IN THIS ISSUE

Messages from Headquarters

- Letter from the Editor: Stepping Up to the Plate
- President's Message: Leadership and Accessibility
- Copyright Questions - A Response from Headquarters

AACVPR Conferences

- 2008 Call for Abstracts
- ANCC Review Course
- AACVPR Program Management Conference

Member Resources

- Upcoming AACVPR Teleconferences
- AACVPR Teleconference CDs Available
- 2008 Fellowship Applications Due April 1!
- ACVPR Innovation Award
- Call for 2008-09 BOD Nominations
- Importance of Program Certification
- Member Discounts on ANCC Certification
- Member Discounts for the 2008 Cardiometabolic Health Congress

Inside the Industry

- Summit on Maximizing Functional Capacity in Older Cardiovascular Patients
- Local Action Works, Too
- Go Red to Spread the Word
- Educational Opportunities

Pulmonary Point of View

- PR Founding Father Honored
- Conferences for Hypertension
- Palliative Care Addressed

JCRP Highlights

Committee News

2008 Calendar of Events

AACVPR National Office Contact Information

Messages from Headquarters

Letter from the Editor: Stepping Up to the Plate

Linda K. Hall, PhD, FAACVPR
Spring is here! How do I know that? Baseball spring training news fills the sports section of all of the national newspapers. Who was traded, what team looks like a winner, and even predictions of future World Series teams fill opinion columns. But what does baseball have to do with cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation? Quite a bit, actually, when you think about it and look at how we play the games we have to play.

In this issue you will read about the “big game” that AACVPR and its regional and state societies played in Washington, DC, against the biggest team of all – CMS, Senators, and Representatives. A lot of preparation and pre-game training had to happen to play in this league.

At home, in our programs, we are constantly practicing and working on game strategy to:

- Increase referral rates
- Keep patients from dropping out
- Work with intermediaries on LCD’s and NCD’s and reimbursement.
- Struggle with our administration to stay in the game and demonstrate proven value

Having come from a baseball-oriented family -- my grandfather played semi-pro in 1898, and a great uncle pitched for the Washington Senators in 1916 -- I know how valuable every player on the team is. I also know, as a former program developer, manager, and director, that we need to develop teams that have a myriad of skills that will not only keep us operational but allow us to thrive. We need players who:

- are willing to stay late, clean equipment, and scrub the pool floor when it is empty and needs cleaning;
- love working with older people and know how to communicate with them;
- won’t quit when the going gets tough or when there is a new job to be done that requires new skills;
- are willing to step up to the plate in tough situations; and
- think out of the box – come up with new ideas, and are willing to try them out.

Our State, Regional and National organizations need players who are willing to:

- be members;
- get active on committees;
- take leadership roles as presidents, secretaries, and committee chairs; and
- step up to the plate and do the hard work.

State societies are having their annual meetings in the next 3 to 4 months. Will you be going? If not, why not? You can’t be on the team if you are not willing to step up to the plate.

President’s Message: Leadership and Accessibility

Larry F. Hamm, PhD, FAACVPR

Webster’s Dictionary provides the definition of “accessible” as: capable of being reached; easy to communicate or deal with.

Last November at the AACVPR Affiliate Leadership Forum in Chicago, we had many interesting discussions. However, I found one particular comment to be especially interesting. The comment had to do with the fact that AACVPR leadership is perceived as being very busy, and, therefore, members are reluctant to contact them.

My immediate response to the comment was that our leadership should always be accessible to the membership. As leaders, our role is to act as stewards of the AACVPR, while maintaining the direct communication link with members. The leaders of AACVPR are real people, just like you and we encourage you to contact us with your questions and comments.

Since that comment struck a chord with me, this issue of News & Views is a good opportunity to address it to a wider audience. Do members who are in leadership positions take on additional responsibilities and an increased volume of work? The answer is a resounding, yes. Does this place leadership in a special category that somehow separates them from the general AACVPR membership? Absolutely not.

