



AACC MIAACC Newsletter

August 2012

Summer Issue

This newsletter is a publication of the Michigan Section of the American Association for Clinical Chemistry for the use of its members. To submit content, please send to raykarcher@sbcglobal.net

Section Officers

Chair Don Giacherio, PhD
University of Michigan
734-936-6719
dgiacher@med.umich.edu

Chair-elect Gloria Sukes, BS
Siemens, Inc
800-948-3233
gloria.j.sukes@siemens.com

Past-Chair Kevin Cavanagh, PhD
Michigan Dept of Community Health
517-335-9490
cavanaghk@michigan.gov

Secretary Vivek Kumar, PhD
Beaumont Hospital
248-551-4105
vivek.kumar@beaumont.edu

Treasurer Jennifer Thebo, PhD
Sparrow Hospital
517-364-2171
jennifer.thebo@sparrow.org

Membership Mike Holland, BS
Siemens Inc.
419-885-8735
michael.t.holland@siemens.com

Delegate Veronica Luzzi, PhD
Henry Ford Hospital
313-916-0134
vluzzi1@hfhs.org

Legislative Liaison Ray Karcher, PhD
Retired
248-553-4495
raykarcher@sbcglobal.net

Nominations Elizabeth Sykes, MD
Beaumont Hospital
248-551-8024
esykes@beaumont.edu

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Chair's Corner

Don Giacherio

I hope all of you are surviving the summer heat and looking forward to the cooler days of fall. After a delayed start, the Executive Committee is moving forward with some 2012 meetings we hope you will find exciting and enjoyable.

I want to personally thank the members of the executive committee for their efforts with the program for 2012. In particular, I want to acknowledge the effort of Past-Chair Kevin Cavanagh in helping to put together the exciting September 27th meeting in East Lansing, and also want to personally thank Ray Karcher for taking the initiative to develop this newsletter.

Please mark your calendars for the dates mentioned below, and pass the word to others in your laboratory who may not receive this newsletter. These meetings will be a wonderful opportunity to make contact with others in the field that are sure to be experiencing the same types of issues as you.

The first meeting is **Thursday, September 27** in East Lansing. The University Club of Michigan State University is very easy to access from any travel direction. The complete program, registration form and links to map directions are included in this newsletter. The program will focus on the new synthetic cannabinoid compounds commonly referred to as K2 or Spice. Dr Martin Ishikawa, a Pathology resident at U of M Hospital will describe the history of these compounds. Dr. John Wilson from William Beaumont Hospital will discuss the detection of these compounds by mass spectroscopy. John Mobley, Ph.D, the EIA R&D Director for Cayman Chemicals will discuss the issues with the development of an immunoassay screen for this class of compounds. Finally, Jonathan Gonzalez from the Michigan Department of Community Health will discuss the details of the recently passed legislation dealing with the synthetic cannabinoid compounds. This should be an informative session for all laboratory personnel. Because of the need to turn in an accurate headcount for the dinner which is included with registration, we ask that you please follow the instructions on the registration form to let us know ahead of time of your intention to attend the meeting.

On **Wednesday, November 7**, we will have a dinner meeting at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. The topic will be "Interesting Cases in the Clinical Chemistry Lab". We plan to have 6 to 8 short presentations (15 - 20 minutes each) of interesting cases our members have encountered. In addition, we will enjoy a buffet dinner cooked by the culinary arts students at Schoolcraft. Please save the date and plan to join us. Feel free to contact me if you have something interesting to share with the group in this case presentation format. More details will follow in September.

Finally, we hope make up for the slow start this year and get next year off to an early start by having a February dinner meeting. This should be in the first or second week of February 2013 and will also likely be at Schoolcraft College. The subject will be endocrinology, and we plan to have talks on the biochemistry of growth hormone and on its clinical utility, especially in pediatrics. More details this fall. I hope to see all of you at our meetings.

Don Giacherio

At this time, there are no bills pending in the Michigan State Legislature dealing with laboratory practice. A proposal introduced by Frances Pouch Downes, Dr.P.H., Laboratory Director Michigan Department of Community Health, to expand the list of regulated substances in Michigan to include a large number of analogs of cannabis known as synthetic cannabinoids has been recently acted on by the legislature and signed into law by Gov. Snyder. An excerpt from the proposal states:

"A "Synthetic cannabinoid", includes unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any natural or synthetic material, compound, mixture, or preparation that contains any quantity of a substance that is a cannabinoid receptor agonist."

For more information, visit www.Michigan.gov/mdchlab .

Items of possible interest at the federal level include:

The FDA released what it calls a "first-of-a-kind" guidance on March 27 of this year, which describes how the agency assesses benefits and risks of certain medical devices. The guidance:

- * outlines the systematic approach FDA device reviewers take when making benefit-risk determinations during the premarket review process;
- * provides manufacturers a helpful tool that explains the various principal factors considered by the agency during the review of PMA applications, the regulatory pathway for high-risk medical devices, and de novo petitions, a regulatory pathway available for novel, low- to moderate-risk devices; and
- * describes an approach that takes into account patients' tolerance for risks and perspectives on benefits, as well as the novelty of the device.

