbiye Military Museum & Convention Center, Istanbul - TURKEY



RARE HEMATOLOGIC DISEASES SOCIETY

Society serves Turkey, Balkan, Central Asia and Middle East Regions

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Cankaya / ANKARA / TURKEY



Professor Dr. Mehmet Ali ERKURT, President RHDS

The Rare Hematologic Diseases Society (RHDS) is centered in Ankara, Turkey.

It is a non-profit, non-governmental organization which provides education and research activities in Turkey and region (Balkan, Central Asia, Middle East).

The RHDS focuses its activities on rare diseases; diseases that have an incidence equal to or less than one in 2000, according to the World Health Organization's definition.

Diagnosis, treatment, follow-up and awareness of rare diseases are extremely important factors.

The RHDS is especially interested in the important aspects involving rare diseases, including:

- qualified health service,
- education,
- research,
- social well-being,
- policy development,
- transfusion,
- therapeutic apheresis and
- cellular treatments.

The RHDS carries out important activities related to the list above, as they are critically important to the treatment of many rare diseases. As transfusion, therapeutic apheresis and cellular treatments are within the scope of the RHDS, their membership in the WAA is sure to be mutually beneficial.

Aims and areas of study

The HRDS was founded to carry out training and studies regarding Hematological Rare Diseases, cellular therapy, stem cells, apheresis, gene therapy, immunotherapy and transfusion medicine.

The Society supports studies, creates resources to combat Hematological Rare Diseases, promotes cooperation by bringing individuals, institutions and foundations together, offers support to people who have Hematological Rare Diseases, promotes public awareness and is involved in physician training.

Field of Activity of the Society

Clause 3—The society carries out its activities in the fields of health and social services and provides safe and adequate services to patients and donors by establishing Hematological Rare Diseases, Extracorporeal treatment, Stem Cell Transplantation, Cellular Therapy, Gene therapy, Immunotherapy, Transfusion and Therapeutic Apheresis Centers.



ASSOCIATION OF HEMATOLOGISTS AND TRANSFUSIOLOGY OF UZBEKISTAN

New member-society represents apheresis in Uzbekistan



Dr. Saidov Alonur Bakhtinurovich
AHTU Chair

The Association of Hematologists and Transfusiology of Uzbekistan (AHTU) does methodological and organizational work in the field of apheresis and transfusion medicine in Uzbekistan.

Association's objectives

Our objectives are to carry out organizational work to improve the provision of hematological and transfusion care throughout Uzbekistan, to increasing the scientific potential and to introduce modern achievements into the practice of hematology in the country of Uzbekistan.

Relevant projects

With the participation of the Association of Hematologists and Transfusiologists in the Research Institute of Hematology, the following works are carried out:

- ⇒ cooperation with the Charite Clinic (Berlin) and the Clinic for Pediatric Hematology and Oncology named Rogacheva (Moscow) on the MB-2015 project

- ⇒ a project between Uzbekistan and Germany on congenital immunodeficiency
- ⇒ a joint project on the implementation of autologous bone marrow transplantation in the treatment of myeloma and lymphomas in Uzbekistan with the support of TIKa and the Oncology Clinic named Abdurahman Yurtaslan of Ankara

- ⇒ several other national projects are being implemented on the introduction of hardware apheresis of blood components with the support of the Ministry of Health of Uzbekistan.

UHTA Board List

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DSc - Director of the Republican Blood Center

Deputy Chairman

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Association Secretary

Dr. Makhmudova Maya Rafikovna, Ph.D., chief doctor of the Research Institute of Hematology and Blood Transfusion

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Director of the Institute of Hematology and Blood Transfusion



Dr. Makhmudova Aziza Dzhumanovna
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Prof. Bahramov Saidzhalol **Makhmudovich**
Head of the Department of Postgraduate Education, Tashkent Institute of Advanced Medical Studies

Dr. Kazakbaeva Hamida **Muhamedovna** Ph.D.
GIPAP project manager in Uzbekistan

Upcoming events planned

- Monthly field training sessions for laboratory doctors in 12 regions of Uzbekistan

Annual Conference of Hematologists and Transfusiologists of Uzbekistan
May 21, 2020

ASOCIACIÓN MEXICANA DE MEDICINA TRANSFUSIONAL A.C.

Focus on education, consensus and transfusion safety

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*Dear
Colleagues,*

AMMTAC is a Mexican Society of Transfusion Medicine that includes physicians, scientists, nurses and allied health professionals dedicated to the activities of blood collection, transfusion, apheresis and cellular therapy. Our organization includes professionals who practise apheresis for collection or therapeutics.



Lucía Zamudio
Godínez RN

The mission of the AMMTAC is to promote the training and continuous updating of personnel involved in Transfusion Medicine through high-level educational activities, consensus and discussion forums that allow the exchange of ideas, the scientific, technological and academic development of its members in order to raise transfusion safety in Mexico.

