

# CONGENITAL CARDIOLOGY TODAY

Timely News and Information for BC/BE Congenital/Structural Cardiologists and Surgeons

**Volume 7 / Issue 3A**  
**March 2009 - Special Issue:**  
**Preview of PCCS 2009 (Fifth**  
**World Congress of Paediatric**  
**Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery)**

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## CONGENITAL CARDIOLOGY TODAY

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## Preview of the Fifth World Congress of Paediatric Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery

By Prof. James Wilkinson,  
Chairman of Organizing Committee



I warmly invite you to join us in Cairns for the *Fifth World Congress of Paediatric Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery* between June 21st and 26th, 2009.

The theme for the meeting is "Beyond the Barrier," which relates both to our efforts to tackle issues at the very forefront of science, as they affect our specialty, and also to the Heritage listed Great Barrier Reef which lies in the ocean alongside us in Cairns and which all delegates should take the opportunity to visit.

Previous World Congresses in Paris, Hawaii, Toronto and Buenos Aires have been well-supported, and have provided a unique occasion for those caring for patients with congenital heart disease at all ages, as well as acquired heart disease in childhood, to come together from all parts of the world, and to discuss issues of common interest within the field.

The upcoming meeting will have a new style, with a parallel group of eight "Specialty Meetings" (Incorporated Satellites) within the framework of the World Congress, followed by three days of exciting academic activity and discussion.

All delegates will be registered for one of the specialty meetings, which will provide a focused start to the *World Congress*.

The "Specialty Meetings" will comprise:

1. Interventional (jointly organised with PICS) (3 days: Sun., Mon. and Tue.) "*PICS at the World Congress*"
2. Surgical (jointly organised with WSPCHS) (Mon. and Tue.) "*Second Biennial Scientific Meeting of The World Society for Pediatric and Congenital Heart Surgery at the World Congress*"
3. *Pediatric Cardiac Intensive Care* (Mon. and Tue.) jointly organised with PICS-AICS (includes perfusion and anaesthesia)
4. *Adult Congenital Heart Disease* (Mon. and Tue.) jointly organised with *International Society for Adult Congenital Heart Disease (ISACHD)*
5. *Paediatric Electrophysiology / Arrhythmia* (Mon. and Tue.) jointly organised with *PACES* and *PEDIRHYTHM*
6. *Imaging (including Fetal Echocardiography / MRI and CT)* (Mon. and Tue.)
7. Nursing (Mon. and Tue.)
8. *Paediatric Cardiomyopathy / Transplant (Monday) Pulmonary Hypertension* (Tue.)

Thereafter, the meeting will comprise a series of plenary meetings, each exploring a specific topic, alongside free abstract sessions and educational activities for trainees.

**Do you or your colleagues have interesting research results, observations, human interest stories, reports of meetings, etc. that you would like to share with the congenital cardiology community?**

Submit a brief summary of your proposed article to Congenital Cardiology Today at: [RichardK@CCT.bz](mailto:RichardK@CCT.bz)

# NuMED

## The Worldwide Leader in Pediatric Interventional Cardiology Products

We provide physicians with the highest quality devices for diagnosing and treating congenital heart disease or compromised peripheral arteries.

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I am happy to report to the pediatric cardiology community, and to all NuMED supporters on the status of the legal matters that have plagued both me and NuMED for the past 4+ years.

As many of you know, NuMED, in October 2004, was sued in US Federal District Court by the parents of three children, in whom NuMED's covered CP Stent had been implanted. At the same time, the US Food and Drug Administration, as well as federal prosecutors, investigated NuMED's distribution of the CP Stent, and took the position that NuMED had violated certain technical requirements imposed by the FDA.

Although I disagreed with the prosecutor's interpretation of the rules, given the risks involved in fighting the charges, I agreed to plead guilty to misdemeanors on behalf of myself, individually, and NuMED. This guilty plea resulted in both me and NuMED being placed on probation for a term of three years.

I am pleased to report that most of these legal matters have reached a positive conclusion, which will allow NuMED to re-focus its attention on saving the lives of children. First, US Federal District Court Judge Joseph J. Farnan granted my motion for an early termination of my individual probation. This motion was granted on January 14, 2009, and my term of probation was terminated as of that date, nearly 1 ½ years early. This means that I am again free to travel, without restriction, to any conference, meeting or other event to discuss the future of pediatric cardiology, and to continue NuMED's work in developing new products and improving existing products. Although NuMED will stay on probation, the terms of the probation require NuMED to do things it planned to do anyway, such as regulatory compliance and quality control.

As to the three civil lawsuits, NuMED settled two of the lawsuits in August 2008, ending them completely. As to the third, a trial was scheduled to start on February 10, 2009 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Thankfully, however, the Judge handling the case issued a Decision on February 6, 2009, dismissing all but one of the plaintiff's claims. The one claim that remains is a minor claim for medical monitoring, the damages for which are expected to be minimal. While this Decision does not completely end the case, and the plaintiff will undoubtedly appeal, this result, for now, is a major victory for NuMED, and for the world of pediatric interventional cardiology.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to each and every employee, distributor, physician, and other NuMED supporter for your encouragement and assistance during these difficult times. Now that these legal matters are substantially over, I am looking forward to brighter times ahead, and to continuing NuMED's work of saving children's lives.

Allen J. Tower  
Chief Executive Officer

Poster sessions will take place each day from Monday to Thursday. The industry / technical exhibition will be open from Sunday to Thursday evening.

The topics for the multi-disciplinary plenary meetings, each of which will run for half a day, on Wednesday (am and pm), and on Thursday morning will be:

1. Care of the Unwell Neonate
2. Childhood Origins of Atherosclerosis
3. Rheumatic Heart Disease
4. Hypoplastic Left Heart
5. Cardiac Care in The Developing World
6. Outcomes After Surgery for Congenital Heart Disease-Looking Beyond Survival
7. Forty Years of Fontan
8. Sudden Death in The Young
9. From Basic Science to Bedside:
  - a. What the Physiologist Can Teach The Clinician....
  - b. What Molecular Science Can Teach The Clinician About...
10. Program Development and Improvement –
  - a. New Initiatives
  - b. Doing Better

