

IN THIS ISSUE:

The Road Ahead for
Blood Pressure
Research & Practice

IPHA Website Updates

NHLBI has six
Pronged Focus

Joint ASPN-IPHA
Meeting in May

Joint ASH-IPHA
Meeting in May

IPHA to meet with FDA

Noteworthy Articles

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THE ROAD AHEAD FOR BLOOD PRESSURE RESEARCH & PRACTICE.

Members of the IPHA Executive Committee met by teleconference call to generate a list of research topics related to pediatric hypertension which may be of interest to the NIH. The group suggested that the NHLBI, NIDDK, or other Institutes may be interested in organizing a consensus group to discuss the current state of knowledge and planning for future collaborative investigations which may "fill the gaps" in our field. Dr. Bruce Alpert has taken a leadership role for this initiative and submitted a draft document to the NHLBI for consideration

Paul Velletri, Ph.D., Leader of the Hypertension Scientific Research Group at the NIH, reviewed the submitted document and suggested several mechanisms which might be developed to enhance discussions. He noted that there is a "need to update the recommendations of the National High Blood Pressure Education Program Working Group on High Blood Pressure in Children and Adolescents". Dr Velletri suggested that his working group has a great deal of interest in genetic issues outlined in the submitted document. Drs. Portman, Ingelfinger, and others will be following-up with Dr. Velletri as to whether there should be a series of conference calls or possible meetings in Bethesda to draft a strategic plan as to how to maximize NIH support for these issues. Dr. Velletri also suggested that a member of his staff, Gail Pearson, M.D., could serve as a contact-person for discussion of other basic issues in BP measurement which require further prospective data collection.

We hope that these issues, as well as others of interest to IPHA members, will be discussed in New York during the ASH meeting. At this time it is our expectation that there will be a meeting of IPHA on Saturday, May 17 in the afternoon after the morning session on pediatric hypertension co-sponsored by IPHA. Contact Dr. Sorof or Dr. Portman for more information.

We hope that these initiatives will lead to discussions which will formulate multiple research protocols. We encourage all IPHA members to participate in all levels of the planning and performance stages of these research agendas. Drs. Sorof and Portman will be available to direct members to the correct subcommittees' chairs. We on the Executive Committee believe that there are exciting policy and research opportunities available to all who express interest.

Submitted by Bruce S. Alpert, M.D.
Plough Foundation Professor of Pediatrics
Program Director, University of Tennessee General
Clinical Research Center
University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center,
Memphis

IPHA WEBSITE UPDATES

It is a great pleasure to announce that the IPHA website server has been relocated to a more accessible internet provider. Numerous users reported consistent connectivity problems and network downtime due to virus attack or security protocol implementation.

The new location is a direct connection to the internet and has been confirmed as accessible by all users to date. The name, www.pediatrichypertension.org, has not changed. All previous content is still available and new content will be added on a weekly basis for the near term. Each Tuesday afternoon is dedicated to website advancement.

Previous content included:

- Membership contact information
- Archive of past IPHA publications
- IPHA events library
- List of current IPHA projects
- Listserver instructions
- Pediatric limits online calculator
- Data sharing protocol description for submitting to the IPHA database
- Page of useful internet links
- Recognition of donations to IPHA

As in the past the private section of the IPHA website is accessible using the following logon:

- ID: vascular
- Password: angiotensin

Anyone having trouble accessing the website or wishing to submit suggestions / material should email the webmaster or contact Tim Poffenbarger at 713-500-5720.

IPHA TO MEET WITH FDA

On March 16 and 17th, IPHA and other representatives of the pediatric community will meet with Douglas Throckmorton, MD and other members of the FDA Cardio-Renal Section to discuss antihypertensive trials in children. We will review the merits and problems with complete studies, discuss how they could be improved, the need for other surrogate measures of hypertension other than BP alone, the issues of placebo use in trials with children, the possibility of adding more scientific questions to these studies perhaps in cooperation with the NIH, prevention studies and the need to make pediatric dosage forms commercially available. Attending will be Richard Gorman of the AAP Committee on Drugs, Russell Chesney, Julie Ingelfinger, Thomas Wells, Joseph Flynn, Jon Sorof, Marva Moxey-Mims, Steve Daniels and Ron Portman.

NHLBI UPDATES

The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, under the direction of Dr. Claude Lenfant, Plans to support an update of the guidelines on childhood hypertension. **Dr. Bonita Falkner** will be working with Dr. Ed Roccella, Director of the National High Blood Pressure Education Program, in the organization and planning of this project. Six focus areas have been identified for review and update by national experts, at an NHLBI sponsored Workshop.

The six areas are:

1) Blood Pressure Percentiles, considering new NHANES data, 2) Target organ damage in children, 3) Instruments for measuring blood pressure in children, 4) Antihypertensive drug use in children, 5) Non-drug therapy and lifestyle issues in children, 6) Sleep and sleep deprivation issues.