Hopefully, AACVPR members who are currently in leadership positions – Directors on the Board, officers, committee chairpersons and members – are easy to communicate with and available, when needed, to answer questions or discuss an issue. In my opinion, being available is one of the inherent responsibilities of leaders. After all, leaders are merely members who have the privilege of assuming a leadership position for a relatively short period of time.

How can members access leaders? Telephone and email communications are obvious but there are additional opportunities. Invite Board members to give a national update at your Affiliate meetings so that you can have a face-to-face opportunity for direct interaction. Seek out leaders at national events that you may be attending, such as Day on the Hill or the AACVPR Annual Meeting. Introduce yourself at every opportunity and we will do the same.

Accessibility of leadership is an important element for any successful organization. AACVPR is a relatively large association, but not so big that we can’t stay connected.

Copyright Questions - A Response from Headquarters
As you may have noticed in the last reimbursement update, there was a copyright note asking you not to forward Reimbursement Updates to non AACVPR members. We have received questions about the copyright and would like to provide some clarification.

As an AACVPR member, you receive many valuable benefits including the timely Reimbursement Updates to answer your reimbursement questions. Other valuable benefits include the Journal of Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation and Prevention and News & Views – all of these AACVPR publications are copyrighted and may not be copied or duplicated. AACVPR benefits are supported by members, like you, through membership dues and AACVPR relies on members to support the many, many programs and activities that AACVPR is involved in. We encourage you to tell your non-member colleagues about the many valuable benefits of AACVPR and invite them to join. It will help us to provide relevant and timely resources and services for all AACVPR members. Membership has its privileges!

AACVPR 2008 Annual Meeting: September 18-21, Indianapolis, Indiana

Call For Abstracts
Submit your abstract today!
AACVPR is now accepting abstracts for the 23rd Annual Meeting of AACVPR. Presenting an abstract at the AACVPR Annual Meeting is an excellent opportunity to share your research, discuss your best practices, and highlight your facility to colleagues and leaders in the field of cardiovascular and pulmonary rehabilitation. Abstracts are reviewed by the AACVPR Research and Education Committees. Scientific Oral Presentations and Posters are published in the convention issue of The Journal of Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation and Prevention, and clinical posters are available in the AACVPR online syllabus prior to the Annual Meeting.

For more information, please visit the AACVPR Web site in the coming months. If you have any questions about the abstract submission process, please contact AACVPR Headquarters at speakers@aacvpr.org with any questions.

Mark your calendars for the 23rd Annual Meeting of AACVPR in Indianapolis, Indiana, September 18-21, 2008. We look forward to seeing you in Indianapolis!

ANCC Review Course
Back by popular demand, the ANCC Review Course will be part of the AACVPR Annual Meeting again this year. This will be held on September 17, one day prior to the Annual Meeting. This review seminar offers practical applications, valuable study tips, and solid strategies for preparing for the certification exam. Core concentration areas pertaining to specialty areas are:

- Cardiac and Vascular Risk
- Risk Reduction
- Hypertension Management
- Dyslipidemia Management
- Pathophysiologic Processes
- Cardiac and Vascular Assessment
- Cardiac and Vascular Disease Manifestations
- Invasive Management of Cardiac and Vascular Disease
- Cardiovascular Pharmacology
- Special Situations
- Psychosocial Aspects

Up to 7.5 Continuing Education Hours will be awarded at the conclusion of this seminar, and a content slide handbook is included with this seminar. The cost is $175 for co-host staff or $190 for general registration. Register by September 7, 2008.

Announcing: NEW! AACVPR Program Directors' Conference!
Managing Contemporary Cardiac & Pulmonary Rehabilitation Programs: Strategies for Success

Thursday, June 5, 2007
8:15 AM – 4:15 PM
Chicago, O’Hare Airport Location
Donald Stephens Convention Center, Rosemont, IL
Click here for the registration form
Click here for hotel information

AACVPR is proud to present this NEW Program Directors’ Conference. This program is designed for mid-level managers/directors in established Cardiac and/or Pulmonary Rehab facilities. This intermediate-level program, presented by four nationally-recognized experts in the field, will provide attendees with the most cutting-edge information and best practice recommendations for running successful rehabilitation programs.

