

Australian Society for Antimicrobials



20th Annual General Meeting Sheraton Grand Sydney Hyde Park Sydney, New South Wales Friday 22nd February 2019 1815 – 1845

1. **Welcome:** The President welcomed the members to the 20th AGM of the ASA.
2. **Apologies:**
Michael Leung, Anna Allman, Susan Benson, Wendy Munckhof and Smathi Chong
3. The **Minutes** of the **19th AGM** were endorsed as a true and accurate record. Moved by Geoff Coombs, seconded by Keryn Christiansen and accepted by all present.
4. **President's Report (Ben Howden)**

1. Antimicrobials 2019

Attendance numbers at this year's annual scientific meeting have once again exceeded our expectations with over 400 delegates. We received a record 124 abstracts and scheduled four oral proffered paper sessions and two poster sessions. The meeting's high attendance is once again a reflection of the high calibre of our invited speakers and the continuing high standard of the proffered papers and posters. I wish to thank all presenters – their contribution and interest are essential for the health of the Society.

Several satellite meetings were held the day before Antimicrobials 2019 commenced including:

- bioMérieux User Group Meeting
- MSD SMART Investigators' meeting
- ASA National EUCAST Workshop
- Outpatient Parenteral Antibiotic Therapy/Hospital in the Home Seminar (CRE Reduce)

I also want to thank the Industry for their continuing support of the meeting and the Society. For Antimicrobials 2019 we have nine Foundation/Sustaining members including one Gold (MSD), two Silver (ThermoFisher and Cepheid), and six Bronze Members (bioMérieux, BD, Abbott and Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Pfizer and Astellas). In addition we have received sponsorship from Mayne Pharma, Roche, Hologic and Juno. The ASA Committee will be meeting with the Industry on Saturday 23rd February 2019 during the morning tea session.

2. ASA Membership

Continues to grow and in February 2019 the Society had over 900 members. Since the inaugural meeting in 2000, ASA membership has increased by over 350%.

3. ASA Newsletter

During the year, the Newsletter Editor Andrew Stewardson and the ASA Business Manager Jacson Chung produced three excellent ASA Breakpoint newsletters. These newsletters covered a variety of subjects related to antimicrobials including:

- Reflections on the MERINO Trial
- WHO Global Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance Report
- AGAR Surveillance Reports

In addition, the newsletter's regular sections continue to prove popular including

- In the News
- The Meeting Calendar
- EUCAST Updates
- CARAlert Updates

On behalf of the ASA Executive, I would like all ASA members to join me in thanking Andrew and Jacson for all their efforts and hard work. ASA members are encouraged to contact Andrew with ideas or manuscripts to include in the newsletter.

4. Travel Awards

ASA Travel Awards

Recipients of ASA travel awards to attend Antimicrobials 2019 were:

Iain Abbott, Bronwyn Achemedei and Riley Murphy

ASA Poster Award

The 2018 ASA Poster travel award winner was Evette Buono, from the Clinical Excellence Commission in New South Wales

Each travel award winner received a complementary conference registration, return economy airfare and a three day per diem.

bioMérieux Travel Award

bioMérieux continues to provide an award for a member to attend the ASA meeting. The Society is grateful to bioMérieux for their ongoing support towards the Society and its members.

The 2018 bioMérieux travel award winner was Shelanah Fernando, from Concord Hospital, New South Wales

The 2019 ASA Poster Travel Award and the bioMérieux Travel Award winners will be announced on Saturday morning before the commencement of the Plenary Session.

5. ASA Research Grant

The 2019 ASA Research Grant attracted eighteen high quality applications. A panel of independent reviewers using a standardised scoring system assessed the applications.

The ASA Committee thanks all ASA members for submitting their applications.

The 2019 the Research Grant was awarded to Kelly Wyres from Monash University.

It is anticipated an ASA Research Grant will be available in 2020.

6. ASA National EUCAST AST Committee

The AST committee held a workshop the day before Antimicrobials 2019 which was designed to be an interactive forum for EUCAST users and non-users alike to hear the latest on EUCAST activities and to discuss some of the more challenging areas of testing and any implementation issues.

The workshop included 11 presentations and attracted over 200 participants. The presentations will be available on the ASA website

For further information on the committee please contact John Turnidge (info@asainc.net.au)

7. ASA Representation

- Australian Scientific and Technical Advisory Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (ASA representative Ben Howden, AGAR representative Geoff Coombs)

8. ASA Affiliations

- Alliance for the Prudent Use of Antimicrobials (APUA)
- International Society of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy (ISAC)
Geoff Coombs - Secretary General (2017 – 2021)

- Asia-Pacific Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infection (APCCMI)
- International Society for Infectious Diseases (ISID)
- European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST)
John Turnidge Scientific Secretary of the EUCAST Steering Committee
- European Society for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID)

Jacson Chung attended the 2018 ESCMID Council meeting

9. ASA supported (in kind and/or financially):

- 2018 Antibiotic Awareness Week
- CRE Redefining Antimicrobial Use to reduce Resistance Dose Optimisation Workshop

10. ASA AGAR Webpage/Twitter

Webpage Developments

- Antimicrobials 2018 presentations uploaded

Members are encouraged to renew their ASA subscription on-line

11. Australian Group for Antimicrobial Resistance (AGAR)

ASA Vice President Geoff Coombs re-elected AGAR Chair

- AGAR continues as a working group of ASA
- The AGAR Executive manages the activities and operations of AGAR
- An AGAR representative, as recommended by the AGAR Executive, is co-opted onto the ASA Committee to provide a report on AGAR activities (in 2019 this will be the AGAR Deputy Chair Graeme Nimmo)
- ASA fund the maintenance and development of the AGAR website
- AGAR reports can be accessed via the AGAR website or by a link on the ASA website