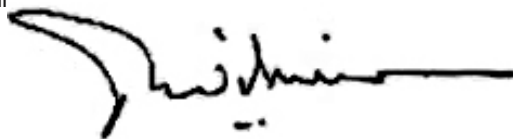
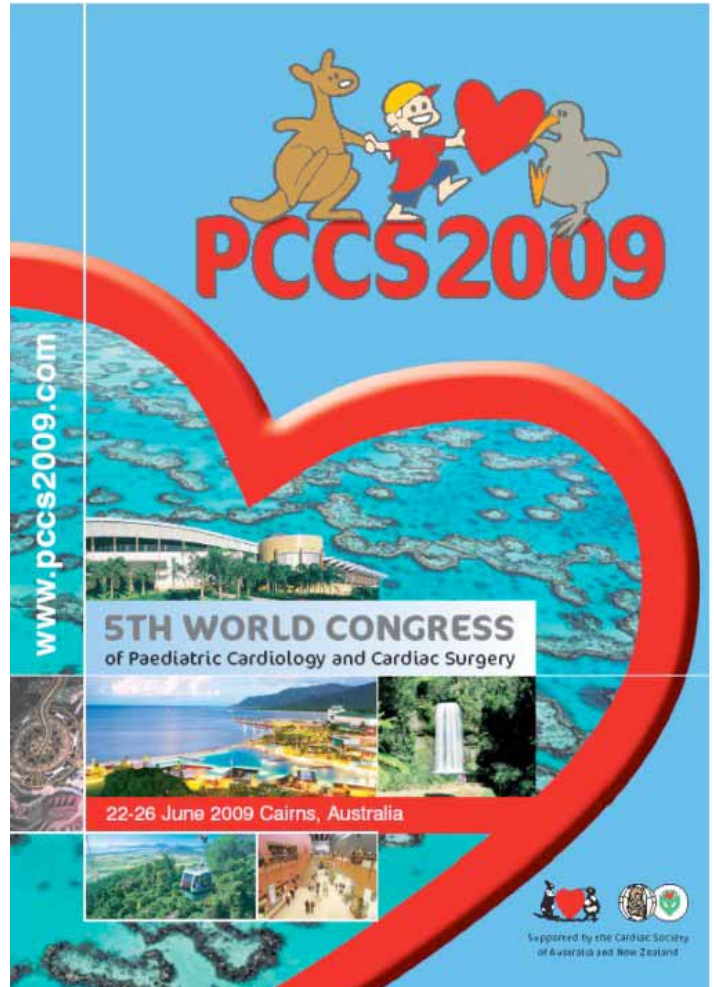
On Thursday afternoon, brief reviews of the highlights of the specialty meetings will allow delegates to update their knowledge of those areas covered in the other Specialty Sessions.

Five "Landmark Lectures" in Paediatric Cardiology, Paediatric Cardiac Surgery, Paediatric Cardiac Intensive Care, Paediatric Cardiac Nursing, and Paediatric Cardiac Pathology will highlight the state of knowledge in these specialties in 2009 and bring the congress to a conclusion on Friday morning, prior to the Handover Ceremony for the 2013 Congress in Cape Town.

We encourage you to participate in this meeting in Cairns, which is one of the most popular congress and tourist venues on the continent.

We hope that many of you will bring your families also to make the most of the many opportunities to explore the beautiful area of tropical rainforest alongside the Great Barrier Reef and other tourist attractions in Queensland and perhaps elsewhere in Australia as well.

James L Wilkitt

*The 5th World Congress of Paediatric Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery is sponsored by The Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand, with the support of the Association for European Pediatric Cardiology and the World Heart Federation.*

**The meeting has been approved for up to 33 AMA Category 1 CME Credits**



**PICS ~ AICS Preliminary Program  
Sunday - June 21**

- 8:10-9:40 am - Branch Pulmonary Artery Stenosis**
- Evaluation of Patients: Different Diagnostic Modalities - Lee Benson (Toronto)
  - Balloon Angioplasty: We Made Any Progress Over the Last Five Years? - Larry Latson (Cleveland Clinic)
  - Stent Implantation: Technical Considerations - Choice of Stents & Delivery Systems - James Lock (Boston)
  - Long-term Outcome of Stents in PA's - Toshio Nakanishi (Tokyo)
  - Surgical techniques and Outcome - Redmond Burke (Miami)
  - Intra-operative Stenting - Redmond Burke (Miami)

**Live Cases: India, Japan, Saudi Arabia**

**12:30-2:00 pm - Lunch Session: My Nightmare Cases in the Cath Lab**

- 5:00-6:00 pm - Workshop: Percutaneous Pulmonary Valve Therapy**
- Who Would Benefit From This Therapy? Indications & Evaluation For Eligible Patients - James Lock (Boston)
  - Melody Valve: Technical Considerations & Outcome - Philipp Bonhoeffer (London)
  - Edwards Sapien THV: Technical Considerations & Outcome - Ziyad M. Hijazi (Chicago)



**WORLD HEART  
FEDERATION®**



**PICS ~ AICS Preliminary Program  
Monday - June 22**

- 8:00-10:00 am - Workshop: The Atrial Septum**
- Anatomic Correlation - Paul Weinberg (Philadelphia)
  - Echocardiographic Correlation - Craig Fleishman
  - Erosions: Every Interventional Cardiologists Nightmare! - Zahid Amin (Chicago)

- Step-by-Step Closure of ASDs Using Various Devices:**
- The BioStar / BioTrek - Jo De Giovanni (Birmingham)
  - The Cardia Atrisept Device - Horst Sievert (Frankfurt)
  - The Helix Device - Tom Jones (Seattle)
  - The Figulla-Occlutech Device - Carlos Pedra (São Paulo)
  - The PFM Device - Miguel Granja (Buenos Aires)
  - The Amplatzer Device - David Balzer (St. Louis)
  - Newer Devices under investigation - Horst Sievert (Frankfurt)

**10:30 am-3:30 pm - Live Cases: Berlin, Kuala Lumpur, Seoul**

- 5:00-6:15 pm - The Ventricular Septum**
- Anatomic Correlation - Paul Weinberg (Philadelphia)
  - Echocardiographic Correlation - Simone Pedra (São Paulo)
  - Debate: PMVSD:
    - Surgical Closure of PM Should Be The Standard! - Michel Ilbawi (Chicago)
    - Device Closure of PMVSD in Select Patients Is as Good, If Not Better, Than Surgery! - Mario Carminati (Milan)
  - Percutaneous Device Closure of Muscular VSD's - Jo De Giovanni (Birmingham)
  - Periventricular Device Closure of VSD - Jozef Masura (Bratislava)

- 12:00-2:00 am - Lunch Breakout Sessions: Structural Heart Disease Intervention**
- Percutaneous Aortic Valve Therapies: State-of-the-Art Overview - Carlos Ruiz (New York)
  - Mitral Valve Regurgitation: Percutaneous Therapies - State-of-the-Art - Saibal Kar (Los Angeles)
  - Heart Failure Monitoring Devices: Where are We? Where are We Heading? - Saibal Kar (Los Angeles)



**Australia &  
New Zealand**

**PICS ~ AICS Preliminary Program  
Tuesday - June 23**

**8:00-8:45 am - Live Case: Melbourne**

**8:45-9:45 am - Coarctation of the Aorta**

- Balloon Angioplasty: Technique & Long-Term Outcome - Omar Galal (Riyadh)
- Stent Implantation: Technique & Long-Term Outcome - Thomas Forbes (Detroit)
- Interventions for Complex Arch Hypoplasia - John Cheatham (Columbus)
- New Stent Technologies - Martin Schneider (Berlin)

**9:45-10:45 am - Embolization Therapy**

- Embolization Therapy in Patients With Pulmonary AVMs - Robert White (New Haven)
- Management Of APC's in The Cath Lab - Shakeel Qureshi (London)
- Coronary AV Fistulas: Closure Technique & Results - Eric Horlick (Toronto)
- Retrieval of Embolized Foreign Bodies! - John W. Moore (San Diego)