For a copy of the final guidance, go to

<http://www.fda.gov/downloads/MedicalDevices/DeviceRegulationandGuidance/GuidanceDocuments/UCM296379.pdf>.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently announced that October 1, 2014 will be the new effective date for implementing the ICD-10 coding requirements. This gives providers one extra year to adopt the new classification system. For a copy of the CMS notice, please visit the Federal Register Web site at http://www.ofr.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2012-08718_P1.pdf.

Delegate's Report

Veronica Luzzi

The purpose of Bylaws changes is to ensure that they reflect current best practices of Association governance. AACC bylaws have not undergone major revisions in more than 25 years ago so they needed to be streamlined to better reflect current AACC governance. The major changes proposed to the bylaws are:

1. Article III - Section 3.3.4 Emeritus Member: The definition of an Emeritus Member would be an individual 65 years or older who has been a member in good standing for twenty (20) or more years instead of an individual 55 years or older who has been a member for ten (10) or more years.
2. Article VI - Nominations and Elections - Section 6.1 Nominating Committee: The Nominating Committee would consist of five (5) full members with the Immediate Past President as Chair and two members elected each year serving two-year terms rather than consisting of eight (8) full members with the Chair-Elect being the candidate receiving the highest number of votes.
3. Article VII - House of Delegates - Section 7.2.1 Powers, Duties and Functions: The House of Delegates represents the membership and serves as a communications link between the Association and Local Section members. It has the authority to propose statements of policy subject to the review and approval of the Board of Directors and alter or amend rules and procedures governing the proceedings and meetings of the House of Delegates. The House Steering Committee's duties are to prepare the agenda for House of Delegates meetings, to serve as a liaison to the Board of Directors, and to manage House of Delegates affairs. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to determine annual membership dues rather than the House of Delegates.

The process by which the Bylaws are being updated is summarized below:

1. Bylaws taskforce created. The taskforce consists of HOD Chair & Chair-Elect HOD, Past-President, Secretary, and EVP.
2. Revised bylaws reviewed by BOD
3. Revised bylaws reviewed by HOD and local section officers
4. HOD conference call setup to collect/address concerns
5. Summarize process, concerns, and resolutions at annual HOD meeting and make a motion to move the revised bylaws to the

general membership for a vote

Our Fall Newsletter will provide an update on this subject.

Beaumont Health System
Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

21st

ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM
ON MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY

Clinical Applications of Genomic Medicine

September 19-20, 2012

Somerset Inn

2601 West Big Beaver Rd. | Troy, Michigan

Highlights of this year's meeting include:

Hot Topics in Molecular Medicine, Molecular Oncology, Molecular Hematology, Molecular Microbiology and Neurogenomics.

Cost:

\$150 two days/\$80 one day

(Physicians, bioscientists, Ph.D.s, scientific/
research staff)

\$75 two days/\$40 one day

(Fellows, residents, technologists and
students)

• Vendor Exhibits

• This activity is approved for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*.™

www.beaumont.edu/dnasymposium

Beaumont | HEALTH
SYSTEM

Local Interest

After spending five years at Sparrow Hospital, the last three as Technical Director of Toxicology, Michael Smith, Ph.D. has returned to Beaumont Hospital as a clinical chemist. Mike originally did his medical technology internship at Beaumont and then went on to get a Ph.D. in anatomy and neurobiology from the University of Kentucky. We wish the best of luck to Mike in his new position.

If you have something of interest going on at your institution and would like to share it with your colleagues, send me a note at raykarcher@sbcglobal.net and I'll include it in the next edition of this newsletter.



Michigan AACCC Fall Meeting

Date: Thursday, September 27, 2012

Location: University Club of Michigan State University, Ballroom
3435 Forest Road, East Lansing, MI 48909

Registration Fee: \$25.00 Students: \$10.00 ADVANCE REGISTRATION BY SEPT 17 IS APPRECIATED

Map available at www.universityclubofmsu.org <<http://www.universityclubofmsu.org>>

Registrant's Name (\$) _____

Affiliation _____

Payment by check _____ At the door _____ (cash or check) Payable to Michigan Section AACCC
(no credit cards please)

Program: Medical, Analytical and Legislative Aspects of Synthetic Cannabinoids

4:45 - 5:00 PM	Registration / Social hour
5:00 - 5:20	History of synthetic cannabinoids. Martin Ishikawa, M.D. University of Michigan
5:25 - 6:00	LC/MSMS analysis of synthetic cannabinoids. John Wilson, Ph.D. William Beaumont Hospital
6:05 - 6:30	Development of an immunoassay screen for JWH compounds. James L. Mobley, Ph.D., EIA R&D Manager, Cayman Chemical
6:30 - 7:15	Dinner
7:15 - 8:00	Overview of Michigan legislation of synthetic cannabinoids and its implementation. Jonathan Gonzalez, B.S., Legislative Researcher, MDCH

Accent Credit Expected

Mail or e-mail registration to :

Don Giacherio
1718 Covington Dr
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

or email: dgiacher@umich.edu