

CAEP.ca Web site update

The CAEP Web site is rapidly evolving. Our most notable recent addition is the evidence-based medicine page. CAEP members now have free access to the Cochrane Collaboration databases of evidence-based literature. Note that this section is not currently available to the general public; however, any Internet visitor can visit the following new items. Simply look under

1. CAEP Library/The Art to view Dr. Nick Balfour and his colleagues in Vernon, BC, posing as “Health’s Angels” for an ED fund-raising project.

2. Library/ABCs of the ER for 6 new letters (of the alphabet) containing prose and photos by Dr. Vince Hanlon.

3. Library/CJEM to view the full text of the journal, beginning with the first (April ’99) issue.

4. Library/Filing Cabinet to share and download manuscripts, sample protocols, teaching handouts, electronic graphics and literature searches.

5. Library/Guidelines for CAEP’s regularly updated clinical practice guidelines and position statements.

6. Medical Education/Events and Meetings for details about CAEP conferences and CAEP Roadshows as well as other events and meetings worldwide.

7. Medical Education/MI Newsletter for the latest issue of the Myocardial Infarction Newsletter, posted in Adobe Acrobat format.

8. Online Conferences/Archive to view live or archived CyberSessions.

These presentations, by emergency medicine experts, can be viewed by anyone with a Web browser and RealAudio software. CyberSessions allow viewers to listen to the speaker, watch the slides and video material, and type in interactive questions. All CAEP CyberSessions are archived on the CAEP Web site for later viewing if you cannot attend the live presentation.

In May 1999, Dr. Anna Jarvis from the University of Toronto presented the first Canadian Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds CyberSession, with a talk on childhood injuries. In September, Dr. John Tallon from Dalhousie University gave the second official CAEP CyberSession — “Air Medical Transport in Canada: Current Status and Future Controversies.” The next CyberSession will focus on acute coronary syndromes and include a review of the national Fastrak chest pain database by Dr. Jim Christenson, from the University of British Columbia.

The “Archive” page also links to several non-CAEP CyberSessions, including:

- First Restenosis Cybersession
- PURSUIT investigators meeting
- American College of Cardiology ’99: Cardiac risk of noncardiac surgery
- Glycoprotein IIb-IIIa inhibitors in the treatment of acute coronary syndromes
- Glycoprotein IIb-IIIa interactive question and answer session
- Cytomegalovirus (CMV) retinitis in the age of combination therapy
- Thromboprophylaxis in trauma patients and controversies in calcaneus fractures
- A practical approach to HIV immunology.

You can also look under the following.

9. Regional News and click over your region on our interactive map of Canada to see news posted by your provincial medical association’s emergency medicine section.

10. Discussion Groups / Emerg Canada and visit our new subscription control Web pages to add your email address to the EmergCanada email discussion list.

11. Links Page, where we continually update our list of other emergency medicine Web site links with suggestions from our viewers.

12. Research, which has been expanded, thanks to assistant editor Dr. Steven Socransky and research committee chair, Dr. Brian Rowe. This section provides tips on CAEP research funding, schedules for research presentations at upcoming CAEP conferences, and news from the CAEP Research Consortium.

13. Member Services / Member Benefits. We’ve added links to several of CAEP’s business partners who provide special services to CAEP members. Check out Merrill Lynch, RML Insurance Agencies and Simon L. Jackson Insurance Brokers Ltd.

14. Answer our “Poll Question” at the bottom of the Welcome Page. Our most recent poll question was: *Are you aware of a prevailing colour scheme in the acute care area of your Canadian emergency department?* The Result? 81% of respondents answered “No.” All prior poll questions are archived, and are as follows.

Question: Does your Canadian ED have a computer system for tracking patient visits to analyze length of stay and acuity?

Response: 31% said Yes.

Q: Do your emergency physicians see regular reports documenting length of stay and acuity profiles for the patient visits to your Canadian ED?

R: 9% said Yes.

Q: Are you using the Canadian Triage and Acuity Scale in your Canadian ED?

R: 50% said Yes.

Q: Do you have a current Disaster Plan in your Canadian ED?

R: 86% said Yes.

Q: Do you currently use low molecular weight heparins in your ED for the treatment of acute coronary syndromes?

R: 15% said Yes.

Q: Do you currently use low molecular weight heparins in your ED for the treatment of deep venous thrombosis?

R: 95% said Yes.

Q: Do you believe the choice of thrombolytic for acute myocardial infarction has been clarified sufficiently?

R: 51% said Yes.

Q: Are you using ketamine for pediatric sedation in your Canadian ED?

R: 41% said Yes.

And last, I'd like to mention our

15. Sponsors: Our current sponsors include Hoffmann-La Roche Limited, Crystaal Corporation, Rhone-Poulenc Rorer Canada Inc., and Merck Frosst Canada Inc. Each of these companies has a banner on the CAEP Web site that links to their corporate Web site.

We are grateful to our Web site provider, Conceptis Technologies Ltd., for their excellent support.

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Health's Angels?

Vernon, BC, like every other Canadian community, has experienced health care cutbacks and budget shortfalls. Facing the need for new cardiac monitoring equipment, most physicians would launch a bake sale or, perhaps, sell chocolates door-to-door. But not Vernon Jubilee Hospital's docs. One of Vernon's local family physicians, Bill Sanders, decided an off-the-wall (no pun intended) calendar was the way to go.

Vernon Jubilee's ED is represented in the calendar's "Health's Angels" photo, entitled "Rebels without a gauze: ER staff ready for some R&R." The photo proving to be most popular is a shot of three docs' backsides (each doc wearing a hospital gown open at the back). The caption reads: "Say No to crack."

The goal was to raise \$25,000. As of mid-December, the Vernon med-



Dominique LaCasse, Wild West Communications

"Health's Angels," L to R: Dr. Nick Balfour (ring leader), nurses Suzanne Bailey, Sandi Zimmerman, Valaine Anonson, Janet Dawson, Brenda Gilroy and Verena Semeniuk, and Dr. Frank Ballauf.

ical community had raised \$30,000 beyond their initial production costs. For a calendar, contact: Derek Hall, Director of Development, Vernon Jubilee Hospital Foundation, 2101-

32nd St., Vernon BC V1T 5L2; tel 250 558-1362; dhall@nohr.org.

Grant Innes, MD

Editor, *CJEM*