**11:15 am-12:15 pm - Live Cases: Melbourne**

**Lunch Session - The Sick Neonate, PDA Closure and PICS Achievement Award**

- Evaluation of the Sick Neonate With Pre and Post Cardiac Intervention: Intensivist Perspectives - Gil Wernovsky (Philadelphia)
- Catheter Intervention for Left Heart Obstructive Lesions - Audrey Marshall (Boston)
- The Surgeon's Role in the Above! - Redmond Burke (Miami)
- Devices for PDA Closure - John Cheatham (Columbus)
- Coils Including pfm Nit Occlud - Alejandro Peirone (Cordoba)

**2:00-2:40 pm - Live Cases: Melbourne**

**2:40-3:25 pm - Critical PS-PA/IAS: State-of-the-Art**

- Diagnostic Evaluation Before Treatment: Decision Making - Craig Fleishman (Orlando)
- Indications and Interventional Management: Results in Critical PS - Lee Benson (Toronto)
- Indications and Interventional Management: PA/IAS - Shakeel Qureshi (London)

**3:25-4:25 pm - Hybrid Management of HLHS**

- Pathology Demonstration - Paul Weinberg (Philadelphia)
- Echocardiographic Evaluation - TBA
- Geographical Approach & Outcome:
  - Giessen - Dietmar Schranz (Giessen)
  - Columbus - Mark Galantowicz (Columbus)

**4:25-4:55 pm - Coronary Arteries: What Does the Pediatric Cardiologist Need to know!**

- Angiographic Assessment of the Coronary Arteries - Clifford Kavinsky (Chicago)
- Post Kawasaki Disease - Hideaki Senzaki (Saitama)

**4:55-6:00 pm - New Imaging Techniques in the Structural**

- The Use of CT Angiography in the Cardiac Catheterisation Laboratory - Jack Rome (Philadelphia)
- Initial Experience with a Combined Cardiac Cath Lab / MRI Suite: Is There a Role? - Lee Benson (Toronto)
- The Future Role of Echocardiography in the Cath Lab: 3D, 4D and Beyond - Craig Fleishman (Orlando)
- 3D Angiography: What Is It and How Can It Help Us? - Evan Zahn (Miami)



**Second Biennial Scientific Meeting  
World Society for Pediatric and Congenital Heart Surgery  
Monday - June 22 / Tuesday - June 23**

**MONDAY**

**8:45-10:00 am**

- Nomenclature and Classification of Common Atrioventricular Junction - Marshall L. Jacobs (Philadelphia)
- The Stella van Praagh Memorial Lecture: "Anatomy of Common Atrioventricular Junction" - Robert H. Anderson (London)
- Genetics of CAVC and Common Syndromes - TBA
- Fetal Evaluation - Gerald Tulzer (Linz)
- Diagnostic Evaluation: Echocardiography and the Role of Catheterization - Rodney Franklin (London)

**10:30 am-12:30 pm**

- Echo Assessment of Ventricular Balance in CAVC - TBA
- Intensive Care and Perioperative Management - TBA
- Anaesthesia for CAVC - TBA
- Challenges with CAVC in Developing Nations - Rob Kinsley (Johannesburg)
- Role of Surgical Palliation - TBA
- The Conduction System in CAVC - Hiromi Kurosawa (Tokyo)

**2:00-3:30 pm**

- Unresolved Controversies in Repair of CAVC - Giovanni Stellin (Padova)
- Two-patch Repair for CAVC- Zohair Al-Halees (Riyadh)
- Single-Patch Repair of CAVC - Richard A. Jonas (Washington)
- Patchless Repair of CAVC - Graham Nunn (Brisbane)
- Challenging AV Valve in CAVC - Christian Brizard (Melbourne)
- Reoperation for Left AV Valve Regurgitation - John Lamberti (San Diego)

**4:00-5:30 pm**

- Anatomy of CAVC with Complex Associated Lesions - Robert H. Anderson (London)
- Repair of CAVC and Tetralogy of Fallot - François Lacour-Gayet (Denver)
- Repair of CAVC with DORV, TGA or Truncus - Christo I. Tchervenkov (Montreal)
- Severely Unbalanced CAVC - David Overman (Minneapolis)
- CAVC and Aortic Arch Obstruction - Hal Walters (Detroit)

**TUESDAY**

**8:45-10:30 am**

- Late Presentation of CAVC and Role of PAB - TBA
- Challenges in Late Repair of CAVC - Rajesh Sharma (Delhi)
- Chronic Pulmonary Hypertension in CAVC - Judith Therrien (Montreal)
- Re-operations in the Adult with CAVC - TBA
- Lessons Learned From the STS Database - Jeffrey P. Jacobs (St. Petersburg, USA)
- Lessons Learned From the EACTS Database - Bohdan Maruszewski (Warsaw)
- Late outcome after Repair of CAVC - Gil Wernovsky (Philadelphia)

**11:30 am-12:05 pm - Presidential Address and Introduction of Guest Speaker**

- Aldo R. Castaneda Lecture: Global Challenges in Delivery of Cardiac Care for Congenital Heart Disease - Marc de Leval (London)



**Pediatric Cardiac Intensive Care Specialty Meeting  
Monday - June 22 / Tuesday - June 23**

**MONDAY**

**9:00-10:30 am - Anaesthesia Breakout Session: Training the World**

**11:00 am-12:40 pm - Expert Panel** (Panel: Greg Hammer (Stanford), Helen Holtby (Toronto), Peter Laussen (Boston), Ian James (London), Ehrenfried Schindler (St. Augustine), Michael Clifford (Melbourne))

**Topics:**

- Steroids: Which and When?
- Blood glucose: Is Tight Glycemic Control Indicated & Justifiable, and What Level is Best and Safest?
- My Favorite Inotrope: Choice of Inotrope /s: Routine and Rescue
- Antifibrinolytics: Which is Best, and is There a Role for Aprotinin?
- NIRS Monitoring in the OR. Should it be Mandatory?
- Extubation in the OR. Should it be Routine?

