

CAPACITY BUILDING CONFERENCE OF INVESTIGATORS OF THE MANAGEMENT OF PERICARDITIS IN AFRICA – 24-27 MARCH 2011

Cardiovascular disease in South Africa and in the rest of the sub-Saharan countries is predominantly due to non-ischaemic conditions such as hypertension, rheumatic heart disease, cardiomyopathy and pericardial disease. The IMPI project coordinators have formed a multi-centre, multi-national research network to *investigate the management of Pericarditis* (IMPI investigators) in Africa. One of the projects of the IMPI Investigators is the IMPI Trial which is partly funded by the Medical Research Council through a self-initiated grant which was awarded this year (2011) for a period of three years.

The philosophy of the IMPI Investigators is to build research capacity through 'training by doing'. All the participants in this conference brought their own datasets from their sites which have been generated over the past two years. The conference stressed that the investigators must carry out the research to the highest standards of clinical research and train others at their local institution on their return. Furthermore, the conference was used to develop a manuscript on the rationale and design of the IMPI project which will be used to share experiences on the development of research networks in resource poor settings with a wider audience.

The Capacity Building Conference was presented by faculty from the University of Cape Town, Department of Medicine. Professor Bongani Mayosi (Principal Investigator), Dr Mpiko Ntsekhe (Co Investigator) and Ms Veronica Francis (IMPI Research Coordinator).

The conference was attended by Investigators and Coordinators from the following institutions:

| Hospital | Location | |
|---|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Livingstone Hospital | Port Elizabeth | Eastern Cape, South Africa |
| Nelson Mandela Academic Hospital | Mthatha | Eastern Cape, South Africa |
| King Edward VIII Hospital | Durban | Kwazulu Natal, South Africa |
| Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital | Soweto | Gauteng, South Africa |
| Charlotte Maxeke Johannesburg Academic Hospital | Johannesburg | Gauteng, South Africa |
| Dr George Mukhari Hospital | Ga-Rankuwa | Limpopo, South Africa |
| Groote Schuur Hospital | Cape Town | Western Cape, South Africa |
| Karl Bremmer Hospital | Parow | Western Cape, South Africa |
| Central Hospital | Maputo | Mozambique |
| Malawi Military Hospital | Lilongwe | Malawi |
| Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital | Eldoret | Kenya |

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|---|----------|--------------|
| Mulago Hospital | Kampala | Uganda |
| Connaught Hospital | Freetown | Sierra Leone |
| University College Hospital | Ibadan | Nigeria |
| Kano Teaching Hospital | Kano | |
| Federal Medical Centre | Abeokuta | |
| University of Abuja Teaching Hospital | Abuja | |
| University of Calabar Teaching Hospital | Calabar | |
| Ahmadu Bello Teaching Hospital | Zaria | |
| Parienyatwa Teaching Hospital | Harare | Zimbabwe |

The following awards were presented during a Gala Dinner held on 2 April 2011:

| | | |
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| Medunsa Site | - | Best Performance Site |
| Maputo Site | - | Best Improvement Site 2011 |
| JHB Gen Site | - | Best Performance |
| IMPI Award (Best Recruitment Site 2011) | - | Mthatha Site |