Attendees will receive practical, relevant information and tools that can be customized for their individual facilities. Handouts will include sample
documents, policies, chart forms, background papers, as well as a take-home checklist to evaluate the status of key items/issues in their individual facilities.

**Program Topics**

**Ensuring Medicare Compliance**
Because the majority of patients in most programs are covered by Medicare, program directors need to have the latest information to meet the CMS rules and documentation requirements. Topics include:

- Latest rules/regulations for billing to Medicare
- Required documentation
- Proper coding/billing to maximize your program reimbursement

*Presented by Karen Lui, RN, MS, FAACVPR*
Legislative Assistant, GRQ Consulting, Washington, D.C.

**Applying National Patient Safety Goals**
Patient safety is the top priority for external inspectors and hospital administrators. Are you sure that you have the latest information to ensure that your program meets the criteria for National Patient Safety Goals? Topics include:

- Medication reconciliation
- Hand-off communications
- Fall risk assessment

*Presented by Pat Comoss, RN, BS, FAACVPR*
Consultant, Cardiac & Pulmonary Rehab Nursing Enrichment Consultants Inc.
Harrisburg PA

**Measuring Program Quality**
Programs must continually measure quality as well as progress toward patient outcomes. This process depends on data collection, analysis, and response. Topics include:

- Outcome measurement
- Goals & benchmarks
- Performance improvement

*Presented by Bonnie Sanderson, RN, PhD, FAACVPR*
Research Associate Professor, Division of Cardiovascular Disease - University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham AL

**Maintaining Vitality and Viability in your Program**
Successful cardiac & pulmonary rehab programs must develop the right standards & skills for their own personnel as well as nurture relationships with patients & physicians. Successful programs depend on people – patients, physicians, & rehab providers. Topics include:

- Staff competencies
- Performance measures
- Patient satisfaction

*Presented by Jody Hereford, RN, MS, FAACVPR*
Principal Consultant, Hereford Consulting Group
Boulder CO

Be sure to register soon. **Space is limited and CEU's will be available!**

**Member Resources**

**Upcoming AACVPR Teleconferences**

**Understanding & Utilizing Long Term Oxygen Therapy**
*Presented by Trina M. Limberg, BS, RRT, FAARC, FAACVPR*
March 27, 2008, 1-2 pm Eastern Time (12 pm Central, 11 am Mountain, 10 am Pacific)
Register: [http://www.aacvpr.org/education/march08telereg.doc](http://www.aacvpr.org/education/march08telereg.doc)

Trina Limberg, Director, Pulmonary Rehabilitation Department at the University of California San Diego Medical Center, will examine evidence-based guidelines and position papers for a historical look at oxygen therapy as a treatment to improve survival in chronic lung disease patients.
There will be a review of the various resources at hand for treating the ambulatory patient with exertional hypoxemia. The importance of repeated assessments with exertion and delivery devices will be stressed and the need for reproducible standards for conducting oxygen assessment will be addressed. The presentation will focus on how pulmonary rehabilitation professionals can lend their skills in the assessment, putting forth recommendations for appropriate equipment and educating patients as well as physicians in long-term oxygen therapy use. Following this teleconference, participants will:

- Understand the importance of oxygen assessment with different delivery devices during exertion;
- Identify various features and limitations of delivery devices; and
- Gain insight to improve oxygen prescription adherence and patient self-monitoring.

This teleconference presentation is sponsored by an educational grant from Nonin Medical & Respironics.

**Prices, Payors and Programs: Expanding Your Clinical Programs by Partnering with Insurers and Employers**

*Presented by Jean Einerson, MS, FAACVPR, Chair HP&R Business Committee, Joli Studley, MS, & Walt Horner, MS*

April 24, 2008, 1-2 pm Eastern Time (12 pm Central, 11 am Mountain, 10 am Pacific)

Register: [http://www.aacvpr.org/education/april08telereg.doc](http://www.aacvpr.org/education/april08telereg.doc)