**9:00 am-12:40 pm - Perfusion Breakout Session**

**2:00-3:20 pm - Risky Business - Chair** - Peter Laussen (Boston)

**4:00-5:40 pm - Risky Business - Chair** - David Baines (Sydney)

**TUESDAY**

**9:00-10:20 am - Targeting Systemic Oxygen Delivery in the Peri-Operative Period**

- Why Should We Monitor Systemic Oxygen Delivery? The Brain Matters - Dean Andropolous (Houston)
- Monitoring End Organ Oxygen Delivery. When to Intervene? - Gill Wernovsky (Philadelphia)
- How Good was the Surgery? Peri-Operative Cardiac Assessment - Andrew Redington (Toronto)
- Monitoring Oxygen Delivery after ICU Discharge - Nancey Ghanayam (Milwaukee)

**11:00 am-12:40 pm**

- Manipulating Systemic Oxygen Delivery: Minimising the Inflammatory Response - TBA
- Manipulation of Afterload: the Old and the New - TBA
- Electrophysiology and CRT in the ICU - Johnny Millar (Melbourne)
- Future techniques: Ischaemic Preconditioning - Michael Cheung (Melbourne)

**2:00-3:20 pm - Extracorporeal Life Support**

- Four decades of ECMO. What Have We Learned? - Des Bohn (Toronto)
- Berlin Heart - Brigitte Stiller (Freiberg)
- ECMO or VAD: Which is Best - Tom Karl (Brisbane)
- Rapid-deployment ECLS: Boston Experience - Peter Laussen (Boston)

**4:00-5:40 pm**

- Optimising Systemic Oxygen Delivery During ECLS - Bill Gaynor (Philadelphia)
- Clots and bleeds. Have We Got Any Better? - Warwick Butt (Melbourne)
- Retrievals on ECLS - Lara Shekerdemian (Melbourne)
- Newer Indications and Techniques for ECLS - Warwick Butt (Melbourne); Graeme McLaren (Singapore)

**Adult Congenital Heart Disease Specialty Meeting  
Monday - June 22 / Tuesday - June 23**

**MONDAY**

**9:00 am-10:20 pm - Marfan / Aortopathies**

- Why Wait Beyond 40mm for Surgery? - TBA
- Drug Therapies: What and When? - TBA
- The Extent of the Problem - Joseph Perloff (Los Angeles)
- Surgical Management - Glen Van Arsdell (Toronto)

**11:00 am-12:40 pm - Arrhythmias in Mustards / Fontans**

- Drug Management - TBA
- Ablation in Mustards / Fontans - Jonathan Kalman (Melbourne)
- SN Function after Maze - Tim Hornung (Auckland)
- Fontans: Why Not Convert All? - Barbara Deal (Chicago)

**2:00-3:20 pm - Pregnancy in ACHD**

- Physiology and Risk Stratification - Judith Therrien (Montreal)
- Management of the Cyanotic Patient - Candice Silversides (Toronto)
- Anticoagulation - Carole Warnes (Rochester)
- Selecting Contraception - TBA

**4:00-5:40 pm - Ebstein's Anomaly + Abstracts**

- When to Refer the Ebsteins Patient to the Surgeons: Should We Refer Earlier? - Joe Dearani (Rochester)
- Ebsteins Surgery in the Real World - Bill Brawn (Birmingham)

**TUESDAY**

**9:00-10:20 am - ACHD Imaging + Abstracts**

- Novel Methods for RV Echo Assessment - David Sahn (Portland)
- What can MRI Add in Complex ACHD - Andrew Taylor (London)

**11:00 am-12:40 pm - ACHD Around the World**

- The Chennai Experience - KM Cherian (Chennai)
- Egypt and ACHD Surgery - TBA
- ACHD in Asia-Pacific - Heung Jae Lee (Seoul)
- Lessons Learned from Developing ACHD Clinics in the UK - TBA

**2:00-3:20 pm - Difficult Cases: Panel Discussion**

**4:00-5:40 pm - Pulmonary Hypertension in ACHD**

- Should all Eisenmengers Patients be Treated with Pulmonary vasodilators? - David Celermajer (Sydney)
- Drug Treatment of PHT in ACHD: New and Combination Therapies - Maurice Beghetti (Geneva)
- Raised Resistance in Fontans: Do Pulmonary Vasodilators Help? - Mike Landzberg (Boston)
- Lessons from Basic Science - Jeff Fineman (San Francisco)



**Paediatric Cardiomyopathy / Transplant  
& Pulmonary Hypertension Specialty Meeting**  
Monday - June 22, / Tuesday - June 23

**MONDAY**

**9:00-10:20 am - Session With Electrophysiology Group**

**11:00 am-12:40 pm - Paediatric Cardiomyopathy**

- The Diagnostic Workup of Children with Cardiomyopathy - Jeff Towbin (Cincinnati)
- What Have We Learned from Registries - NACCS - Piers Daubeney (London)
- What Have We Learned from Registries - PCMR - Steve Lipshultz (Miami)
- Anthracycline Cardiomyopathy - Steve Lipshultz (Miami)

**2:00-3:20 pm**

- Medical Management of Dilated CM in Children - John Lynn Jeffries (Houston)
- Indications, Contraindications and Results - Daphne Hsu (New York)
- Managing the High Risk Recipient - Linda Addonizio (New York)

**4:00-5:40 pm**

- Mechanical support - Jack Price (Houston)
- Dealing with Late Complications of Heart Transplantation - Linda Addonizio (New York)
- Questions and Discussion

**TUESDAY**

**9:00-10:20 am - Pulmonary Hypertension**

- Epidemiology, Classification and Pathology of PHT - Trevor Williams (Melbourne)
- Pathophysiology of Pulmonary Hypertension - Glennis Haworth (London)
- From Bench to Bedside - Dan Penny (Melbourne)
- Diagnosis and Assessment - Robyn Barst (New York)

**11:00 am-12:40 pm**

- Current Therapies - Robyn Barst (Boston)
- Assessing the Efficacy of Therapy - Anne Keogh (Sydney)
- Emerging Therapies - Lewis Rubin (San Diego)
- Pulmonary Hypertension in the Newborn - Dan Penny (Melbourne)

**2:00-3:20 pm**

- Nursing Considerations in the Management of Pulmonary Hypertension - Michelle Rose (Melbourne)
- Pulmonary Hypertension in the ICU - Maurice Beghetti (Geneva)
- Pulmonary Hypertension in Developing Countries: India - Glennis Haworth (London)
- TOPP Registry: Design, Implementation, Enrolment - Maurice Beghetti (Geneva)

*Final session with Adult Congenital Heart Disease group*



***“The upcoming meeting will have a new style, with a parallel group of eight “Specialty Meetings” (Incorporated Satellites) within the framework of the World Congress, followed by three days of exciting academic activity and discussion.”***





# PICS-AICS 09

Pediatric and Adult Interventional Cardiac Symposium

JUNE 21-23, 2009  
**CAIRNS**  
**AUSTRALIA**

AT THE 5th WORLD CONGRESS OF PAEDIATRIC CARDIOLOGY AND CARDIAC SURGERY (WCPCS)

[www.picsymposium.com](http://www.picsymposium.com)

## Course Directors:

*Dr. Ziyad M. Hijazi, Dr. William Hellenbrand, Dr. John P. Cheatham, Dr. Carlos Pedra, and Dr. Geoffrey K. Lane*

## Course Co-Director:

*Dr. Zahid Amin*

- **FOCUSING ON THE LATEST ADVANCES IN INTERVENTIONAL THERAPIES FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS** with congenital and structural heart disease, including the latest technologies in devices, implantable valves, stents and balloons. Special sessions will provide an in-depth focus on septal defect closure, coarctation stenting, embolization therapies, emerging new imaging modalities for cardiac intervention, and hybrid intervention for HLHS.
- **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** for all professionals who work in Pediatric and Adult Cardiology, the catheterization lab and operating room.
- **HOT DEBATES** between cardiologists and surgeons on controversial issues on intervention for congenital and structural heart disease.
- The popular session **"MY NIGHTMARE CASE N THE CATH LAB"**
- **LIVE CASE DEMONSTRATIONS** from multiple international venues featuring approved and non-approved devices will be transmitted daily from many cardiac centers around the world. During these live cases, attendees will have the opportunity to interact directly with the operators to discuss the management options for these cases.
- **ACCREDITATION** - CME accreditation will be available. Please see the PICS website for detailed information.
- **ABSTRACTS** - Interventional abstracts will be presented at the World Congress meeting June 22-26, 2009