APHERESIS COURSE

We are currently doing the sixth **Course of Apheresis**, which is a theoretical-practical course, which includes the topics of basic science, regulation, collection of components, vascular access, therapeutic apheresis and special procedures.

It includes a workshop to learn about all the apheresis machines. This course contributes to the training and updating of professionals dedicated to performing apheresis.

Also a **transfusion medicine course** has been developed, which includes all topics about this important theme.

ANNUAL MEETING

From **September 23 to 26, 2020**, we will hold our **XVIII National Congress** in the city of **Acapulco, Guerrero**, where we will carry out workshops, including one of Apheresis and an academic program, where We will include conferences, symposiums, plenary sessions, with various topics of transfusion medicine, apheresis medicine, cell therapy, immunohematology, infectious diseases, clinical transfusion, hemovigilance among other important topics, and we have an interesting program with national and international professors.

*Lucía Zamudio Godínez
AMMTAC President*

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TRANSFUSIONAL (I GCIAMT)**



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR APHERESIS

Objective to disseminate new technologies and their clinical applications

Dear
Colleagues,

The value of therapeutic apheresis has been recognized in many fields of medicine. To keep developing this treatment, it is imperative that we expand our knowledge of medicine, biology, and engineering in order to refine our tools and techniques.



Andre Kaplan (USA)
President, ISFA

ISFA is a unique international apheresis society as it is mainly composed of individual members. Almost 500 members from all over the world join us today.

The main objective of ISFA is to disseminate on an international basis the most up-to-date apheresis technologies and their clinical applications so that all may benefit from the efforts of ISFA. We have recently begun discussions of collaborative activities between ISFA and ASFA.

The ISFA Congress is held once every two years. The next one, ISFA's 13th Congress, will be held 2021 in the United States. The Congress President is Dr. B. Sachais (USA). The Congress will focus on Apheresis in Cardiology/Lipids, Immunology, Rheumatology, Neurology, Nephrology, Infectious Disease/Sepsis, Regulatory, Gastroenterology, Liver, and Dermatology.

Additionally, we anticipate collaborating with other apheresis organizations to further advance the science and

participants of the congress. We can work toward fulfilling the vision of medicine established by Hippocrates in the 5th century B.C

ISFA has a subdivision in Europe, The European Group - International Society for Apheresis (E-ISFA). The Third Congress of the European Group – International Society for Apheresis (E-ISFA) will take place in Dresden, Germany from March 19 to 21, 2020.

We sincerely invite you to join our congresses.

Warm Regards,

A. Kaplan, President



ISFA Congress & Presidents

- ⇒ 1st Congress (1996) Kyoto, Japan, A. Yamamoto
- ⇒ 2nd Congress (1999) Saarbrücken, Germany, R. Bambauer
- ⇒ 3rd Congress (2001) Taipei, Taiwan, H. C. Chiu
- ⇒ 4th Congress (2003) Nashville, USA, G. Siami
- ⇒ 5th Congress (2005) Rostock, Germany, P. Schuff-Werner
- ⇒ 6th Congress (2007) Yokohama, Japan, T. Akizawa
- ⇒ 7th Congress (2009) Buenos Aires, Argentina, A. Kaplan
- ⇒ 8th Congress (2011) Vienna, Austria, K. Derfler
- ⇒ 9th Congress (2013) Hangzhou, China, L. Li
- ⇒ 10th Congress (2015) Cancun, Mexico, P. Moriarty
- ⇒ 11th Congress (2017) Copenhagen, Denmark, W. Szpirt
- ⇒ 12th Congress Kyoto, Japan, Y. Endo

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French Society focuses on educational endeavours

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www.hemapherese.fr

Dear friends,

IN PAST NEWS

In November 2018 (7th-9th), the national French Apheresis Society / Société Française d'Hémaphérèse (SFH) congress was held in Montpellier, France.



F. Heshmati MD, PhD
President, SFH

The Montpellier congress was a great success with the high quality presentations, the scientific discussions and the participation of numerous representatives of companies involved in apheresis and transfusion.

We were happy to welcome other francophone apheresis teams and societies — including those from Belgium and Morocco — who also participated in the congress.

SFH NEW EXECUTIVE ELECTED

In February 2019, the French Apheresis Society elected a new executive committee.

The newly elected executive members and their respective positions are listed on the left side of this page.

PARIS TRANSFUSION MEDICINE DAY

In November 2019, the SFH organized the "Day of Transfusion Medicine", a one-day apheresis and

transfusion congress in Paris (Cochin Hospital). This day was a success with high quality presentations, exchanges and participation of members of companies involved in apheresis and transfusion.

PROJECTS FOR 2020

In November 2020 (5-7th) the SFH will hold the national French Apheresis Society congress in Paris.