U.S. health care costs doubled from 1990 to 2001 and are expected to double again by 2012. Employers and insurers are looking to hold health care costs down. Since most of the costs are due to chronic diseases, cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation professionals are in a position to offer unique opportunities to provide preventive services for employers and insurers. Joli Studley, Manager of Clinical Reporting and Evaluation from Highmark, will share the top five ways clinical programs can provide outreach services to an insurance company. Jean Einerson, Program Director and Clinical Manager at University Hospital Preventive Cardiology Program, will present survey results the Health Policy & Reimbursement Committee sent AACVPR membership. This will provide an overview of how clinical programs have expanded services outside the traditional reimbursement model. Walt Horner, Program Director at Hamot Hospital, will share how partnering with an insurance company has impacted his programs, cardiac rehabilitation, community service, local competition and bottom line. Following the presentation, participants will:

- Be able to identify five ways to outreach to an insurance company.
- Understand how cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation programs can become a vendor for insurers and employers.
- Become aware of how community and lifestyle programs can benefit their hospital and clinical programs.

**AACVPR Teleconference CDs Now Available!**

**Motivating Cardiac and Pulmonary Patients to Enjoy a Taste for Living**

*Presented by: Alisa C. Krizan, MS, RD, LD*

This presentation provides the most current information on the Mediterranean Diet, its key holistic components, and ways to enhance our cardiac and pulmonary patients to enjoy and utilize this healthy, natural diet. This research-based presentation will show that people living in the Mediterranean region are among the healthiest in the world. The research also indicates that these individuals demonstrate low rates of chronic diseases, such as cardiac and pulmonary disease, as well as cancer. Daily recommendations will be made to include, not only a variety of healthy foods, but to include other components of healthy lifestyles, such as physical activity. Consumption of a variety of plant sources, including fruits, vegetables, potatoes, whole grains and breads, beans, nuts, and seeds, will be discussed in detail. The teleconference will conclude with the “take-away” message focusing on the ease of making simple changes in the cardiac and pulmonary diet to improve the individual’s overall health by utilizing plant based foods and minimizing processed foods. Order at [http://www.aacvpr.org/sept07cdorderform.doc](http://www.aacvpr.org/sept07cdorderform.doc).

**Resistance Training: Rationale, Safety, Contraindications, and Prescriptive Guidelines**

*Presented by: Barry Franklin, PhD, FAACVPR*

This presentation will focus on the role of resistance training in persons with and without cardiovascular disease, with specific reference to health and fitness benefits, rationale, relevant physiologic considerations, and safety. Participation criteria (i.e., applications in varied patient subsets) and prescriptive guidelines will also be discussed, along with recent provocative data showing that muscular strength is inversely associated with all-cause mortality and the prevalence of metabolic syndrome, independent of cardio-respiratory fitness levels. Download the order form at [http://www.aacvpr.org/june07cdorderform.doc](http://www.aacvpr.org/june07cdorderform.doc).

**Expanding Your Program: Integrating Disease Management into Traditional Cardiac Rehabilitation Programs**

*Presented by: Mark Senn, PhD, FAACVPR*

Are you looking for ways to expand your Cardiac Rehab program? This teleconference is presented by Mark Senn, PhD, whose program was honored with the 2006 AACVPR Innovation Award. The presentation is designed to offer practical strategies to integrate a disease management model into a traditional cardiac rehabilitation program. At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to identify the importance of a disease management model and its value to a traditional cardiac rehabilitation program. Attendees will become familiar with a model disease management program and will have the necessary tools to implement such a program within their own facilities. Download the order form at [http://www.aacvpr.org/may07cdorderform.doc](http://www.aacvpr.org/may07cdorderform.doc).

**2008 Fellowship Applications Due April 1!**

Are you planning to join the prestigious list of your peers who have exemplified professional excellence in the fields of cardiac or pulmonary rehabilitation? If so, please complete a 2008 Fellowship Application by April 1. Only a typed 2008 application will be accepted. Click here to download the application and letter of recommendation form.