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

This year's PICS-AICS meeting will take place June 21-23, 2009 in Cairns, Australia. PICS-AICS is a sub specialty meeting of the World Congress meeting. For more information go online to: [www.picsymposium.com](http://www.picsymposium.com)



[www.picsymposium.com](http://www.picsymposium.com)



**Imaging Specialty Meeting  
Monday - June 22 / Tuesday - June 23**

**MONDAY**

**9:00-10:20 am - Fetal Cardiology**

- Growth and Development of the Fetal Heart - Normal and Abnormal Anatomy - TBA; Robert Anderson (London)
- First Trimester Imaging - Lisa Hornberger (Edmonton)
- Strategies to Improve Prenatal Detection Rates - Jeffrey Smallhorn (Edmonton)

**11:00 am-12:40 pm**

- Cardiac and Vascular Implications for SGA - Helena Gardiner (London)
- Fetal Interventions - Wayne Tworetsky (Boston)
- Planning Management of Difficult Fetal Heart Disease - Jack Rychik (Philadelphia)
- Prenatal Counselling - The Surgeon's Role - Richard Jonas (Washington); Jack Rychik (Philadelphia)

**2:00-3:20 pm - Cardiac and Vascular Mechanics**

- Cardiac Mechanics - From Structure to Function - Ian Le Grice (Auckland)
- Torsion/diastolic Function / Suction - Luc Mertens (Leuven)

**4:00-5:40 pm**

- Synchrony - Prognostic Implications - TBA
- Dyssynchrony and Congenital Heart Disease - Ann Dubin (Stanford)
- Arterial Dynamics and Ventricular Load - Heideaki Senzaki (Saitama)
- Ventricular Vascular Interaction - Dan Penny (Melbourne)
- Assessment of endothelial function - where are we in 2009 - David Celermajer (Sydney)

**TUESDAY**

**9:00-10:20 am - 3D Echocardiography**

- 3D imaging - Clinical Utility - Gireshe Shirali (Charleston)
- 3D Assessment of Extracardiac Structures - TBA
- 3D Echocardiography in the OR and guiding catheter Interventions - Gerald Marx (Boston)
- 3D Assessment of AV valve: Form and Function - Jeffrey Smallhorn (Edmonton)

**11:00 am-12:40 pm - MIR**

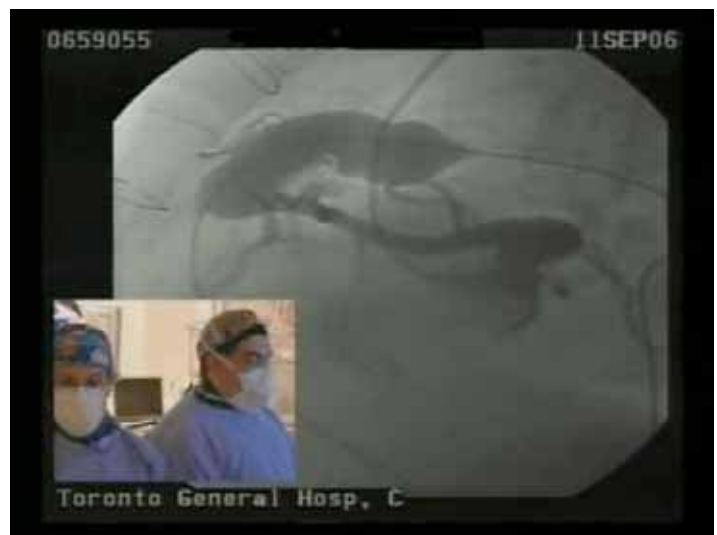
- Principles and Pitfalls in Paediatric CMR - Shi Joon Yoo (Toronto)
- Structure, Function and Paediatric Heart Disease - TBA
- MRI and Heart Failure - TBA
- Future Directions in Cardiac MRI - Michael Cheung (Melbourne)

**2:00-2:40 pm - Current Issues in Imaging**

- Tailored Cardiovascular CT to Minimise Radiation Dose in Children - Hyun Woo Goo (Seoul)
- Fusion / Future Directions - David Sahn (Portland)
- Discussion - Fusion Technology - Is it the Future?

**3:00-3:30 pm - Debates**

- Cardiac Cath Is Not Required to Assess the Patient with Cavopulmonary Anastomosis: Andrew Taylor (London) - *Affirmative*; James Lock (Boston) - *Negative*
- A \$50,000 Echo Machine is Adequate for the Diagnosis and Management of Paediatric Heart Disease - Wayne Tworetsky (Boston) - *Affirmative*; Norman Silverman (Stanford) - *Negative*



**Nursing Specialty Meeting  
Monday - June 22 / Tuesday - June 23**

**MONDAY**

**9:00-10:20 am - Getting Patients Through the Maze I..Hospital Care**

- Role of the Nurse After a Fetal Diagnosis - Lorrie Cender (Vancouver)
- The Sick Neonate Without a Fetal Diagnosis - Ms. Rebecca Tracey (Melbourne)
- Clinical Care of The Sick Neonate... What the Nurse Needs to Know - TBA
- Care Management - Swee Kum Ho (Melbourne)

**11:00 am-12:40 pm - Ethical Issues in Multidisciplinary Decision-Making - TBA**

- Fast-tracking... Does He Really Need an ICU Bed? - Vanessa Ramirez (London)
- The Long Stay Patient, Nursing, Family and System Stresses - Martin Elliott (London)
- A Parent's Experience... What it's Really Like - Damien Atkinson (Parent - Victoria)

**2:00-3:20 pm - Getting Through the Maze II...Beyond Four Walls**

- Transitioning the Fragile Neonate to the Community - Nancy Ghanayam (Milwaukee)
- Adaptation of the Child and Family to Life with a Chronic Illness - Kathy Mussato (Milwaukee)
- The Independent Family...Cutting the Apron Strings - Mary Tallon (Perth)
- Specialist Care and the Community...Chronic Pulmonary Hypertension - Michelle Rose (Melbourne)

**4:00-5:40 pm**

- Preparing Families for Hospital Admission - Karen Leclair
- Cross-Cultural Care - Heather Spinetto (Auckland)
- Care at a Distance...the Remote Patient - Karen Eagleson Brisbane
- The Other Side of the Fence. What We Really Want - Karinna McCormack (Parent)