12. Future ASA Annual Scientific Meetings

- Antimicrobials 2020 Melbourne 27 - 29 February 2019, Melbourne Convention Centre

Preliminary Program

Confirmed Howard Florey Oration

Lindsay Grayson (Australia)

Confirmed Plenary Speakers

Deborah Williamson (Australia)

Eric Pamer (USA)

Nick Daneman (Canada)

Symposium

1. Surveillance
2. IV Drug Use

3. Critiquing the Guidelines
4. No-antimicrobial Approaches/Treatments
5. The Importance of Laboratory Detection
6. Multiplex Platforms: More Answers than Questions

The Year in Review
Clinical Microbiology
Therapeutics

In addition, two pharmacy symposia are scheduled

- Antimicrobials 2021 Brisbane 25 - 27 February 2021
Brisbane Convention Centre

13. International Symposium on Staphylococci and Staphylococcal Infections (ISSI)

Perth Convention Centre
24 – 26 August 2020
Host Society: Australian Society for Antimicrobials
Chair of Scientific Organising Committee: Geoffrey Coombs

5. 2017/2018 Financial Report

An audited statement of the Society's finances was presented by the treasurer Dr Keryn Christensen which will be available on the ASA website. The Auditors have been changed to Anderson, Munro and Wylie. A very comprehensive report was issued.

There were no questions regarding the report from the floor and the report was moved by Graeme Nimmo, seconded by Tom Gottlieb and accepted by the meeting.

ASA aims to provide funding for two research grants in future.

6. Proposed 2019-2021 ASA Membership Subscription Fees

It was proposed by the committee that the membership fees be increased to the following:

- 6.1 Member \$99 (GST inclusive) per year
- 6.2 Associate Member \$55 (GST inclusive) per year

This was moved by John Turnidge, seconded by Graeme Nimmo and was voted on and accepted by the attendees of the meeting.

7. Antimicrobials 2020 (Melbourne)

This conference will be held on 27th – 29th February, 2020

8. Antimicrobials 2021 (Brisbane)

This conference will be held on 25th – 27th February, 2021

9. International Symposium on Staphylococci and Staphylococcal Infections (ISSSI) 2020 (Perth)

This conference will be held on 24th – 26th August, 2020

10. Other Business

10.1 Antibiotic Prescribing for UTIs.

An email was received from David Paterson regarding pharmacists having being allowed to prescribe antibiotics for UTIs. He requested that both ASA and ASID support the opposition of this suggestion.

John Turnidge and Morgyn Warner thought it would be a conflict of interest as they would both prescribe and dispense.

There was discussion about who would train pharmacists in examining patients and UTI diagnosis.

Tony Korman thought ASA should oppose strongly.

Minyon Avent commented that pharmacists could have appropriate training in diagnosis and treatment and be overseen by a doctor and proposed that ASA send statement opposing but offer positive suggestions

Ben Howden proposed that ASA write a letter opposing the suggestion.

10.2 AMR

Chris Coulter commented that ASA need professional lobbyists to raise awareness of The Australian public about AMR.

Bill and Melinda Gates funded professional lobbyists went to Parliament House to address Caucus about TB control

CC also suggested that ASA consider inviting survivors of serious AMR infections to come to the conference.

Meeting closed at 6.45

Attendance record: 50 signatures**Attendees**

Sally Roberts	Auckland Health Board, New Zealand
Tony Korman	Monash, VIC
Tom Gottlieb	Concord Hospital, NSW
Sally Partridge	Westmead, NSW
Ben Rogers	Monash, VIC
Peter Huntington	NSW Health Pathology
Elizabeth Grabsch	Austin Health, VIC
Jennifer Cooper	Cabrini Pathology
Elaine Cheung	Concord Hospital, NSW
Jacqueline Harper	Pathology QLD
Aileen Bannon	Port Macquarie Hospital, NSW
Jan Bell	University of Adelaide, SA
Norelle Sherry	Austin Health, VIC
Graeme Nimmo	Pathology Queensland
Keryn Christiansen	Retired, WA
Ben Howden	MDU, VIC
Geoff Coombs	Murdoch University, WA
Denise Daley	AGAR, Pathwest Laboratory Medicine, WA
Iain Abbott	The Alfred, VIC
Anna Blishen	Scone Equine Hospital, NSW
Seema Kanade	Dorovitch Pathology
Helen Ziochos	NSW Health Pathology
Despina Kotsanas	Monash Medical Centre, VIC
Xiao Ming Chen	SA Pathology
John Turnidge	EUCAST
Stanley Pang	Murdoch University, WA
Sam Abraham	Murdoch University, WA
Jason Kwong	Austin Health, VIC
Frances Hurren	Austin Health, VIC
Theresa Abajo	The Alfred, VIC
Jacqueline Williams	The Alfred, VIC
Belinda Pavone	Clinical Labs, VIC
Louise Prendergast	Melbourne Pathology
Morgyn Warner	SA Pathology
Minyon Avent	QLD AMS Program
Rietie Ventor	University of SA
Kylie Horne	Monash Health
Patricia Szczurek	Austin Health
Kathryn Wills	Queensland Health
Sonali Coulter	Queensland Health
Chris Coulter	Queensland Health
Kate McCarthy	Pathology Queensland
Andrew Ginn	MSW Health Pathology
Kathryn Daveson	ACT Health/ACSQHC
Amy Tan	RBWH, QLD
Andrew Bunke	TPCH, QLD
Lisa Waddell	TGA
Carolyn Beckett	Eastern Health
Sandra Allinson	SNP, QLD
Marianne Allen	SNP, QLD