The following requirements are the minimum for consideration of advancement to Fellow status:
• Be an AACVPR Member in good standing for at least 3 consecutive years.
• Attend a minimum of two AACVPR Annual Meetings.
• Demonstrate high standards of professional development and a commitment to the goals and long range activities of the Association.
• Submit evidence of outstanding performance in cardiovascular and/or pulmonary rehabilitation over a period of at least five years relative to 1) clinical practice, 2) research, and/or 3) professional education.
• Receive recommendations in writing from two current Fellows of the Association
• Receive approval of the Leadership Committee.

AACVPR Innovation Award

Deadline: Monday, April 21
The AACVPR is proud to announce the Fourth Annual Innovation Award competition! The purpose of the Innovation Award is to highlight and recognize those programs that have enhanced the delivery of pulmonary or cardiac rehabilitation in especially creative ways through program development and operations. The criteria for the award are based on the definition of Disease Management, as set forth by the Disease Management Association of America (DMAA). Successful applicants demonstrate excellence and innovation in program development and operations in the realm of Disease Management. For a description, award criteria, and application, please visit: http://www.aacvpr.org/2008_innovation_awardapp.doc

2008-09 BOD Nominations

Do you know an exceptional leader? Are you looking for an outlet for your leadership skills? Here’s a reminder to be thinking about nominating leaders to serve on the AACVPR Board! The call for nominations will be out shortly!

If you or someone you know is interested in serving on the AACVPR Board of Directors, please complete the nomination form and return it to the AACVPR National Office via e-mail to aacvpr@aacvpr.org by May 5. The Nominations Committee will review all nominations and will present a slate of candidates to serve on the 2007-2008 AACVPR Board.

Importance of Program Certification

Why is AACVPR Program Certification important? Certification provides an opportunity for program directors/managers to review their processes and compare their programs to current standards and guidelines. There are a number of other great reasons that program managers should consider applying for AACVPR Program Certification, including:

• AACVPR Program Certification is recognized by a growing number of insurance companies and contractors.
• AACVPR Certified Programs are listed on the American Heart Association patient resources Web site.
• Program Certification provides an objective assessment of adherence to updated clinical standards and guidelines.
• It requires a systematic approach to clinical care.
• It promotes a culture of quality patient care in the Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehabilitation facilities.
• It provides patients with a benchmark to compare CR and PR programs for quality care.
• It provides CR and PR program leaders with benchmarks and best practice guidelines for quality standards.

If your program is not yet designated as an AACVPR Certified Program, consider applying for program certification. New applications will be available on the AACVPR Web site on September 1, 2008. The deadline for Program Certification applications is December 1, 2008.

Member Discounts on ANCC Certification

Another Great Member Benefit:
$50 off Initial Certification and 20% off Certification Renewal with ANCC!
Did you know that your AACVPR membership saves you money on the ANCC Cardiac Vascular Nurse certification exam and renewal?

There are many outstanding reasons to pursue ANCC certification in your specialty area:

• Professional and personal recognition – Certification shows your nursing peers, interdisciplinary colleagues, and health care consumers that you are committed to maintaining the highest levels of practice knowledge and competence. Certification helps you be your best!
• Career progression – Increasingly, hospitals and other health care entities are attaching strong value to certification when it comes to staffing and advancement decisions. Get certified…and get noticed!
• Reimbursement and rewards – The Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS), along with third-party reimbursers, have mandated certification in order to obtain reimbursement for services. What’s more, certification has been identified in various surveys as having a significant positive impact on potential salary. Certification pays dividends!

ANCC Certification 2008-2009 Pricing

Initial Certification 5-Year Renewal
Be sure to include a photocopy of your membership card (or certificate) with your ANCC certification or renewal application to secure these great rates!

**Member Discounts on the 2008 Cardiometabolic Health Congress**

**October 16-18, 2008**  
Sheraton Hotel, Boston, MA

The 2008 Cardiometabolic Health Congress features world-renown experts translating cutting-edge science into practical approaches to manage the problems associated with obesity, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease. If you’ve been looking for a multidisciplinary interactive experience where your clinical knowledge can rise to the next level, attend the 2008 Cardiometabolic Health Congress and participate in an expert-level conference where novel ideas are generated! Earn 30+ CME credits! For more information or to register visit [www.cardiometabolichealth.org](http://www.cardiometabolichealth.org) or call 877-571-4700. **AACVPR members receive a $100 discount.**