The program will feature the main concerns of blood donors and transfusion steps (donor selection, identity-vigilance), quality of blood products and therapeutic apheresis (hematopoietic stem cell mobilization and collection, mononuclear cell collection for CAR T cells, transfusion, extracorporeal photochemotherapy, immunoadsorption and rheopheresis). This congress will also have a prominent focus on nurses' involvement in apheresis and will have numerous presentations from apheresis nurses.

Farhad Heshmati, MD PhD

President

Olivier Hequet,

General Secretary



EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR HEMAPHERESIS

Spain hosts successful ESFH scientific meeting

*Dear WAA
Colleagues*

During 2018, the European Society for Hemapheresis (ESFH) successfully organized in Valencia (Spain) at the La Fe University Hospital on June 20th and 21st, the 20th meeting of the society.



Miquel Lozano

The Local Organizing Committee led by **Dr. Nelly Carpio** and the Scientific Committee co-chaired by **Dr. Javier de la Rubia** and **Dr. Miquel Lozano** worked diligently to create a scientific and a social program that met the expectation of attendees.

The scientific program covered the different aspects of the donor and therapeutic apheresis.

FIRST HELMUT BORBERG LECTURE

After approval by the Board of Directors and the General Assembly of the Society, for the first time the Helmut Borberg Lecture was included in the program of the meeting.

The first Helmut Borberg Lecture was brilliantly delivered by **Dr. Manuel Juan**, from the Clinic University Hospital from Barcelona, Spain.

Dr. Juan's lecture discussed the challenges of successfully developing a CAR-T production program at an academic institution.

ESFH is currently working on the organization of the 21st meeting of the ESFH that will be held in Vienna, Austria, the 25th and 26th of June 2020.

21st ESFH CONGRESS, JUNE, 2020

The Local Organizing Committee led by **Dr. Gerda Leitner** and the Scientific Committee co-chaired by Dr. Miquel Lozano and Dr. Gerda Leitner have worked diligently to create a scientific and social program that is sure to meet the expectation of attendees.

The scientific program will cover various aspects of donor and therapeutic apheresis:

- novel indications of therapeutic apheresis
- CRP adsorption in severe inflammatory organ damage
- specific immunoadsorption treatments in a variety of disorders
- collection, generation and use of CAR-T cells, a promising approach in cancer therapy
- indications and treatment protocols in ECP
- transfusion medicine and safety of blood components
- pathogen inactivation methods
- *and much more!*

For the second time in the history of the Society, the **HELMUT BORBERG LECTURE** will be included in the program of the meeting.

ESFH is proud to announce that the recipient of this year **Helmut Borberg Lecture** will be **Prof. Bernd Stegmayr** from Umea, Sweden.

*Miquel Lozano, MD, PhD
President, ESFH*

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AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR APHERESIS

Bringing apheresis awareness to the rest of US

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Dear Colleagues,

ASFA is an organization of physicians, scientists, and allied health professionals whose mission is to advance apheresis medicine for patients, donors and practitioners through education, evidence-based practice, research and advocacy.



Laura Collins, RN,
PSN, HP(ASCP)
President, ASFA

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS

ASFA 2020 Annual Meeting

The 41ST Annual Meeting will be held in Austin, Texas from May 6 – 9, 2020. Visit www.apheresis.org for more information about the upcoming Annual Meeting.

Apheresis Awareness Day

We are pleased to announce Tuesday, September 15, 2020 will be designated as Apheresis Awareness Day. The purpose is to raise awareness of apheresis medicine and honor the many donors, patients, and apheresis practitioners that have dedicated their lives to saving others by using evidence based practice to advance apheresis medicine.

Apheresis Qualification

ASFA, in partnership with the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) Board of Certification (BOC), previously launched an apheresis qualification called 'Qualification in Apheresis (QIA)'.

More is available at this website: www.apheresis.org/QIA

Journal of Clinical Apheresis (JCA) 2019 Special Review Issue

Every three years, ASFA publishes

evidence-based guidelines on the use of therapeutic apheresis in clinical practice in a Special Issue of the Journal of Clinical Apheresis. The latest edition was published in June 2019.

The Eighth Edition discusses 84 fact sheets for therapeutic apheresis diseases and medical conditions, with 157 indications, which are separately graded and categorized within the listed fact sheets.

Members access: www.apheresis.org/JCA Online Access

Apheresis Standard Operating Procedures Manual

ASFA is pleased to announce the release of the Apheresis Standard Operating Procedures Manual – First Edition. It is intended to provide the reader with a collection of sample SOPs that can be adapted for their institution's use. More information: www.apheresis.org/SOPM

Principles of Apheresis Textbook

Every 3 years, ASFA publishes the Principles of Apheresis Technology – Technical Principles of Apheresis Medicine Textbook. The current 6th edition was published in April 2017. The 7th edition is in the final stages of development and will be available in May 2020. This publication provides a basic overview of the theory and application of apheresis. More information: www.apheresis.org/PAT

Laura Collins
President, ASFA



THE CANADIAN APHERESIS GROUP

Canadian Apheresis Group celebrates 40 years in 2020!