The overall goal of this project is the development of user friendly statements for use by primary care clinician.

Comments Dr. Portman, "This is a very exciting opportunity and one that can have a major impact on the care of children with hypertension. Thanks to Bonnie for organizing this process and insuring that IPHA will have an opportunity to participate."

RECENT OR UPCOMING HYPERTENSION-RELATED PUBLICATIONS FROM IPHA MEMBERS

1. Mark Mitsnefes

Mitsnefes MM, Kimball TR, Witt SA, Glascock BJ, Khoury PR, Daniels SR. Left ventricular mass and systolic performance in pediatric patients with chronic renal failure. *Circulation*. 2003 Feb 18;107(6):864-8.

Mitsnefes MM, Kimball TR, Daniels SR. Office and ambulatory blood pressure elevation in children with chronic renal failure. *Pediatr Nephrol*. 2003 Feb;18(2):145-9.

2. Steven Daniels

Kimm SY, Barton BA, Obarzanek E, McMahon RP, Kronsberg SS, Waclawiw MA, Morrison JA, Schreiber GB, Sabry ZI, Daniels SR. Obesity development during adolescence in a biracial cohort: the NHLBI Growth and Health Study. *Pediatrics*. 2002 Nov;110(5):e54.

Kimm SY, Glynn NW, Kriska AM, Barton BA, Kronsberg SS, Daniels SR, Crawford PB, Sabry ZI, Liu K. Decline in physical activity in black girls and white girls during adolescence. *N Engl J Med*. 2002 Sep 5;347(10):709-15.

Daniels SR, Witt SA, Glascock B, Khoury PR, Kimball TR. Left atrial size in children with hypertension: the influence of obesity, blood pressure, and left ventricular mass. *J Pediatr*. 2002 Aug;141(2):186-90.

3. Gregory Harshfield

Harshfield GA, Wilson ME, Treiber FA, Alpert BS. A comparison of ambulatory blood pressure patterns across populations. *Blood Press Monit*. 2002 Oct;7(5):265-9.

Harshfield GA, Wilson ME, Hanevold C, Kapuku GK, Mackey L, Gillis D, Treiber FA. Impaired stress-induced pressure natriuresis increases cardiovascular load in African American youths. *Am J Hypertens*. 2002 Oct;15(10 Pt 1):903-6.

4. Michael Dillon

Goonasekera CD, Shah V, Wade AM, Dillon MJ. The usefulness of renal vein renin studies in hypertensive children: a 25-year experience. *Pediatr Nephrol*. 2002 Nov;17(11):943-9.

5. Thomas Wells

Wells T, Frame V, Shaw W, Soffer B, Zhang Z, Herrera P, Shahinfar S. A Double-Blind, Placebo Controlled, Dose Response Study of the Effectiveness and Safety of Enalapril for Children with Hypertension. *J Clin Pharmacol* 2002; 42(8):870-880

6. Joseph Flynn

Flynn JT. Safety of short-acting nifedipine in children with severe hypertension. *Expert Opinion on Drug Safety*, 2:133-140, 2003.

7. Ronald Portman

Portman RJ. While you were sleeping. *JPediatrics* 2002;142:93-95

PEDIATRIC ACADEMIC SOCIETIES MEETING MAY 2002

A session jointly sponsored by the American Society of Pediatric Nephrology and IPHA is planned for the Pediatric Academic Society meeting in Seattle this coming May. Drs. Sorof and Flynn will moderate a session on Hypertension-Related Target Organ Damage in Children on May 5th 2003 from 1:00-3:00 pm. Presentations will include:

Detection of TOD in children through echocardiographic, renal, and retinal manifestations.

Stephen Daniels, MD, Pediatric Cardiology, Children's Hospital and Medical Center Cincinnati, Ohio.

What is the BP threshold for the development of TOD in children?

Jonathan Sorof MD, University of Texas, Houston, Texas

Hypertension-induced vascular injury

Sam Gidding, MD, MCP/Hahnemann, Philadelphia, PA.

Pathophysiology of microalbuminuria in hypertension and reversibility with treatment.

George Bakris, MD, Presbyterian Medical Center, Chicago, Illinois

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HYPERTENSION MEETING MAY 2002

Another session jointly sponsored by the American Society of Hypertension and IPHA is planned for the ASH meeting in New York this coming May.

"Role of Blood Pressure in the Progression of Childhood Renal Disease: Implications for Therapy."

Moderators: Bonita Falkner, MD and Julie Ingelfinger, MD.

Cardiovascular Risk Factors and the Kidney in Children with Chronic Kidney Disease

Speaker: Valentina Kon MD, Vanderbilt University

Predictors of Progression in Hypertensive Renal Diseases in Children

Speaker: Empar Lurbe MD, University of Valencia, Spain

Renoprotection, Cardioprotection and Children with Renal Disease: Evidence.

Speaker: Elke Wuehl MD, Heidelberg, Germany

Original Communications

12:30-2:30 Membership Luncheon