**Distinguished Chairpersons:** Christie Ballantyne, Robert Eckel, Richard Nesto, Jay Skyler

**Partial Faculty List:** Marty Abrahamson, Louis Aronne, Silva Arslanian, George Bakris, Christopher Cannon, Tim Church, Thomas Giles, Henry Ginsberg, Ed Horton, C. Ronald Kahn, Richard Kahn, Robert Kushner, Peter Libby, Alice Lichtenstein, David Ludwig, Peter McCullough, Jorge Plutzky, Robert Ratner, Paul Ridker, Thomas Wadden, Peter Wilson

---

**Inside the Industry**

**Summit on Maximizing Functional Capacity in Older Cardiovascular Patients: From Babyboomers to the Very Old**

**Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D.C.**  
**June 27-29, 2008**

**Summit Objectives:**

- To review physiological and clinical implications of aging, the close associations of aging to CVD, and the impact of aging processes on functional capacity and quality of life in older adults.
- To understand the political, social, and financial implications of cardiovascular aging, and the related burdens to the US as our population ages.
- To understand strategies to modify aging patterns, and to thereby optimize health parameters, particularly cardiovascular health, in spite of the pressures created by aging.

**Intended audience:**

Physicians (Cardiologists, Internists, Family Practitioners), Nurses, Exercise Physiologists, Physical therapists, Health Administrators, and Medical Industry Leaders. A broad, sophisticated outreach to medical caregivers, allied health professionals, and others oriented to care/management of older adults.

**Registration Fee:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Physicians</th>
<th>Allied Health Professionals</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AACVPR Member Rate</td>
<td>$340</td>
<td>$280</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular Rate</td>
<td>$390</td>
<td>$350</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Click here to register or download a copy of the registration form and fax to: 301-656-7704 or mail to: 7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 1050, Bethesda, MD 20814, Attn: SGC-June Meeting

For reservations at the Omni Shoreham Hotel, please click here for online access or call 1-800-545-8700.

Contact The Society of Geriatric Cardiology at info@sgcard.org or by phone at 301-656-1802 for more info.
During this meeting I did the following:

- I gave Mr. Butler a copy of the legislation (available from the AACVPR Web site)
- I gave Mr. Butler a copy of the members of congress who have signed on as cosponsors (also available on the AACVPR Web site)
- Mr. Butler asked me to very briefly explain why this legislation is important. My response was, “Currently CMS regulations do not have a coverage policy for pulmonary rehabilitation or guarantee cardiac rehabilitation services as a benefit to our constituents. The current legislation will make both cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation a guaranteed benefit for Medicare patients.”
- Mr. Butler also asked if this legislation had bipartisan support, which it does as represented by the cosponsor list.

I received a call from Mr. Butler yesterday informing me that he had received word from their Washington Office that Congressman Wilson has signed on as a sponsor to H.R. 552. Now that South Carolina has a Congressman committed to this bill, it is my hope that our other Representatives and Senators will follow suit. I encourage each of you to contact your Representatives and Senators and ask for their support. I hope that the steps I outlined above will be as effective for you.

Good luck and best regards,
Mark

Go Red to Spread the Word

Help spread the word about women and heart disease today. Heart disease is the number 1 killer of women in America. The Go Red For Women movement is mobilizing women, men, celebrities, health care providers, and politicians to embrace and elevate the cause of women and heart disease. Go Red For Women is a national organization, as well as a powerful grassroots organization, uniting women in diverse neighborhoods from coast to coast. It’s also easier than ever for each of us to help stimulate heart disease awareness on our own, while living a heart-healthier lifestyle -- visit www.goredforwomen.org.

