Annual Rheumatology Conference
Update 2005 – New Perspectives in the Management of the Rheumatic Diseases:
Applying Research to Practice
September 17-18, 2005

Westin Diplomat Resort Country Club and Spa
501 Diplomat Parkway
Hallandale Beach, Florida

Conference Committee
Charles Kahn, MD, FACP, FACR
Wayne G. Riskin, MD, FACP, FACR
Elaine Kahn, MN, ARNP

Program Evaluation
October 11, 2005
Introduction

In September 2005, NACE sponsored a CME program, Update 2005 – New Perspectives in the Management of the Rheumatic Diseases: Applying Research to Practice, in Hallandale Beach, FL. The conference was geared toward rheumatologists. The goal of the program was to enable rheumatologists to learn first hand from thought leaders in their field. The program covered gout, advances in biologic therapies, infectious disease for rheumatology, Cox-2, new concepts in therapy of SLE, current state of the art in osteoporosis, and current concepts on pathogenesis and therapy of ankylosing spondylitis.

Approximately 87 healthcare providers attended Update 2005 – New Perspectives in the Management of the Rheumatic Diseases: Applying Research to Practice in Hallandale Beach, FL. Each attendee was asked to complete and return a conference satisfaction and needs assessment form prior to the end of the conference. Seventy-eight completed forms were received. The data collected is displayed in this report.
CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2005

7:45-8:30   Registration and Continental Breakfast
            Welcome—Charles Kahn, MD

8:30-9:30   Osteoporosis: An Update on Bone Quality and Fracture Prevention
            David Dempster, PhD

9:30-10:30  All This and Cox-2
            Allan Gibofsky, MD

10:30-11:00 Morning Break—Tour Exhibits

11:00-12:00 Biologic Therapies: Where Have We Come From and Where Are We Going?
            Marc Cohen, MD

12:00-1:20  Luncheon

1:30-2:30   A Rheumatologist Seeks an Infectious Disease Consultation
            Alan Matsumoto, MD

2:30-3:30   ID-ology for Rheumatology
            William Bishai, MD, PhD

3:30-4:00   Afternoon Break—Tour Exhibits

4:00-5:00   Gout Revisited
            H. Ralph Schumacher, MD

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2005

7:45-8:30   Registration and Continental Breakfast
            Opening Remarks—Wayne Riskin, M.

8:30-9:30   Novel Treatment Options for Osteoporosis
            David Dempster, PhD

9:30-10:30  New Concepts in Therapy of SLE
            Robert G. Lahita, MD, PhD

10:30-11:00 Morning Break—Tour Exhibits

11:00-12:00 Ankylosing Spondylitis: Current Concepts on Pathogenesis and Therapy
            Sterling West, MD, MACP, FACR

12:00-12:10 Closing Remarks—Wayne Riskin, MD
Participant Information

Seventy-six percent of attendees were physicians, the majority specializing in Rheumatology. Nurse practitioners, nurses, and physician assistants comprised 24% of the attendees.

Fifty percent of attendees heard about the conference through the mailed program. The remainder of attendees heard about the program from a colleague (31%), from a pharmaceutical representative (13%), or from another source (6%).
Attendees were asked to rate the importance of the aspects that attracted them to the program as “Not At All Important”, “Somewhat Important”, or “Very Important”. All aspects were rated on average as “Very Important”, with the topics covered and quality of presenters as the most important (2.8 on a 3-point scale).
Program Evaluation

Attendees were asked to rate aspects of the overall conference on a four-point scale, with one being “Unsatisfactory” and four being “Excellent”. Overall, attendees rated the program as “Excellent”, with an average score of 3.9. Average scores for each aspect are displayed in the charts below.

![Overall Conference Evaluation](chart1)

![Overall Content Evaluation](chart2)
Attendees were also asked to rate the content of each presentation and the presentation skills of each speaker on a four-point scale, with one being “Unsatisfactory” and four being “Excellent”. Average scores for each presentation and speaker are displayed in the chart below.
Needs Assessment

Attendees were asked to complete a needs assessment survey to assist in planning future continuing education activities. Below is a list of the most frequently suggested topics. For a full list, refer to the Appendix.

What medical disorders or topics would you like to receive further information about through a continuing education activity?

- Fibromyalgia (5)
  - New regimens for
  - Pathophysiology of
- Antiphospholipid syndrome (3)
- Lupus (3)
- Scleroderma (3)
  - Antibodies
  - Pulmonary hypertension
- Vasculitis (3)
- Myositis (2)
- OA (2)
  - Future directions in treatment
- Orthopedic lectures for rheumatologists (2)
- SLE (2)

What diagnostic procedures would you like to learn more about?

