



Transcript



SA HIV CLINICIANS SOCIETY NEWSLETTER February 2013

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Upcoming CME Meetings:

JOHANNESBURG
28 February
Dr Michael Reid
Diabetes/Metabolic disease in African HIV patients

Transcript, February 2013

Happy New Year from the Society! We hope all of you had a restful and relaxing holiday break with family and friends. 2013 is shaping up to be an exciting and busy year, with the new [ARV tender](#) and national treatment guidelines set to launch in April. We look forward to supporting you in your work this year, and encourage you to tell us how we can better serve you. Please call (011 341 0162) or email us (sahivsoc@sahivsoc.org) if you have suggestions for programmes. This could include topics for CME meetings, online clinical case studies, clinical practice guidelines and articles in *HIV Nursing Matters*, or any other ideas. We appreciate your on-going support of the organisation!

Online CPD

Please note that our newest online clinical case study, [The Diagnosis and Management of First-Line Antiretroviral Treatment Failure](#), is also focused on [treatment resistance and will allow you to test your knowledge](#). This case, and all Society online [clinical case studies](#), is worth 4 CPD points. Please remember that you must be up to date in your membership fees to receive CPD credit. Another resistance-focussed case is currently being finalised; stay tuned to hear when it is live online!

Guidelines

Two important new changes to the national antiretroviral programme will be implemented in April: the launch of fixed-dose drug combinations (FDCs) and "option B", where all pregnant women will be given triple therapy through pregnancy and the breastfeeding period, regardless of CD4 count. Society members are working with the National Department of Health (NDOH) and the South African National AIDS Council (SANAC) to develop clinical guidance for health care workers to support the launch of these new policies, and we will keep you informed as guidance becomes available.

The Society's guidelines on the [management of cryptococcal meningitis](#) are currently being updated by a small team of experts. We anticipate publication in the June *Southern African Journal of HIV Medicine* and will share the draft for member

Striving for Clinical Excellence

The Society's first conference, [Striving for Clinical Excellence](#), which took place in Cape Town in late November last year, was an overwhelming success! Nearly 1,000 delegates joined us for four jam-packed days featuring the latest science, research and best HIV clinical practice. The conference featured cutting-edge debates, clinical panels and a host of presentations from locally and internationally-renowned speakers. Most conference presentations are available to view [online](#).

If you attended the conference but haven't yet weighed in on what you liked/didn't like or made recommendations on how we should refine future conferences, we want to hear from you! Complete our [online survey](#) and stand a chance to win a copy of the recently published 3rd edition of the Handbook of HIV Medicine. (Edited by Gary Maartens, Mark Cotton, Douglas Wilson, Francois Venter, Tammy Meyers, Linda-Gail Bekker, published by Oxford University Press).

Mark your calendar: we've already begun planning for the next conference, tentatively scheduled for November 2014 in Cape Town.

Cognitive Assessment Tool App Available

The "[CAT rapid](#)", a cognitive assessment tool designed to screen for cognitive disorders in clinical care, is now available for free download in the google android app store. The tool was developed by Prof John Joska at UCT.

FIDSSA Congress 2013

Registration is now open for the 5th Federation of Infectious Diseases Societies of Southern Africa

For more information about our CME meetings, please contact Natalie Martyn at natalie@sahivsoc.org or 079 872 1721



comment prior to publication. In the meantime, please visit our website to view the [updated algorithm](#) for use in the first phase of the cryptococcal screening programme.

Congress. The conference will take place 10-12th October at Champagne Sports Resort, Drakensburg. View congress information on [FIDSSA's website](#).

Drug Shortages/Stock Outs

We continue to receive reports on drug shortages and stock outs, particularly from the Eastern Cape where challenges with the Mthatha Depot remain. Please continue to keep us informed of any drug shortages, stock outs or *rationing* at your health care facility. The Society is working with Medicines Sans Frontiers, the Rural Health Advocacy Project, Section 27 and the Treatment Action Campaign on a national drug monitoring and reporting initiative and will keep you informed as the project is developed. Report your stock outs using our [online form](#) or email us at stockouts@sahivsoc.org.

Society Blog

The Society is developing an on-going blog for its website featuring "voices from the field", and we want to hear from you! Blog entries are informal and should average around 500 words. If you are interested in contributing, please contact Suzanne Nicholson (sueznicholson@gmail.com) for more information.

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Have news you'd like to share? Email us at sahivsoc@sahivsoc.org