Educational Opportunities

EuroPRevent 2008 Congress
May 1-3, 2008, Paris, France
The next annual congress of the European Association for Cardiovascular Prevention & Rehabilitation (EACPR) will take place in Paris, France, May 1-3, 2008. It is organized for the first time by the European Society of Cardiology (ESC), whose mission is to reduce the burden of cardiovascular disease in Europe. EuroPRevent 2008 will bring together international experts in the fields of prevention and health policy, epidemiology and public health, cardiac rehabilitation, exercise physiology, sports cardiology, and basic science, and a special focus will be made on diabetes, hypertension and lipids. It is the only European congress to embrace the whole spectrum of CVD from research through clinical practice to prevention in populations. Find more information about the scientific content of the congress at www.escardio.org/congresses/Europrevent/europrevent2008/scientific

PHA’s 8th International Conference and Scientific Sessions: Determinants of RV Function on Molecular, Pharmacogenomic and Metabolic Levels
June 20-22, Houston, Texas
The 2008 International PH Conference and Scientific Sessions will be held at the Hilton Americas in Houston, Texas, on June 20-22, 2008. Convening once every 2 years, the Pulmonary Hypertension Association (PHA) International Conference and Scientific Sessions, the largest PH meeting in the world, draws a mix of patients, caregivers, medical professionals, and industry representatives. The Scientific Sessions will begin with a kick-off reception on June 19, with Scientific Sessions for medical professionals leading off the 2008 Conference on June 20. This special component of the Conference enables researchers and medical professionals to exchange and absorb new ideas in pulmonary hypertension research. Nurses and physicians will have the opportunity to earn up to 6.5 hours of CEU or CME credits respectively. The Sessions will conclude with a Poster Session. Abstracts for this Session are invited in the areas of clinic science (including treatment) and basic science. For more information on the Scientific Sessions or Poster Session, visit www.PHAssociation.org/Conference/2008/ScientificSessions.asp.
The American College of Physicians has updated the Guidelines on Palliative End-of-Life Care. The authors stated that “high quality evidence on end-of-life care is limited” with most evidence coming from the cancer literature. Not addressed in this guideline are nutritional support, complementary and alternative therapies, and spiritual care. The definition for the end of life includes: “the presence of a fatal condition, the chance of death with the next exacerbation of disease, and the patient's acknowledgment of the seriousness of the situation.” The current guidelines recommend that end-of-life care should include: “nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, opioids, bisphosphonates, or radiotherapy or radiopharmaceuticals for pain; opioids for dyspnea; and tricyclic antidepressants, selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors, or psychosocial or behavioral interventions for depression.” A recommendation is for patients with serious illness to complete advance care planning to include advance directives. Go to the Annals of Internal Medicine for the complete guidelines: Ann Intern Med. 2008;148:141-146, 147-159.
student-centered newsletter in which students in various fields contribute to writing articles and getting to know the foundation of rehabilitation and networking within AACVPR. So, if you have an intern and want to help them gain valuable experience networking and supporting AACVPR, please have them email me at mlmccarroll@ysu.edu.

2. Professional Level: The committee is strategically aligning with various professional groups to attend national conferences to get the word out about AACVPR’s mission and benefits. We feel that, by taking a personal marketing approach, we can reach numerous and varied professionals that contribute to the multidisciplinary nature of cardiopulmonary rehabilitation.

3. Physician Level: One of the missions for the physician team is to develop a way to get medical directors or major contributors of your programs to become AACVPR members. We are seeking feedback on how an AACVPR membership can benefit physicians.

The Membership Marketing Committee would like to hear your comments on how the membership benefits can assist YOU, our members, in furthering the mission of AACVPR. If you have questions about any of the information provided above, please do not hesitate to contact us at ach19962@comcast.net or mlmccarroll@ysu.edu.

---

**2008 Calendar of Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **March 27, 2008** | AACVPR Teleconference: Understanding & Utilizing Long Term Oxygen Therapy Presented by Trina M. Limberg, BS, RRT, FAARC, FAACVPR  
Register: [www.aacvpr.org/education/march08telereg.doc](http://www.aacvpr.org/education/march08telereg.doc) |
| **April 24, 2008** | AACVPR Teleconference: Prices, Payors and Programs: Expanding Your Clinical Programs by Partnering with Insurers and Employers  
Presented by Jean Einerson, MS, FAACVPR, Chair HP&R Business Committee, Joli Studley, MS, & Walt Homer, MS  
Register: [www.aacvpr.org/education/april08telereg.doc](http://www.aacvpr.org/education/april08telereg.doc) |
| **June 5** | AACVPR Program Directors' Conference: Managing Contemporary Cardiac & Pulmonary Rehabilitation Programs  
Rosemont, IL  
[Click here](http://www.aacvpr.org) for more information. |
| **September 18-21** | AACVPR Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana.  
For more information contact the AACVPR National Office (312) 321-5146 or via email at [aacvpr@aacvpr.org](mailto:aacvpr@aacvpr.org) |

