

Anticoagulation *in* Practice²⁰¹¹

The 5th Scientific meeting of the Primary Care Cardiovascular Society
– Anticoagulation

Thursday 26th – Friday 27th May 2011



Professor David Fitzmaurice welcomes our 2011 delegates

2011 marked an important turning point for the 'Anticoagulation in Practice' conference; no longer the product of 4 special interest groups this was the first opportunity for the Primary Care Cardiovascular Society – Anticoagulation (a special interest group of the PCCS) to take the conference forward on its own.

Professor David Fitzmaurice welcomed 160 delegates including GP's, practice nurses, biomedical scientists, pharmacists and patients to the impressive Leonard Deacon lecture theatre in the Wolfson Centre of the Medical School, University of Birmingham.

Professor Michael Greaves, Professor of Haematology at University of Aberdeen, delivered his keynote speech entitled, 'The history of anticoagulation'. This presentation ranged from the use of leeches to the advent of new oral anticoagulation agents for a fantastic opening to the 2011 conference.



Day One Keynote speaker, Professor Michael Greaves

Dr Terry McCormack, GP & Cardiovascular lead in North Yorkshire followed with his talk outlining new developments in the treatment and management of Atrial Fibrillation (AF), with reference to the new oral anticoagulation therapies which may replace warfarin in the near future.

Continuing the thread of AF, Dr Andreas Wolff, GPSI in Cardiology, Shipley gave an engaging talk on AF in athletes which left many delegates out of breath.



The Wolfson Centre and our exhibitors

With the ground floor buzzing with much discussion about the opening lectures, the first coffee break of the day was a chance for our delegates to view the sponsor's stands; Boehringer Ingelheim, Roche Diagnostics, Leo Pharma, BMS Pfizer, Alere Ltd, Amtec Medical, Bayer Healthcare, Sanofi Aventis and Sullivan Cuff were all represented. We were also pleased to offer stands this year to Lifeblood, Hayward Medical Communications, Arrhythmia Alliance, Sherborne Gibbs – who publish 'The British Journal of Primary Care Nursing' and 'Primary Care



Dr Terry McCormack has a captive audience for his talk

of AF and warfarin through educational intervention. On day two of the conference Dr Jenny Wimperis, Consultant Haematologist at Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals gave an insightful lecture on the creation and launch of her 'Click for Clots' service; a practical system of undertaking risk assessment to prevent thrombosis.

After an excellent lunch and a further chance for delegates to network, Professor Fitzmaurice began the afternoon session with an update on the AiP group and its extended role. Looking to the future the group will have a fully elected board and its aims will be to improve the care and outcome of patients with CVD. This will be achieved through the exchange of knowledge and promotion of research, education and development relating to anticoagulation management. This was followed by a lively debate addressing whether patients with AF should be on a novel anticoagulant, led by Dr Khalid Khan, Consultant Cardiologist, North East Wales NHS trust and Dr Will Lester, Consultant Haematologist, QE Hospital Birmingham. This session again highlighted the new treatments about to impact our anticoagulation management.

Mrs Hayley Flavell, an anticoagulation nurse at Bournemouth Royal Infirmary, was joined by Professor Fitzmaurice for a session discussing care pathways for initiation and management of the new anticoagulants from both a primary and secondary care perspective. A very successful opening day was concluded by Dr Carl Heneghan, GP & Clinical Lecturer at the University of Oxford with his talk on the evidence of the effectiveness of patient self-management of oral anticoagulation.

We were delighted to welcome Dr Ian Barnes, DH National Clinical Director of Pathology to present the second keynote speech and to begin the final day of our conference. Dr Barnes gave a very informative talk on pathology tests and transforming patient care, once again making a great start to the day. Our next presentation, 'Haematology – working in partnership for the patient' was delivered by Dr Chris Gardiner, Research Scientist, University of Oxford with reference to changing practice. The



Time for questions from the audience

Cardiovascular Journal' - NHS Improvement AF and the PCCS; which all made for an excellent variety of information available to our delegates.

Thrombus Innovation Awards

This year our programme included two presentations from the 2010 Thrombus Innovation Award winners; the first of which was given by Dr Deirdre Lane, Lecturer in Cardiovascular Health at University of Birmingham. Dr Lane focused on the improvement of patient knowledge

final presentation before lunch was given by Dr Peter Rose, Consultant Haematologist, South Warwickshire NHS trust on the evidence for triple therapy for stents which demonstrated the lack of evidence for combined oral anticoagulation and antiplatelet therapy.



A selection of our exhibitors stands; left - PCCJ; right - University of Birmingham

As the delegates made their way down to lunch many took advantage of their last chance to view the sponsor's stands before returning to the lecture theatre for our closing session.

Damian Edwards, therapist and clinical director of hdm-medical delivered our penultimate talk and gave an entertaining presentation on cognitive behavioural therapy, outlining gender differences, to the amusement of the audience.

Throughout the conference delegates were asked to provide examples of case studies to be put to our expert panel in the closing session of the day. The expert panel made up of Professor Fitzmaurice, Dr Chris Gardiner, Damian Edwards and Ms Chris Donnelly; anticoagulation nurse and conference committee member, certainly lived up to their name and provided the audience with some stimulating discussion around the case studies that were put forward. This was an excellent way to close another very successful and informative 'Anticoagulation in Practice' conference for all.



Our expert panel from left; Ms Chris Donnelly, Dr Chris Gardiner, Professor David Fitzmaurice, Damian Edwards & Mrs Nicky Fleming

We look forward to welcoming you all back in 2012!

'Anticoagulation in Practice' conference - 17th – 18th May 2012

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