



Have you had that sinking feeling on Friday at 5 o'clock? This morning the team from Liverpool presented their audit of referrals made for persistent bubbling chest drains. *Kent et al* found that guidelines published by the British Thoracic Society are not been followed.

A well-attended database meeting



Extracorporeal Membrane Life Support is currently not available in all centres. The paediatric surgery team from Dublin have found that this has decreased their death rate over the 5-year period and advocate its use in complex paediatric cases.

Researchers from Germany will present their results from an animal study. A novel drug, which is totally synthetic, has been found to be effective in reducing bleeding after cardiac surgery and may be as good if not better than currently available therapy.

The Thoracic Surgeons will present a study that is sure to fire up debate this afternoon from Leicester. Although less invasive video-assisted thoracoscopic resection may be undertaken for Stage 1 cancer they argue there are no advantages over a traditional open operation.

A big thank you to the Dundee medical students



TUESDAY 11TH MARCH 2008

The King's College Team this afternoon at the Forum will describe how to start a cath-based aortic valve replacement program. This will be of interest to all members of the multidisciplinary team required to undertake this new operation.

Non-heart beating donors may provide a vital source of organs for cardiac transplantation. The transplant team from Papworth Cambridge have found that 80% of these donors may be suitable for heart donation.

Don't miss the President's address at 5pm in the Pentland Suite

J Tyrell from Middlesbrough presents at the Forum today



Some wounds can be very difficult to heal and may be expensive for both the patient & the health care system. Nurses and perfusionist from Middlesbrough have used the patient's own blood and extracted growth factors. When directly applied to the wound as a gel, wound healing has been accelerated.

ALL DELEGATES WHO ARE ATTENDING THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL DINNER ARE REMINDED THAT IT IS BLACK TIE EVENT AT THE CALEDONIAN HOTEL COMMENCING AT 1930hr

Skin blisters can be used to monitor the inflammatory response! In model that has been pioneered by researchers from the Hammersmith Hospital, the content of the blisters was analysed for leukocyte activation. They found that patients who have surgery without cardiopulmonary bypass have less potentially damaging inflammatory response.

Dr Randolph Chitwood yesterday delivered the coveted Hunterian Lecture



Who should not undergo left ventricular volume reduction surgery? With an increasing number of patients undergoing surgery for heart failure this mathematical study from Liverpool predicts those patients who may benefit most from this approach.

There will be Executive & Unit Representatives Meeting starting at 0930hr in the Sidlaw room on Wednesday morning

Thoracic Surgeons from the Royal Brompton Hospital have examined their outcome of patients over a 26-year period for small cell lung cancer. Contrary to expectations they have found that patients with limited disease should be considered for surgery and not chemotherapy alone.

Surgeons from Southampton this morning presented a simple but effective method for repairing the mitral valve using artificial chords. It should appeal to trainers & trainees alike as demonstrated in their video presentation.

Again this year there have been a record number of delegates and exhibitors.



The Society would like to thank all the exhibitors for their generous support. Without you our Meeting would not be successful!