

180 Days: Shared Accomplishments

180 días: Logros compartidos

These first six months have been very active in our Society; we have shaped an excellent teamwork with the Board of Directors and all the people responsible for the SAC area. The principle governing our actions is the continuity of the projects others have started and the launching of proposals others will surely accomplish.

On Thursday, May 28, the funding for the creation of the **First National Registry of Myocardial Infarction in Argentina** was signed during the Congress of the Argentine Federation of Cardiology. This important step for our cardiology was started two years ago, with the presidencies of Dr. Jorge Belardi (Argentine Society of Cardiology) and Dr. Juan Sebastián Beloscar (Argentine Federation of Cardiology), and it was then continued during the presidencies of Dr. Carlos Tajer and Dr. Miguel Tibaldi. We are now launching this necessary registry.

Drawing up important topics takes time, and continuity is a key to their realization. This is exactly what we are doing: we are not only discussing but also continuing the projects. By 'continuity', I am referring not only to the realization of projects we started but also to the initiation of new ones.

In January, during a meeting with Dr. Gustavo Cerezo -current president of the Argentine Federation of Cardiology-, we decided to start the second registry on hypertension, called **RENATA 2**.

For over four months, the research committees from both societies worked together on the study design. On May 5, we signed the agreement for the realization of this important national registry, which will start nationwide in June.

Continuing this policy of achieving national registries between the two Societies, we are now working on the **National Registry on Heart Failure**.

In short, **dialogue and continuity** are our means to grow as a Society, since on the basis of reliable national figures, we will be able to meet the goal we have set for ourselves: **reduce cardiovascular mortality in Argentina**.

MAY 5

May 5 will be remembered as a very special date for our Society, because in addition to signing the agreement with the Argentine Federation of Cardiology, we signed a cooperation agreement with the **Argentine Society of Pediatrics**.

Both Societies have committed to hold joint round tables in our national congresses, and we have started to work on **Consensus Recommendations for the**

Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease in Children and Adolescents.

We are convinced that in order to reduce cardiovascular mortality we must not be late. Therefore, we must start working with pediatricians, as many diseases are associated with habits we incorporate during childhood and adolescence, and that is precisely the right time for us to act.

We believe that education is the backbone of health, and we have decided to invest our time in education so that future generations can reduce cardiovascular mortality and have a healthier life.

2ND MULTIDISCIPLINARY CONGRESS IN BAHÍA BLANCA

On May 15-16, the **2nd Multidisciplinary Congress** was held in the city of Bahía Blanca (Argentina). This concept was born last year, when we decided that congresses within the country followed that modality. We signed an agreement with the **Argentine Society of Medicine**, and also with the **Argentine Society of Pediatrics** this year. We worked together for several months nationwide and at local level -Bahía Blanca- to organize that Congress, which was a remarkable success not only for the number of participants (1132) but also for the high academic standards and level of participation and discussion.

For two days we forgot about the specializations that divide us -cardiologists, clinicians or pediatricians-, and we felt closer to what we have in common: we are all physicians.

FIRST MEETING BETWEEN CARDIOLOGY AND CLINICAL MEDICINE

The **41st National Congress of Cardiology** will be held in October in La Rural (The Argentine Rural Society). This year, we have decided to include joint round tables during the Congress with the societies of Clinical Medicine: **Argentine Society of Medicine, Hospital de Clínicas, and Buenos Aires Society of Medicine**.

For that purpose, we have created a scientific committee with all the participating societies, in order to design a program of round tables and share each other's approach and perspectives on patients we see every day.

SAC YOUNG COMMUNITY

The third meeting of **SAC Young Community** was held during the Congress in Bahía Blanca, including a **"hand in hand with experts"** round table with the participation of Dr. Carlos Tajer, Dr. Arturo Cagide,

Dr. Hernán Doval, and Dr. Jorge Thierer. The young cardiologists posed challenging questions about the situation of residency programs, the doctor-patient relationship, how to break bad news, and the vulnerability of physicians to the demands of daily practice.

None of the participants, in their beginning as medical residents, had had the chance to receive a lecture on how to break bad news or on doctor-patient relationship. It was from that meeting that the initiative of **SAC Young Community** to organize groups with psychologists and specialists on communication skills was put into practice, in order to work on the doctor-patient relationship and the emotional handling of extreme situations, occurring everyday and affecting us as physicians and individuals.

WEBSITE:

As of this year, Dr. Jorge Thierer is the new editor of our website. The site now offers interesting sections, such as the **Milestones in Cardiology**, consisting of videos in which the protagonists talk about how SAC and the first Coronary Care Unit were created, and about transplant, cardiac and pediatric surgery, the creation of medical residency programs, and some of the books that have made history, such as *Semiology*, by Dr. Pedro Cossio, *Hemiblocks*, by Dr. Mauricio Rosenbaum, *Ischemic Heart Disease*, by Dr. Carlos Bertolasi, and *Evidence in Cardiology*, by Dr. Carlos Tajer and Dr. Miguel Tibaldi.

The most relevant works presented in international congresses are discussed in our website, together with scientific news –including the Councils' view–, experts' opinions on controversial issues, and the meaning of cardiology-related terms.

In short, the SAC website offers highly scientific content that meets the needs of all physicians who visit it, and has become a communicative and educational tool for our Society in just a few years.

This has been possible because SAC took the decision of creating a group of professionals –physicians, scientific journalists, specialists in communication and medical education–, who, with their work, allow having every week an updated page with news, comments and opinions from the main experts of Argentine cardiology.

WIKICARDIO

Today, a 100% of patients use the Internet to research their medical condition and medication prescribed by their physicians. A 100% of physicians tell our patients not to do it, as the information available on the web is not reliable.

Today, WikiCardio is born: reliable information provided by SAC.

WikiCardio will be SAC's educational tool for patients. The purpose of this website is to educate, raise

awareness, and improve patient adherence to treatments.

The WikiCardio team is made up of ten professionals who work every week since January on this important SAC project. Its launching is scheduled for the World Heart Day, on September 29.

REMODELING THE SAC BUILDING

Our Society needed building improvements and updated technology. All that means high costs and large investment, which cannot be carried out in only one year. Thus, we have decided to make those changes in stages, and we have already started with the reforms thanks to the contribution from the pharmaceutical industry, prestigious medical institutions, and foundations like Banco Macro and the Cossio Foundation, who have selflessly supported our project.

180 DAYS OF SHARED ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Argentine Society of Cardiology made a commitment to society: reducing cardiovascular mortality in Argentina.

We are convinced that it is necessary to work with other societies and with public health authorities in order to meet this commitment. For this reason, we have made agreements and we are working together with the **Argentine Federation of Cardiology** on the Registries of Myocardial Infarction, Hypertension, and Heart Failure; with the **Argentine Society of Pediatrics** on the Consensus of Cardiovascular Prevention; and with the **Societies of Internal Medicine** on participation in congresses.

We are also working on relevant ongoing projects, such as **SAC Young Community**, **Electronic Medical Record**, and **Stent for Life**.

We firmly believe in national continuing medical education; we therefore highlight the work of the Research Area, the Districts, the Councils, the website, and the PROSAC (Program for Continuing Education in Cardiology). Also, because we believe in patient education, we have created WikiCardio: reliable information.

All these accomplishments have been possible thanks to the contribution of many physicians nationwide who work countless hours every week, **physicians who are not treasurers, accountants or experts in congresses or education, but who decided to contribute with their knowledge and time to build a better Society.**

Guillermo Fábregues, MD^{MTSAC}

President of the Argentine Society of Cardiology