Dr. Gail Rock
Chair, CAG

*Dear
Colleagues,*

The Canadian Apheresis Group (CAG, was formed in 1979 and went on to become one of the founding members of the World Apheresis

Association in the mid 1980s.

As many of our early members have recently retired, we have witnessed a disbanding of much of the senior team of Canadian apheresis physicians who had worked together for decades on many projects including studies, collaboration on various publications and the evolution of the CAG National Apheresis Registry.

An ever-evolving organization, the CAG is are happy to welcome many new and younger members from across Canada who are making great contributions to the CAG and to the work of building on the traditions of our national organization.

THE CANADIAN REGISTRY EXPANDS

One of our key activities continues to be the development of our national registry. Initially, apheresis centres across the country mailed reports of procedures to the central office, where the data from the paper reports were entered into a central database by CAG staff.

In 2011, we began a revision of the national registry and by 2013, all 42 reporting centres were entering their registry data online directly from the

apheresis units in major hospitals in 14 cities across Canada.

CANADIAN TMA DATA

Building on the CAG's ongoing interest in the treatment of TTP (we have been involved in a number of clinical trials on various aspects of TTP over the years) we have recently extended our online registry to collect further information on thrombotic microangiopathy (TMA) patients, to track treatments and outcome with the aim to further improve treatment.

Although the CAG's database was the first nation-wide apheresis registry, we have been comparatively late in expanding it to collect data on the TMAs, as various other jurisdictions have been collecting TMA data for some years now.

Economic conditions and the great restriction in hospital budgets that we have witnessed in Canada over the past several years, has been a major challenge facing our organization.

INVOLVEMENT IN THE WAA

The CAG has taken an active role as a participant in special session on apheresis registries, which were held in France and in the USA over the past few years.

The Canadian Apheresis Group is very pleased to welcome members to beautiful downtown Toronto for our 40th Annual Meeting to be held October 2—4, 2020.

*Gail Rock PhD, MD, FRCP
Chair, Canadian Apheresis Group*

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THE KOREAN SOCIETY FOR APHERESIS

Korean Society focuses on education and exchange of information

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E-mail: ksbt@kams.or.kr

Fax: 02-795-7901

Dear Colleagues,

The Korean Society for Apheresis (KSFA) was established in 1999, and holds an annual symposium in February.

The Society consists of about 200 members including physicians and nurses. The purposes of KSFA are to foster collaborative research regarding collection, modification, removal, transfusion, transplantation, and cellular therapy of blood constituents. The Society serves as an organization for education and exchange of information and ideas concerning apheresis among its members.

The President of KSFA is professor Chae Seung Lim, M.D. (malarim@korea.ac.kr) of Korea University Guro Hospital. The Secretary of General Affairs is professor Gyeong Un Park M.D. of Seoul National University Hospital

21st Symposium

The 21st Annual Symposium of The Korean Society for Apheresis annual symposium was held on February 22, 2019 in Seoul. The agenda topics were:

- Registry Report Hematopoietic stem cell collections in Korea
- Expanding role of blood bank for cell therapy
- Cell processing, CTGT & ATPM



KSFA and Beyond

- Photopheresis in lung transplantation
- Freezing and thawing of RBCs using automated closed cell processor
- Recent trend of cell therapy in global
- The impact of apheresis and pooled platelet concentrates
- Indication of therapeutic plasmapheresis: a considerable gap

The 22nd annual symposium was held February, 2020 in Seoul.

We publish a regular journal, the **Korean Journal of Blood Transfusion**, in conjunction with the Korean Society of Blood Transfusion three times a year.

The Korean Journal of Blood Transfusion (<http://journal.transfusion.or.kr>) is published by the Korean Society of Blood Transfusion (<http://www.transfusion.or.kr>) and the Korean Society for Apheresis (<http://www.apheresis.or.kr>).

The goal of Korean Journal of Blood Transfusion is sharing the knowledge regarding to transfusion medicine and cell therapy.

This journal publishes Original Articles, Case Reports, Review Articles, Symposium Proceedings, Letters to the Editor, Editorials, Corrections, and Correspondence about new and important subjects of blood transfusion and cell therapy such as blood group, immunohematology, apheresis, blood banks and management of transfusion, blood donation, blood products, transplantation, cell engineering, cell therapy, transfusion reaction, and the other subjects related to transfusion medicine and cell therapy with scientific originality.



21st KSFA Symposium, 2019

Chae Seung Lim
President, KSFA

EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF ARTIFICIAL ORGANS

"Uniting scientific minds towards lasting artificial organs"

Dear Colleagues,

The **European Society of Artificial Organs (ESAO)** is a worldwide association for the promotion of tissue and organ support and regeneration by artificial organ technology.



