

SAJAA WCA Edition 2008



This issue of the SAJAA celebrates the World Congress of Anaesthesiologists (WCA), and the first time that this event has been held on the African continent. It is indeed a privilege and very exciting to be able to publish many of the lecture texts from the 2008 SASA refresher course, which precedes the World Congress, being held here in Cape Town, South Africa. Our journal is the official journal of the South African Society of Anaesthesiologists (SASA), one of the founder

members of the World Federation of the Societies of Anaesthesiologists, (WFSA) under whose auspices the WCA is held. The lecture texts have been published in the refresher course programme sequence, and we are honoured to have articles from many of the “who’s who” in the international world of anaesthesia. My sincere thanks go to Prof Johan Diedericks for all his hard work in compiling the refresher course programme, and for persuading many of the authors in this edition to submit their lecture texts for publication.

The scene is set in our guest editorial by Andrew Levin, who looks at the very topical issue of statin withdrawal in various groups of patients. Our refresher course topics cover a large range of subjects – regionals, numerous aspects of cardiac anaesthesia in adults and children, vascular anaesthesia, pulmonary and airway problems, fluids, bleeding issues and diabetes. In addition we look at aspects of paediatrics and obstetrics, education via simulation, “remote” anaesthesia, various drugs, and the shadow of bird flu and other ICU “scares”.

I trust you will enjoy the refresher course and WCA, and if you were not given the opportunity to attend, that you will enjoy reading the various contributions to our journal.

Christina Lundgren
Editor-in-Chief

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