**TUESDAY**

**9:00-10:20 am - Getting Patients through the Maze III...Good to Go**

- **Can I Be a Normal Teenager?** - Ivan Macciocca (Melbourne)
- **Improving Compliance in the Rebellious Teenager** - Fiona Newall (Melbourne)
- **Community Palliative Care** - Karen Bycroft (Auckland)
- **Who Should Care for Adults with CHD Anyway?** - Andrew Redington (Toronto)

**11:00 am-12:40 pm - Preparing the Patient for Transition to Adult Services - Geraldine Cullen-Dean (Toronto)**

- Logistical issues in transitioning to adult services - Felicity Sloman (Melbourne)
- Purple Heart - TBA

**2:00-3:20 pm - Nurses as Leaders**

- Nurses as Leaders - The Search For Excellence - TBA
- Multiskilling vs Jack-of-All-Trades, The Specialist Cardiac Nurse - Anne Layther (London)
- The Role of the Nurse Practitioner in a Paediatric Cardiac Program - Ana Kennedy (Auckland)

**4:00-5:40 pm - How to Build a Nursing Leadership Team Around Patient Needs - TBA**

- Developing Nurses in the Brain Drain - Paravathi Iyer (Delhi)
- The Nurse as a Research Leader - Kathy Mussato (Milwaukee)
- Giving Over Power, What the Doctor has to Lose - Martin Elliott (London)



### Electrophysiology and Arrhythmia Specialty Meeting Monday - June 22

#### 9:00-10:20 am - Genetics, Myocardial Disease and Electrophysiology are Increasingly Intertwined (Joint Session with Pulmonary Hypertension and Cardiomyopathy)

- Cardiomyopathy and the Rhythmonome are Inseparable - Jeff Towbin (Houston)
- Electrophysiology and Myocardial Disease: from Mouse to Man - TBA
- Genetics of Cardiomyopathy; Intellectual Process or Clinically Useful? - Chris Semsarian (Sydney)
- Brugada, CPVT, ARVC and Conduction System Disease; Why the overlap? - TBA

#### 11:00 am-12:40 pm - ICD's

- **Debate:** In Children & Teenagers CRT for DCM Should Always Come with a Defibrillator - *Affirmative* - Frank Cecchin (Boston); *Negative* - TBA
- ICD Disasters; Revisions and Extractions - Richard Friedman (Houston)
- How Can We Decrease ICD Complications in Children? - Elizabeth Stephenson (Toronto)

#### 2:00-3:20 pm - Resynchronisation: the New Panacea

- Indications for CRT - David Rosenthal (Stanford)
- Assessing Synchrony: How to Do It and What's Important - Jan Janousek (Leipzig)
- CRT for the LV - Gill Gross (Toronto)
- CRT for the RV and the Single V - Anne Dubin (Stanford)

#### 4:00-5:40 pm

- Optimal Sites for Single Ventricular Lead Placement; Endocardial and Epicardial - Peter Karpawich (Detroit)
- **Debate:** QRS Duration has Become Irrelevant in Prescribing CRT - *Affirmative* - Mark Alexander (Boston); *Negative* - Karen McLeod (Glasgow)
- Tuning AV and VV Interval Post CRT Implant; Methods and Importance - Mr. Suleman Kamberi (Melbourne)

### Electrophysiology and Arrhythmia Specialty Meeting Tuesday - June 23

#### 9:00-10:20 am - Ablation

- Anatomy for the Paediatric Electrophysiologist - Robert Anderson (London)
- EP Anatomy: Post Surgical; Knowledge is Everything! - TBA
- Practical Lessons from the Basic Science; RF, Cryo and New Energy Sources - TBA
- Ablation Toys; Robots and 4D; Do We Need Them? - Andreas Pflaumer (Munich)

#### 11:00 am-12:40 pm - Debate

- In 2009 Any Child / Teenager Having Ablation for AVNRT Should Have Initial Modification with Cryo-Energy - *Affirmative* - Joel Kirsh (Toronto); *Negative* - Karen McLeod (Glasgow)
- VT Ablation in Paediatrics and Congenital Heart Disease - Jim Morwood (Brisbane)
- Tips and Tricks for the Unexpected Difficult Ablation / Unusual Substrate - Frank Cecchin (Boston)

#### 2:00-3:20 pm - Chanellopathies

- SQT/LQT: Is Gene Specific Therapy Now a Reality? - Michael Ackermann (Rochester)
- CPVT: Sneaky as They Come, But We are Getting Smarter! - TBA
- Investigating the PM Negative Young Sudden Death; Integrating the Genetic & Family Investigations - Jon Skinner (Auckland)
- Brugada Syndrome: Management and ICD Indications in Children - Elizabeth Stephenson (Toronto)

#### 4:00-5:40 pm - HYPOTHETICAL: Barbie Almost Drowns in a Pool...

- **Chairperson:** Andrew Davis (Rochester); **Panel:** Michael Ackerman (Rochester), Jon Skinner (Auckland); Mr. Ivan Macciocca (Melbourne); Ms. Vanessa Connell (Melbourne); Jo Duflou (Sydney)

### Master Classes and Symposia Tuesday / Wednesday / Thursday

#### TUESDAY

6:00-7:00 pm - Aspects of Neonatal Surgery (Master Class)

#### WEDNESDAY

7:30-8:45 am (Breakfast Symposium) - Complex Reconstruction of the Outflow Tracts

12:50-1:50 pm (Lunch Symposium) - Kawasaki Disease

12:50 -1:50 pm - (Lunch Symposium) - Congenitally Corrected Transposition

6:00-7:00 pm - Fontan 1 (Master Class)

6:00-7:00 pm - Fontan 2 (Master Class)

#### THURSDAY

7:30-8:45 am - (Breakfast Symposium) - Toward Objective Outcome Data

12:50-1:50 pm (Lunch Symposium) - Cardiac Development

12:50-1:50 pm (Lunch Symposium) - Tetralogy with Pulmonary Atresia and Systemic to Pulmonary Collaterals (MAPCAs)



**Half-Day Symposiums**  
 see [www.PCCS2009.com](http://www.PCCS2009.com)  
 for all sessions, details and up-to-date information  
 Monday - June 23

- 9:00 am-12:40 pm - Ethical & Psycho-Social Issues in Congenital Heart Disease: Fetus to Adult**
- Ethical Challenges Faced - TBA
  - Ethical Challenges to be Faced - Krishna Iyer (Delhi)
  - How Relevant are the Ethical Principles of Autonomy, Beneficence, No Harm & Justice to the Management of Complex CHD? - Abraham Steinberg (Israel)
  - Case Presentations for Panel & Audience Discussion - Samuel Menahem (Melbourne)
  - The Anguish of Parents of an Infant with Serious CHD - Jenny Re (Melbourne)
  - Relevance to Prenatal and Postnatal Diagnosis - TBA
  - Relevance to Practice: The Patient and Caregiver - Samuel Menahem (Melbourne)
  - Nursing and Allied Health Contribution to Management - Kathy Mussato (Milwaukee)



*“Poster sessions will take place each day from Monday to Thursday. The industry / technical exhibition will be open from Sunday to Thursday evening.”*

**Symposiums and Plenary Sessions**  
 see [www.PCCS2009.com](http://www.PCCS2009.com)  
 for all sessions, details and up-to-date information  
 Wednesday - June 25