Piotr Ladyzynski
President, ESAO

This involves research and development in the area of artificial and bioartificial organs with a focus on heart, kidney, and lung support and replacement, as well as engineering of other organs and tissues.

APHERESIS DATA REGISTRY

Apheresis has been of interest to ESAO members for many years. One of seven ESAO working groups, which is called Apheresis and Adsorption Working Group (WG) headed by Prof. Bernd Stegmayr (Sweden), is a part of the WAA apheresis registry activity.

The working group is focused on global cooperation of entry and analysis of apheresis registry data.

- To date, data on over 70,000 apheresis procedures have been collected.
- Participation is open to any center, at no charge.
- This is part of the WAA apheresis registry system.

2020 WINTER SCHOOL, GERMANY

In February 26–29, our Winter School will take place in Lutherstadt Wittenberg, Germany, once a monastery and Luther's home, and now a museum displaying his personal artifacts and paintings.

The topic of this event is "**Materials, Surfaces & Cells: Science & Technology for Bio Artificial Organs and Tissue Engineering**".

The scientific committee is represented by Professors Thomas Groth, Nuno Neves and Viktoria Weber.

The two-day event includes sessions devoted to biopolymers, cellular microenvironments including engineering and bioengineering of cellular microenvironments, cells, materials and scaffolds as well as bioprinting, organ-on-chips and solid organ engineering.

It is still not too late to register and take part in the ESAO Summer School.

2020 ANNUAL CONGRESS, UK

The next **ESAO Annual Congress** will take place in London, Uxbridge, UK (September 8–12, 2020). It is organized by **Prof. Ashraf W. Khir** from the Brunel University and his team.

The motto of the congress is "*Uniting scientific minds towards lasting artificial organs*". The scientific program will include plenary lectures, regular oral and poster sessions, and special symposia.

MEET THE ESAO WORKING GROUPS

Among a few hundred participants at the ESAO Congress in September in London, UK, you will have opportunity to meet the heads of the ESAO working groups:

- **Apheresis and Adsorption:** Bernd Stegmayr
- **Bioartificial Organs:** Dimitrios Stamatialis
- **Education:** Gloria Gallego-Ferrer
- **Heart Support:** Simon Sonntag and Tom Verbelen
- **Tissue Engineering:** Nuno Neves
- **Uremic Toxins:** Joachim Jankowski and Pieter Evenepoe
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- **Yesao:** Martin Maw and Ben Torner

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ESAO Office is hosted by Danube

University, Austria with

Anita Aichinger, **Secretary &**

Viktoria Weber, **ESAO Officer**

Corporate Members Chair

Ares Menon

All members of societies belonging to WAA are warmly welcome to become ESAO members.

More information about the membership as well as future meetings can be found at our homepage www.esao.org.



ITALIAN SOCIETY OF HEMAPHERESIS AND CELL MANIPULATION

Society pursues educational programs and collaboration

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Dear Colleagues and Friends,

In October 2019, the 19th National Congress of the Italian Society of Haemapheresis and Cell Manipulation (SIdEM) – 23rd Updating Course on Haemapheresis for Nurses and Laboratory Technicians – 8th Symposium on Cellular Therapy was held in Rimini.

The opening symposium was of particular interest which focused on CAR T cells: clinical and methodology aspects covering topics such as:

- from gender medicine to apheresis therapy,
- new genetic therapy and
- the role of apheresis and cellular manipulation.

This very stimulating symposium offered an opportunity to learn from colleagues experience and exchange information with representatives of the different institutions and Scientific Societies with which SIdEM interacts.

During the Congress, the newly appointed Board of Directors was elected. The new board is listed on the left of this page.

As requested from the Italian Ministry of Health, SIdEM adopted new mandatory amendments to the Bylaws and is awaiting approval.

In 2020, SIdEM plans to organize three continuing-educational events covering Northern, Central and Southern Italy focusing on issues such as:

- from peripheral stem cell mobilization to infusion in patients

- management of post-transplant complications: from GvHD to immune-haematological complications
- patient blood management

SIdEM proceeds with the publication of its newsletter issued quarterly providing up-to-date information to the society members available at the SIdEM website and also allows access to the "Transfusion and Apheresis Science" journal. We also continue to collect data on apheresis procedures to include in the National Registry of Therapeutic Apheresis.

SIdEM continues its interactive activities established with other societies by participating in the elaboration of registries and promoting education with continuing education programs. Members of the societies continue to gather together with the aim of learning from each other's experience and in promoting scientific programs.

The Society continues to focus its energy on the strengthening the organization and scientific knowledge in the field of therapeutic apheresis, cell manipulation and transfusion medicine, with the aim of making a contribution to the care of our patient for assistance always more appropriate.