- MRI (6)
  - Office based
  - Peripheral joint
- Echocardiography (2)
- Ultrasound (2)
  - Diagnosis of joint damage
  - Joints and soft tissue

What types of therapies or treatments would you wish courses to be offered about?

- Rituxan (4)
- Rituximab (4)
- Alternative medicine (2)
- B Cell therapy (2)
- New biologics (2)
- Pain Management (2)
- Scleroderma (2)
- SLE (2)
**Summary**

Overall, *Update 2005 – New Perspectives in the Management of the Rheumatic Diseases: Applying Research to Practice* was successful. Attendees were satisfied with the topics, speakers, and overall quality of the conference.

Ninety-eight percent of the attendees said that they would attend another conference next year in the same location.

Based on the evaluations, attendees were very pleased with the conference. (For specific comments see the Appendix.)
Appendix A

Suggested Topics

What medical disorders or topics would you like to receive further information about through a continuing education activity?

Abatacept
Antiphospholipid Ab
**Antiphospholipid syndrome (3)**
Autoimmune liver disease
Behcets
Chronic fatigue syndrome
CNS
Comorbid conditions
Dermatology related disease
Diabetes
Etiologies
**Fibromyalgia (5)**
   New regimens for Pathophysiology of
Hematologic disorders
Hepatitis C related to RA
How to do and interpret HAQ scores in private practice
HTN
Hypercalcium in malignant disease
Immunology
In detail workup of neuromyopathies
Infectious mimics of autoimmune disease
Interstitial lung disease
**Lupus (3)**
Malignancy induced inflammatory arthritis
Malignant bone disease with pain and endocrine bone disease with pain
MCTD
Molecular biology
MRI and US for joint erosion
**Myositis (2)**
OA (2)
   Future directions in treatment
**Orthopedic lectures for rheumatologists (2)**
Osteoporosis
Pain management
Rituxan
**Scleroderma (3)**
   antibodies
   pulmonary hypertension
SLE (2)
**Vasculitis (3)**

What diagnostic procedures would you like to learn more about?

Arthroscopy
Arthrocentesis
Botox administration as a pain blocker
CTD diagnosis
Dexa
**Echocardiography (2)**
EMG reading and interpretation
Endoscopy
Joint injection techniques
Kidney biopsy for SLE

**MRI (6)**
   Office based
   Peripheral joint
   Muscle biopsy
   New diagnostic radiologies
   PET Scan
   Rheumatic renal disease
   Skin biopsy
   Sonography
   Surgical correction of joints
Ultrasound (2)  
- diagnosis of joint damage  

What types of therapies or treatments would you wish courses to be offered about?

**Alternative medicine (2)**
- Anti TNF and comparison and side effects

**B Cell therapy (2)**
- Biologics- new treatments
- Cyclosporin
- Gout
- Imaging studies in Rheum
- MCTD

**New biologics (2)**
- Orthopedic aspects of rheumatology

**Pain Management (2)**
- Physical/occupational therapy in rheumatological disease

- Prolotherapy
- Quantiferon Gold
- RA
- Rheum medicines with focus on uses, side effects, interactions
- **Rituxan (4)**
- **Rituximab (4)**
- **Scleroderma (2)**
- **SLE (2)**
- TNF Treatment
- Treatment of systemic lupus
- Wegener's
Appendix B

Suggested Speakers

Gerald Appel
Jaime Barkin
William Bishai (2)
Steven Carsons
Marc Cohen (7)
David Dempster (6)
Steven Foster
Daniel Furst
Alan Gibofsky
Dan Goldberg
Joel Kramer
Robert Lahita (7)
Alan Matsumoto (2)
Martin Scharf
Barbara White
Michelle Petri (4)
Ralph Schumacher (5)
Appendix C

Overall Comments/Suggestions

I was expecting all drug companies to be present with impressive booths like before. I missed that.

Some more open discussion related to areas that there is no consensus- such as related to TNF inhibitors and surgery

Make the conference for 1 day

Breakfast can improve.
Vegetarian food at lunch

Fix valet parking wait time

As usual, NACE did EXCELLENT.
Excellent conference
Excellent program
Excellent
Excellent program
Great course
Excellent conference
Great conference. Very informative.
Thank you for your seminar.
Please bring Dr. Lahita back for more discussion of biologic immune modulations
Excellent speakers and content. Extremely useful in my practice