- 9:00-10:20 am - Care of the Unwell Neonate**
- Essential Elements of a Successful Neonatal Program - James Tweddell (Milwaukee)
  - Identifying the 'At Risk' Neonate - Tom Gentles (Auckland)
  - Toward Better Imaging to Refund the Operative Plan - TBA
- 11:00 am - 12:40 pm**
- Is Preoperative Brain Imaging Indicated for All Neonates? - Tom Karl (Brisbane)
  - Impact of Prematurity & Low Birth Weight in Decision Making - Van Arsdell (Toronto)
  - Strategies to Progress the Most Precarious Neonates Through Intensive Care - TBA
  - Consideration of Long Term Outcomes - Who to Treat and for How Long? - TBA
- 9:00-10:20 am - Childhood Origins of Atherosclerosis**
- Childhood Origins of Atherosclerosis - John Deanfield (London)
  - Familial Hypercholesterolaemia - Ian Hamilton-Craig (Gold Coast, QLD)
- 11:00 am-12:40 pm -**
- Obesity in Children - Kate Steinbeck (Sydney)
  - Salt, a Neglected Risk Factor - TBA
  - How to Detect Arterial Change in Vivo - David Celermajer (Sydney)
  - Screening for Atherosclerosis in a Hospital Setting - TBA
- 9:00-10:20 am - Rheumatic Heart Disease**
- ARF: Global burden of RHD. Guidelines for Diagnosis - Jonathan Carapetis (Darwin)
  - Primary and Secondary Prophylaxis in Africa - Bongani Myosi (Cape Town)
- 11:00 am-12:40 pm -**
- Standardisation of Echocardiographic Criteria for RHD - Nigel Wilson (Auckland)
  - School Screening for RHD. Implications for Vaccines - Jonathan Carapetis (Darwin)
  - How Echo Assists in Timing of Surgery and Suitability - Tom Gentles (Auckland)
  - Outcomes After Valve Repair in RHD - Christian Brizard (Melbourne)
  - Global Approaches to Decreasing Morbidity & Death from RHD - Krishna Kumar (Cochin)
- 2:00-3:20 pm - Hypoplastic Left Heart**
- The impact of Fetal Diagnosis of HLHS on outcome - Jack Rychik (Philadelphia)
  - Fetal Intervention for HLHS - Audrey Marshall (Boston)
  - Therapeutic Ultrasound for IAS in HLHS - Achi Ludomirsky (New York)
- 4:00-5:40 pm**
- The Impact of HLHS Surgery in a Medium Sized Institution - J. Tweddell (Wisconsin)
  - Hybrid Approaches to Intervention - John Cheatham (Columbus)
  - Tailoring the Management Option in the Individual Patient - Peter Laussen (Boston)
  - Outcomes Late After Surgery for HLHS - Hedwig H. Hövels-Gürich (Aachen)

**Symposiums and Plenary Sessions**  
see [www.PCCS2009.com](http://www.PCCS2009.com)  
for all sessions, details and up-to-date information  
Wednesday - June 25

**2:00-3:20 pm - Cardiac Care in The Developing World**

- Setting Priorities. How Can Disease Data and Economics Help? - T. Duke (Melbourne)
- What It Means in the Developing World to Have a Child with CHD? - P. Iyer (Delhi)
- The Mission Model or The Transfer of Knowledge Model? - TBA

**4:00-5:40 pm**

- Paediatric Cardiac Care in The Middle East. What More Should be Done? - O Galal (Rhiyadh)
- Paediatric Cardiac Care in India. Whence We Came and Where We Go - R.K. Kumar (Cochin)
- What Do We Need? The View from Papua New Guinea - TBA
- Matching Cardiac Services to Economic Development - Beatrice Ferrara (Maputo)
- What Do We Need to Do Over the Next Five Years? - Trevor Duke (Melbourne)

**2:00-3:20 pm - Outcomes After Surgery - Looking Beyond Survival**

- Looking Forward - Expectations of Survival - Frank Hanley (Stanford)
- Looking Backwards - Lessons from the ACHD Clinic - Carol Warnes (Rochester)
- Assessing Functional Outcomes in the Physical Domain - TBA

**4:00-5:40 pm**

- The Neurodevelopmental Signature of CHD in Children - Gill Wernovsky (Philadelphia)
- Impact of Periprocedural Events on Brain Outcome - Lara Shekerdemian (Melbourne)
- Early Intervention in Children with Neurodevelopmental Problems - R. Hunt (Melbourne)
- Surgical Strategies to Minimize Morbidity in the OR and ICU - David Winlaw (Sydney)



*"The 'Beyond the Barrier Australian Experience' Evening is not to be missed."*



**Symposiums and Plenary Sessions**  
 see [www.PCCS2009.com](http://www.PCCS2009.com)  
 for all sessions, details and up-to-date information  
 Thursday - June 25

- 9:00-10:20 am - Forty Years of Fontan (With the AEPC)**
- Milestones in the Surgical Approach - Marc de Leval (London)
  - Have the 10 Commandments Doubled or Halved? - James Wilkinson (Melbourne)
  - Concepts - Ventricular Volume Load vs. PA Growth - Marc Gewillig (Leuven)

- 11:00 am-12:40 pm**
- Evidence-Based Transcatheter Interventions - James Lock (Boston)
  - Conduction and Rhythm Management - Thomas Paul (Göttingen)
  - The Forty-year Old Fontan Patient -TBA
  - When Should We Transplant? - Ivan Rebeyka (Edmonton)

- 9:00-10:20 am - Sudden Death in The Young**
- Autopsy Findings in Sudden Unexpected Death in the Young - Jo Duflou (Sydney)
  - The Molecular Autopsy - Michael Ackermann (Rochester)
  - Sudden Death in Childhood Cardiomyopathies - Lessons from the Australian Childhood Cardiomyopathy Study - Andrew Davis (Melbourne)

- 11:00 am-12:40 pm**
- Resuscitation - Ricardo Samson (Tucson)
  - Debate - Mass Infant ECG Screening is a Waste of Health Service Resource - Jon Skinner (Auckland) - *Affirmative*; Graham Stuart (Bristol) - *Negative* - TBA
  - Adult CHD: Evidence Based Data for ICD Prescription - TBA
  - Preventing Sudden Death in Young People - Is There Evidence That We can Make a Difference? - TBA

- 9:00-10:20 am - What Physiologists Can Teach Clinicians....**
- Pump Function - Andrew Redington (Toronto)
  - Vascular Function - Dan Penny (Melbourne)
  - Relationship Between Heart and End-organ Metabolism - David Nelson (Houston)

- 11:00 am-12:40 pm - What Molecular Science Can Teach Clinicians**
- The Development of Congenital Heart Disease - TBA
  - Pulmonary Hypertension - J. Fineman (San Francisco)
  - Cardiomyopathy - Jeff Towbin (Cincinnati)

- 9:00-10:20 am - Program Development. New Initiatives**
- Developing Excellence - Ed Bove (Ann Arbor)
  - Fundraising for Excellence - TBA
  - Research Collaboration - TBA