Best regards,

Angelo Ostuni

President, SIdEM



HELLENIC HAEMAPHERESIS SOCIETY

Active Greek Society hosts successful scientific events

*Dear colleagues
and friends,*

On behalf of the Hellenic Haemapheresis Society, I extend our thanks to Dr Altuntas President of the World Apheresis Association (WWA), for the invitation to include a brief article concerning the activities of our organization in this new edition of the World Apheresis Association Newsletter.

Our main activities as we have informed you in a previous letter consist of the organization of scientific meetings a workshop or conference held on alternate years, as well as the documentation of all the annual apheresis sessions in Greece.

The 7th Conference of the Hellenic Haemapheresis Society was held on October 4-6th 2019 in Athens and focused on the apheresis update according to the National and International experience in this field.

It was a successful, three-day meeting and the topics discussed were:

- "What's new about Haemapheresis & autoimmune diseases"
- Haemapheresis & kidney diseases

- Haemapheresis & haematological diseases
- Haemapheresis & neurological diseases
- Haemapheresis & cardiology
- Haemapheresis LDL apheresis Haemapheresis
- Vascular access

Finally, we focused on how important the role of the nurses in the Apheresis unit is in order to gain the best results for our patients. Several medical devices manufacture companies which are interested in this field were present with their latest products.

The upcoming 13th Meeting will be held on October 6th 2020 (Golden Age Hotel), in Athens. The theme has to be planned by the executive member board.

*Sincerely Yours,
Eirini Grapsa MD, PhD
President of HHS*

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PHILIPPINE SOCIETY OF HEMATOLOGY & BLOOD TRANSFUSION

Philippine society marks 60 years of growth and change

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The PSHBT is an affiliate,
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- The Philippine Medical Association (PMA) and
- The Philippine College of Physicians (PCP)

60 and Counting!

Dear Colleagues,

The Philippine Society of Hematology and Blood Transfusion approaches two milestones in 2020: the 60th anniversary of the founding of the organization coinciding with our 50th Annual Convention this July 3rd and 4th.



Marilou A. Abiera, MD
President, PSHBT

Time has brought many changes and the officers and board of regents deemed it necessary to embrace the move on to a more relevant, responsive and progressive PSHBT organization.

Our mission-vision statements and core values are:

Vision

An organization of competent, ethical and socially responsive health care professionals who advocate for the recognition, prevention and care of people with hematologic disorders in order to attain optimum health and well being.

Mission

The PSHBT promotes the recognition, prevention and care of people with

hematologic disorders by fostering:

- ⇒ Heightened awareness of blood disorders through public education
- ⇒ Training of healthcare professionals and partners
- ⇒ Collaboration in the conduct of relevant research initiatives

Core Values

- ⇒ P- Professionalism
- ⇒ S- Service
- ⇒ H- Honesty
- ⇒ B- Benevolence
- ⇒ T- timeliness



In the forthcoming years, we envision to be an INCLUSIVE society advocating the health and well being of the Filipino patients with hematologic disorders. We will continue to uphold the legacy of our founders and leaders towards a new direction.

Our 50th Annual Convention is July 3 and 4, 2020 at the Makati Diamond Residences in Makati, Philippines.

Join us — let's celebrate !

Marilou A. Abiera, MD

President, PSHBT

17th International Congress of World Apheresis Association
Harbiye Military Museum & Convention Center, Istanbul - TURKEY

**OCTOBER
17 - 20, 2021**



BRAZILIAN ASSOCIATION OF HEMATOLOGY, HEMOTHERAPY AND CELL THERAPY

Meetings, educational programs and publications

Dear Colleagues,

About the ABHH

- Non-profit Civil Association;
- Scientific, Social and Cultural Character;
- 4,250 members
- Congregates physicians devoted to the practice of hematology, blood transfusion, cell therapy and as well as other professionals in related fields.



Dante Langhi Jr.,
MD, PhD
President, ABHH

EVENTS CALENDAR FOR 2020- SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS IN BRAZIL

Partnership with International Societies:

- **Highlights of ISBT in Latin America:** in partnership with International Society of Blood Transfusion Campinas—São Paulo, 4 November, 2020
- **Joint Symposium ABHH & ASH:** in partnership with ASH – American Hematology Association Campinas—São Paulo, 4 November, 2020
- **Annual Meeting: Brazilian Congress of Hematology, Hemotherapy and Cell Therapy** Campinas - São Paulo, 4 – 7 November, 2020

e-Learning programs

- Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia and Hodgkin Lymphoma
- Aplastic Anemia
- Hemostasis and Thrombosis

Publications: Hematology, Transfusion and Cell Therapy

- Scientific journal
- Trimonthly publication
- Circulation 3.500 copies
- Scientific output rate similar to Chinese and other emerging Countries publications
- Indexation:
 - PubMed Central
 - PubMed Medline
 - Scielo
 - Scopus Database
 - Lilacs
 - Extramed

GUIDELINES

- Chronic Myeloid Leukemia
- Plasma Cell Disorders (Myeloma)
- Thrombocytopenia: ITP, TTP, and aHUS
- Sickle Cell Disease
- Myelodysplastic Syndromes
- Myeloproliferative Neoplasms
- Acute Promyelocytic Leukemia
- Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia
- Transfusion Medicine
- Aplastic Anemia

Dante Langhi Jr., MD, PhD.