April 4-5, 2008  
ACSM RCEP workshop  
University of Louisiana at Monroe  
Monroe, LA  
Register: [www.acsm.org/register](http://www.acsm.org/register)

April 21-25  
Starting or Updating a Comprehensive Cardiac Rehabilitation Program  
University of Wisconsin-La Crosse  
For more information: John Porcari (608-785-8684 or porcari.john@uwlax.edu) or visit [CLICK HERE](http://www.aacvpr.org)

April 24  
Kentucky Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation Association 2008 Annual Conference  
Ashland, KY  
For more information [CLICK HERE](http://www.aacvpr.org)

May 1-3  
Annual Congress of the European Association for Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation (EACPR)  
Paris, France  
EuroPRevent 2008 will bring together international experts in the fields of prevention and health policy, epidemiology and public health, cardiac rehabilitation, exercise physiology, sports cardiology and basic science and a special focus will be made on diabetes, hypertension and lipids. It is the only European congress to embrace the whole spectrum of CVD from research through clinical practice to prevention in populations.

For more information about the scientific content of the congress, we invite you to consult: [http://www.escardio.org/congresses/Europrevent/europrevent2008/scientific](http://www.escardio.org/congresses/Europrevent/europrevent2008/scientific)
May 3
Arizona Society of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation (ASCVPR) Annual Conference
Scottsdale, AZ
For more information: CLICK HERE

May 13
American Lung Association of California’s Breath of Fresh Air Luncheon
San Francisco, CA
For more information: asullivan@alac.org

June 27-29
14th Annual Scientific Session of the Society of Geriatric Cardiology: Summit on Maximizing Functional Capacity in Older Cardiovascular Patients: From Babyboomers to the Very Old
Washington, D.C.
For more information: 301-656-1802 or CLICK HERE

September 18-19, 2008
ACSM RCEP workshop
Henry Ford Hospital
Detroit, MI
Register: www.acm.org/register

September 22-26
Starting or Updating a Comprehensive Cardiac Rehabilitation Program
University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
For more information: John Porcari (608-785-8684 or porcari.john@uwlaux.edu) or CLICK HERE

October 13-15
Starting or Updating a Comprehensive Cardiac Rehabilitation Program
University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
For more information: John Porcari (608-785-8684 or porcari.john@uwlaux.edu) or CLICK HERE

October 16-18
2008 CARDIOMETABOLIC Health Congress
Boston, MA
For more information: Jessica Joseph (732-758-0233 or jj@cardiometabolichealth.org) or CLICK HERE

Ongoing
Health Coach Training and Certification
Sponsored by Wellcoaches Corporation
For more information: HealthCoach@wellcoach.com or CLICK HERE

Continuing Education Programs on CAVG, Heart Failure (three-part series), Best of Sessions 2005, Women & Heart Disease, and the newly released PAD
Offered by the American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association
For more information: CLICK HERE

AACVPR National Office Contact Information

Please continue to send your questions and comments to AACVPR News & Views via aacvpr@aacvpr.org. Don’t hesitate to suggest how AACVPR News & Views can continue to provide you access to information about our profession and AACVPR.

AACVPR Administrative Staff:
Marie Bass, Executive Director
Erin Butler, Association Manager
Abigail Lynn, Coordinator
Meredith Bono, Sr. Associate
Christine Ayala, Sr. Associate
Linda Schwartz, Marketing & Communications
Michelle Mills, Marketing & Communications
Erin Larson, Editorial Services
Eric Johnson, Convention Services
Monica Kurfemmann, Convention Services
Kirby Carroll, Convention Services
Christy Spahn, Convention Services