- 11:00 am-12:40 pm - Program Development. Doing Better**
- Measuring Performance for Improvement - Jeff Jacobs (St. Petersburg, FL)
  - Balancing Competing Demands - Martin Elliott (London)
  - When Things Go Wrong - TBA
  - Transition to Adult Services - Adrienne Kovacs (Toronto)

- 2:00-5:00 pm - Simultaneous Sessions**
- What's Hot in: Intervention; Surgery; Adult CHD; Imaging; Electrophysiology; Nursing; ICU; Cardiomyopathy / PHT
  - Meeting of the Pan Arab Congenital Heart Disease Association (PACHDA)

- Landmark Lectures**  
**Friday - June, 26 2009**  
**9:00 am-12:00 pm**
- **Anatomy of Congenital Heart Disease**  
 - Prof. Robert Anderson (London)
  - **Pediatric Cardiology**  
 - Prof. Andrew Redington (Toronto)
  - **Pediatric Cardiac Surgery**  
 - Prof. Pascale Vouhe (Paris)
  - **Pediatric Cardiac Nursing**  
 - Ms. Kathy Mussato (Milwaukee)
  - **Pediatric Cardiac Intensive Care**  
 - Prof. Gil Wernovsky (Philadelphia)

**Country Information**

**Australia** - The landscape is a picture of amazing diversity, contrasts and natural wonder. It is adventurous, stylish and friendly, has unique flora and fauna and a fantastic climate.

Australia's diverse mix of environments and cultures offers an encounter like no other. Explore lively, sophisticated cities, experience the awe-inspiring beauty of Australia's natural wonders, discover the ancient mysteries of Aboriginal culture, and see and feel the rigors of life in the rugged Outback. Regardless of which path you take, Australia guarantees the experience of a lifetime!

**Cairns** - Set in a tropical rainforest with deep blue seas and coral islands, it is the capital of Far North Queensland. This cosmopolitan city is Australia's premier destination from which to visit the pristine environments of rain forests and the spectacular Great Barrier Reef. To the west are the tablelands and the outback: waterfalls, rivers and beautiful lakes, wetland areas of magnificent bird life and the spectacular Undara Lava Tubes.

**Cairns Convention Centre** - The Cairns Convention Centre is a award-winning, world class meetings venue in the tropical paradise of Cairns, fringed by the Great Barrier Reef and World Heritage Rainforest. Cairns is the very heart of the Asia Pacific region and its International Airport makes it the most convenient of convention locations. For the second consecutive year, the Cairns Convention Centre was ranked in the top five in the 'World's Best Convention Centre of the Year' survey.



## GALA FUNCTION "Beyond the Barrier Australian Experience" Evening

### Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception

An invitation is extended to all delegates to attend the *Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception* located in the Cairns Convention Centre.

Formal speeches during the *Opening Ceremony* will be punctuated with fantastic local talent and the *Welcome Reception* held amongst the congress exhibition will give you the opportunity to catch up with old friends, make new contacts or just enjoy the chance to mingle with fellow attendees at one of the largest gatherings of your peers for the year. Your hosts in Cairns will showcase fantastic food and classic wines.

It promises to be a wonderful event with entertainment, stimulating conversation and warm hospitality. *Dress is Smart Casual.*

#### Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception

Date: Sunday, 21 June 2009

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Cost: Included in full registration fee; Additional tickets: \$65.00

### "Beyond the Barrier Australian Experience"

The "Beyond the Barrier Australian Experience" Evening is not to be missed. While traveling to Cairns, Australia's Great Barrier Reef is a must do site seeing experience. But there is so much more to Cairns than the reef.

Join your fellow delegates for a night in the enchanted rainforests of Kuranda. Fun activities will include an amphibious Army Duck Tour of the rainforest and the cultural experience of the Pamagirri Aboriginal Dancers. There will also be Australian wildlife including kangaroos, crocodiles and koalas, a bush band and a wide variety of food and drink. This will be a relaxed and fun filled evening not to be missed. *Dress is Smart Casual.*

#### "Beyond the Barrier Australian Experience" Evening

Date: Thursday, 25 June 2009

Time: 6:00 - 11:30 pm

Cost: \$150.00 per person





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### General Information

**Banks** - Banks are open from 9:30 am - 4:00 pm, Mon. to Thu., and from 9:30 am - 5:00 pm on Fri. Most banks are closed weekends and public holidays. Automatic Teller Machines are open 24 hours, and are located throughout the city and surrounds. Facilities for exchange of currency are available at the airport, larger hotels and banks.

**Currency Exchange** - Decimal currency is used in Australia (AUD). The units are dollars and cents. Australian notes are: \$100, \$50, \$20, \$10, \$5. Coins are: \$2, \$1, \$0.50, \$0.20, \$0.10, \$0.05 cents. Visit [www.coinmill.com](http://www.coinmill.com) for current currency rates

**Car Rental** - Cars can be rented in Australia from local or international companies. Average cost per day for a medium sized car is A\$70.00. All cars are right-hand drive.

**Credit Cards** - Credit cards are widely accepted. Commonly recognized cards include Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Diners Club. Only these cards are accepted by the Congress.

**Electricity** -The electrical supply is 240 volts, 50 Hz. The connection for appliances is a flat 3-pin plug. Most city hotels provide 110 volts for shavers.

**Passport And Visa:** All international visitors require a valid passport and visa for entry into Australia (New Zealand visitors require a valid passport only). A facility for electronically issuing visas, The Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) system, is currently available through international travel agents and airlines in over 30 countries including the US, UK, parts of Western Europe, Singapore, Japan, Hong Kong and Taiwan. This system also includes pre-clearance for entry which reduces the time needed to process passengers on arrival. For non-ETA countries, visas are issued from Australian Embassies and Consulates around the world. For further information, please visit: [www.immi.gov.au](http://www.immi.gov.au)

**Tax:** A tax rate of 10% is applied to the purchase of goods and services called the Goods and Services Tax (GST). Tax is already included in the advertised prices.

**Tipping:** Tipping is not widespread or regulated, and is your prerogative. It is customary to tip hotel porters, and a gratuity of about 10% is usual in restaurants if good service is received. No service charge is added to hotel or restaurant bill.

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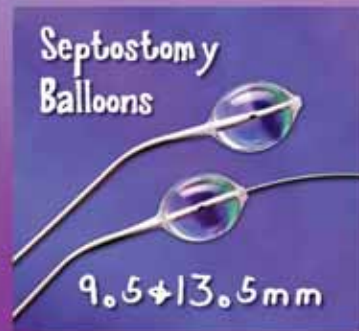


***Do you or your colleagues have interesting research results, observations, human interest stories, reports of meetings, etc. that you would like to share with the congenital cardiology community?***

***Submit a brief summary of your proposed article to  
RichardK@CCT.bz***

*The final manuscript may be between 400-4,000 words, contain pictures, graphs, charts and tables.*

# BECAUSE TOMORROW IS JUST A HEARTBEAT AWAY



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