President

*Brazilian Association of Hematology,
Hemotherapy and Cell Therapy*

ABHH BOARD

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www.abhh.org.br



Our Official Journal

Transfusion and Apheresis Science

INTERNATIONAL FORUM SECTION: special series on plasma use

Under the leadership of Co Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Gail Rock, the International Forum Section of the Transfusion and Apheresis Science journal, is currently featuring a special series on “*Plasma Use in Various Countries*”.

The series began in issue 58.4, cover-date, August 2019, with an article on the plasma supply in France, by Dr. Olivier Garraud.

Also published were articles from:

- Italy, issue 58.5, October, 2019
- Germany, issue 58.6, December, 2019
- Spain, issue 59.1, February, 2020
- Sweden, 59.2, April 2020

Articles on plasma use in the following countries are planned for upcoming issues of the journal:

- Austria
- Japan
- USA
- Canada
- Greece
- Norway
- Turkey
- The Netherlands



History of WAA International Congresses

XVII	Oct. 17–20, 2021	Istanbul, Turkey
XVI	Apr. 27 – 29, 2016	Paris, France
XV	Apr. 2 – 5, 2014	San Francisco, USA
XIV	Sept. 13 – 16, 2012	Istanbul, Turkey
XIII	Sept. 1 – 4, 2010	Interlaken, Switzerland
XII	Mar. 17 – 20, 2009	Buenos Aires, Argentina
XI	Mar. 2 – 4, 2007	Yokohama, Japan
X	May 5 – 8, 2004	Miami Beach, USA
IX	Sept. 7 – 10, 2002	Paris, France
VIII	July 25 – 28, 2000	Perth, Australia
VII	Oct. 9 – 13, 1998	Sao Paulo, Brazil
VI	Nov. 11 - 14, 1996	Florence, Italy
V	Mar. 9 – 12, 1994	Houston, USA
IV	June 3 – 5, 1992	Sapporo, Japan
III	Apr. 9 – 12, 1990	Amsterdam, The Netherlands
II	May 18 – 20, 1988	Ottawa, Canada
I	May 20 – 23, 1986	Tokyo, Japan

History of WAA Presidential Terms

2018-2020	Dr. Fevzi Altuntas	Turkey
2016-2018	Dr. William Clark	Canada
2014–2016	Dr. Paolo Perseghin	Italy
2012–2014	Dr. Hiroshi Tsuda	Japan
2010–2012	Dr. Robert Weinstein	USA
2009–2010	Dr. Bernd Stegmayr	Sweden
2007–2009	Dr. Noritoshi Suibuya	Japan
2004–2007	Dr. Loic Guillevin	France
2002–2004	Dr. Peter Ivanovich	USA
2000–2002	Dr. Thomas H. Price	USA
1998–2000	Dr. Horst Klinkmann	Germany
1996–1998	Dr. Mauro Valbonesi	Italy
1994–1996	Dr. Francis S. Morrison	USA
1992–1994	Dr. Tetsuzo Agishi	Japan
1990–1992	Dr. C. Th. Smit Sibinga	The Netherlands
1988–1990	Dr. Gail Rock	Canada
1986–1988	Dr. Gerard Riffe	France

About the World Apheresis Association

The World Apheresis Association (WAA) umbrella organization was conceived in **Dijon, France, in 1984**, and held its first formal meeting, the *First International Congress*, in Tokyo, Japan May 20 - 23, 1986.

- Today, **17 organizations** comprise the WAA membership, giving a comprehensive view of apheresis activities throughout the world.
- The WAA is a vital and growing organization. The two most recent organizations to join are the **Rare Hematologic Diseases Society (RHDS)**, Turkey, and the **Uzbekistan Hematology and Transfusiology Association (UHTA)**, Uzbekistan. Both organizations joined in 2019.
- Recently, the WAA also added the new, permanent Board position of **Allied Health Liaison**, thereby establishing a commitment to extend programming to allied health professionals who contribute so prominently to apheresis medicine.
- Recent initiatives of the WAA Board, include a major revision of the **Bylaws** and a special focus on the **WAA Registry**, including two successful International Registry Meetings (Paris, 2016, and Chicago, 2018).

