

SAMS News

South African Menopause Society

by Dr Mike Davey, SAMS President

The prime focus of The South African Menopause Society (SAMS) has always been to increase the awareness of menopausal issues and to provide education in this sub-speciality. The biannual congress has been the major focus in this regard. In 2008 we broadened our focus by introducing a CME program throughout the country sponsored by an unconditional grant from Wyeth Pharmaceuticals. The program was extremely successful and will continue in 2009. Although these meetings will be widely advertised, should you want to ensure an invitation to one of these meetings please contact a SAMS committee member in your area who will ensure that you receive an invitation.

SAMS Committee

President: Mike Davey (KZN)
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(Gauteng-Johannesburg)
Sid Hirschowitz (Editor-in-Chief
Menopause Update,
Gauteng-Johannesburg)
Tamtam Matabese (Western Cape)
Percy Moodley (KZN)
Salima Nosarka (Western Cape)
Peter Roos (Western Cape)
Oscar Shimange (Gauteng-Pretoria)
Ernst Sonnendecker (Western Cape)
Carol Thomas (Western Cape)
Paul Wessels (Free State)

In 2008 Menopause Update became the official journal of SAMS. We have new sponsors in 2009 with this issue being sponsored by an unrestricted grant from Novo Nordisk. We thank Novo Nordisk for their generous sponsorship.

The most important constituency of any Society is its members. Several initiatives to improve value to members were introduced in 2008. The members only section of our website was expanded and via this section members can get access to the journal Menopause International (see below). This access is made possible by a grant from Bayer Schering. Dr Athol Kent has agreed to provide a menopause journal article summary service on similar lines to his highly regarded JASS service for gynaecologists. This will be available to members only, will be distributed by monthly emails and will also be posted on the members' only section of the website. This will provide summaries of menopause related articles taken from mainstream medical journals. Given the superb quality of Athol Kent's JASS, we believe that this will provide an invaluable service to our members.

Menopause International

Access to Menopause International has now been available to SAMS members since early 2008. This journal, the official mouthpiece of the British Menopause Society, is not as well known as some other menopausal journals, but provides superb original articles, reviews, and for the practitioner wanting to keep up to date with menopausal issues but who has limited time available, the News and Views by Simon Brown and the Editorials provide summaries and insights on controversial issues and of the content of that particular edition.

Menopause International has proved to be a valuable addition to the members' only section of the SAMS website.

Members are encouraged to read the excellent articles and non-members encouraged to join SAMS and have unrestricted access to this and other benefits.

In order to join SAMS visit our website at www.menopause.co.za



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ERRATUM:

Due to a typographical error the name of Professor Ernst Sonnendecker was omitted from list of SAMS committee members published in May 2008 edition of Menopause Update. This only recently came to my attention and I apologize most sincerely for this error.