

# PVRI Infection in Pulmonary Hypertension Report 2019

Ghazwan Butrous



The first international meeting of the iPVD consortium<sup>1</sup> took place in Aswan, Egypt from 21-22 October 2019.

## 1<sup>st</sup> International Symposium on Infection and Pulmonary Vascular Diseases, 21-22 October 2019, Aswan, Egypt

The aim of this meeting was to discuss the emerging issues of the role of infection of the pulmonary vasculature with pulmonary vascular disease specialists, cardiologists, pulmonologists, immunologists, epidemiologists, parasitologists and other infectious disease specialists. The meeting format was that of a conversation between experts and attendees. It was divided into six seminars<sup>2</sup>.

The meeting started with a welcome talk from Professor Sir Magdi Yacoub followed by an introductory talk from Professor Ghazwan Butrous.



The first seminar was chaired by Professor Stephen Chan, USA, and Dr Ahmed AlGuindy, UK. Discussants were Dr Rajkumar Savai, Germany, and Dr Matthias Clauss, USA, with a special remote presentation given by Dr Soni Savai-Pullamsetti, Germany. They discussed the role of inflammation and immunology on pulmonary arterial

hypertension and with infection in particular.

This was followed by a seminar on the epidemiology of schistosomiasis, HIV, tuberculosis in Africa with Professor Ana Olga Mocumbi, Mozambique, and Dr Harriet Mayanja-Kizza, Uganda, with a special remote presentation from Professor Russell Stothard, UK, and Dr Amaya Bustinduy, UK.

The topic of HIV and pulmonary vascular diseases was covered in Seminar 3, which was chaired by Dr Navneet Dhillon, USA, with active participation from Professor Stephen Chan, Dr Vinicio de Jesus Perez, USA, and Dr Matthias Clauss, USA. During this session Dr Nicola Petrosillo, Italy, presented the clinical aspect of HIV, pulmonary hypertension via an online presentation.





The subject of schistosomiasis and pulmonary vascular diseases was extensively discussed and chaired by with Professor Angel Luis Cogolludo, Spain, and Dr Ahmed ElGuindy, Egypt. Professor Ghazwan Butrous, UK, and Professor Ana Olga Mocumbi, Mozambique, debated the pathobiology the clinical problem in Africa. The discussion was enriched by Dr Azza Farrag' special presentation of the past and present of schistosomiasis in Egypt.



The final seminar on the first day, chaired by Professor Butrous, and Dr Clauss, was devoted to the discussion of new unpublished findings with a research project on the role HIV and schistosomiasis co-infection in pulmonary vascular disease. New emerging data were presented by Professors Cogolludo, Edgar Gonzalo Fernandez Malave, Spain, and their research fellow Sandra Medrano Garcia.

There was a remote presentation on the problem of co-infection in Africa by Dr Jennifer Dawns, USA. The seminar



was followed by active discussion and feedback that will help to pursue this project.

The final seminar of this meeting was on the 22 October 2019. It was devoted to the clinical and epidemiological matter of infection in Africa and Egypt, reflecting on the clinical and ethnic variation in the management of pulmonary hypertension in these countries. This seminar was chaired by Professor Simon Stewart, Australia, with active participation of Professor Karim Said, Egypt, Professor Wafaa ElAroussy, Egypt, and Professor Amany Abouzied, Egypt, and Professor Mocumbi.

Various topics were discussed, including the role of rheumatic heart diseases, pregnancy, and regional and ethnic variation of the response to the current medication of pulmonary hypertension, in addition to the current epidemiological survey and tools in Africa with pulmonary hypertension.

A business meeting of the iPVD was chaired by Professor Butrous and Dr Vinicio de Jesus Perez to plan future activities in

this field. These included the education and publication strategy, research projects and collaboration, and potential grant applications. In addition, the structure and function of the iPVD consortium was discussed.

The attendees and faculty enjoyed the welcome reception and the Gala Dinner.

The iPVD consortium would like to thank the CMFREF for their generous grant to support this symposium, the Magdi Yacoub Foundation, Aswan Heart Centre, and the PVRI Infection & Pulmonary Hypertension Task Force for providing all the logistics.



#### Notes

- 1 Butrous, Ghazwan, and Alistair Mathie. "Infection in pulmonary vascular diseases: Would another consortium really be the way to go?." *Global cardiology science & practice* vol. 2019,1 1. 31 Mar. 2019, doi:10.21542/gcsp.2019.1
- 2 Full recording of the meeting is available at PVRI website.