WAA goals and purposes are:

- to provide an organization through which all professional societies dedicated to research and/or clinical practice in apheresis can communicate and collaborate;
- to foster global collaboration in scientific investigation, research, clinical applications, education, and exchange of information relating to apheresis and allied fields in clinical and laboratory medicine;
- to facilitate the availability of safe and effective apheresis techniques for the collection of donor cells and plasma as

well as the removal or modification of blood constituents in disease;

- to encourage and advance high standards of administrative and technical performance in the field of apheresis;
- to manage a worldwide registry of patients treated by therapeutic apheresis.



MEMBER SOCIETIES IN 2020

1. **Asociación Mexicana de Medicina Transfusional A.C.**
2. **Associação Brasileira de Hematologia, Hemoterapia e Terapia Celular**
3. **American Society For Apheresis**
4. **Canadian Apheresis Group**
5. **Chinese Society for Infectious Diseases**
6. **European Society for Artificial Organs**
7. **European Society for Haemapheresis & Haemotherapy**
8. **Hellenic Haemapheresis Association**
9. **Indian Society for Apheresis**
10. **International Society for Apheresis**
11. **Korean Society for Apheresis**
12. **Philippine Society of Hematology and Blood Transfusion**
13. **Rare Hematologic Diseases Society**
14. **Société Française d' Hémaphérèse**
15. **Società Italiana di Emaferesi**
16. **Turkish Society of Apheresis**
17. **Uzbekistan Hematology and Transfusiology Association**

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

The umbrella organization of the WAA was formed in Dijon, France, in the mid 1980s. The first formal WAA meeting, the First International Congress, was held in Tokyo, Japan May 20 - 23, 1986.

While it started with only seven national organizations as members, today, 17 national or regional organizations now make up the WAA membership, giving a comprehensive view of apheresis activities throughout the world.

In 1984, these seven National/Regional Societies, recognizing a need for better communications, founded the World Apheresis Association at a planning meeting in Dijon, France.

These were the seven founding member-societies:

- ASFA – American Society for Apheresis
- CASG - Canadian Apheresis Study Group
- ESFH – European Society for Haemapheresis
- GLHEMA – Group Latino American of Hemapheresis
- ISAO – International Society for Artificial Organs
- JSTP – Japan Society of Therapeutic Plasmapheresis
- SFEP – Société Française d'Echanges Plasmatiques

The executive positions that make up the WAA Board, as well as the names of the individuals who currently hold each post are listed in the sidebar of the cover of this newsletter.

Our current member-societies and the names of each society president are listed on the bottom of Page 2.



World Apheresis Association PUBLICATIONS

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE WAA: Transfusion and Apheresis Science

One of the ways that the World Apheresis Association meets its goals is through the exchange of scientific information through our official journal, **Transfusion and Apheresis Science**.

Transfusion and Apheresis Science is the official journal of the **World Apheresis Association (WAA)** and of three of the WAA Member-Societies including:

- **European Society for Haemapheresis (ESFH)**
- **Società Italiana Di Emaferesi e Manipolazione Cellulare (SIDEM)**
- **Turkish Society of Apheresis (TSA)**

Co Editors-in-Chief:

- Gail A. **Rock**, PhD, MD, FRCP
- Ravindra **Sarode**, MD

Senior Editors:

- Fevzi **Altuntas**, MD, Ankara, Turkey
- Joan **Cid**, MD, PhD, Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain
- Mehraboon **Irani**, MD, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA
- Francesco **Lanza**, MD, Ravenna, Italy



The "LISTENING POST"

The "*Listening Post*" is a regular, special section, published in each issue of **Transfusion and Apheresis Science**. It contains articles by and for Apheresis Nurses around the world.

We invite you to send us your articles!

Please contact:

Listening Post Editor, Christine Fernandez

Email: waa@worldapheresis.org

Recent Listening Post titles:

- Apheresis Education: One Center Curriculum Design Experience
- Rupture of the Stem Cell Bag Before Stem Cell Infusion: Evolving Standard Operating Procedures
- Advantages of Joining a Professional Apheresis Organization
- Adrift in the World of Therapeutic Apheresis: One Center's Experience in Using Arterio-Venous Fistulas during Apheresis Procedures
- A Message from the World Apheresis Association Allied Health Representative 2016 – 2018
- The American Society for Apheresis (ASFA) is pleased to offer a Qualification in Apheresis (QIA) in partnership with The Board of Certification (BOC) of the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP).
- One Centre Experience with Implementing Extracorporeal Photopheresis in a Pediatric Setting

The WAA Newsletter

- Highlights of important developments in apheresis
- Up-to-date news from member Societies
- Announcements of new member societies
- Details of upcoming meetings and events
- Promotes the exchange of information
- Includes lists of officers and executive boards
- Offers a networking opportunity for apheresis physicians and practitioners world-wide

This issue is brought to you by



This newsletter has been sponsored by **Terumo**, one of the major corporations providing the sophisticated devices that make our procedures possible.

To them, many thanks! To all of you, Happy New Year—may we meet again in 2021!