Winter 2011-2012

APF News

A Newsletter of the
American Physicians and Friends
for Medicine in Israel

APF - Supporters of Medicine in Israel

2001 Beacon Street, Suite 210, Boston, MA 02135 617-232-5382 info@apfmed.org

From the President

It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve as APF President from 2006 to 2011. As my term of office draws to a close I would like to highlight some of the important events of the past five years.

1. Emergency Medical Volunteer (EMV) Courses and Registry

In the last five years the EMV Registry has become fully operational. Working in close association with the Israeli Defense Forces Medical Corps and The Ministry of Health we now have records of over 400 volunteers who have indicated their willingness to go to Israel in case of an emergency.

Each year we have offered a Course, and in some years two, attended by 35 people, all of whom are interested in the state of the art Israeli Emergency Medical Preparedness. Participants in the Course have been able to visit areas of Israel that formerly were under heavy bombardment and rocket attacks, these areas have included Sderot, Ashkelon, and the Western Galilee.

2. The Fellowship Awards Program

Since 1950 APF has awarded over 1500 fellowship awards totaling over $4 million. As I've indicated in past columns, if one looks at the past and current roster of leaders of Israeli medicine, the vast majority of them have been APF fellows in the past.

3. The Student Programs

Under the very able leadership of Drs. Alan Menkin and Charles Kurtzer each year up to 40 North American medical students have gone to Israel for 10 days under the joint sponsorship of Taglit/birthright. This has included two days of activities with the Israel Defense Force Medical Corps, The Israeli Ministry of Health, and the Computer Simulation Center at Tel HaShomer Hospital.

4. Corporate Membership

Under the visionary leadership of Dr. Paul Scherer, APF now has Corporate Members and we are grateful for their continued support.

5. Chapters

APF is keenly interested in setting up chapters in major cities. To date we have a fully functional chapter in Detroit; the leader of this chapter, Dr. Jeffrey Devries, is currently an APF Board Member. We also have a chapter in formation in Tucson, AZ, as well as interest for chapters in Chicago and Pittsburgh.

6. 60th Anniversary

In November 2010 several of us were able to participate in ceremonies in Tel

Aviv commemorating the 60th anniversary of the founding of APF. The keynote address at that event was given by Dr. Yitzak Kreis, the current Surgeon General and physician who led the Israeli Task Forces at the time of the earthquake in Haiti. It will be recalled that the Israeli force was on the ground in Haiti with a fully operational hospital within 72 hours of the earthquake.

It is with great pride that I announce that Dr. Paul Scherer will be the next President of APF and the President Elect will be Dr. Michael Frogel. Both have been very active on the Board, with Paul chairing the Development Committee and Mike being instrumental in initiatives to provide much needed money for communities in Israel such as Sderot. I also thank Carol Ghatan for her fine direction of our Boston office.

We welcome the active participation of APF members in all of our activities and if any members would like additional information they should feel free to write to either me, Paul Scherer or our Executive Director, Carol Ghatan.

Sincerely yours,

Norton J. Greenberger M.D.

Norton J. Greenberger, M.D.
President, APF

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Carol L. Ghatan, Editor

APF Chapters

Do you live in the Detroit, MI area?

The APF has supported the development of an active local chapter in the Detroit, MI area. If you would like to participate in their upcoming events, please call the APF office at 617-232-5382 or e-mail: info@apfmed.org

Or Tucson, AZ?

A new chapter for Tucson, AZ is in the planning stage.

Or Someplace Else?

A Chapter of APF in your area will allow you an opportunity to meet exciting colleagues from Israel and join in social events. If you would like to start an APF Chapter in your community, please contact the APF Office to learn more information.

In Memoriam

The American Physicians and Friends for Medicine in Israel sadly mourns the loss of their members listed below, as reported to APF in 2011. Their contribution to society and this organization will be missed and not forgotten.

Dr. R. Peter Altman
New York, NY

Dr. Arthur Bolter
San Ramon, CA

Dr. H. Marvin Camel
Saint Louis, MO

Dr. Stuart Danovitch
Washington, DC

Dr. Charles Gaitz
Houston, TX

Dr. Alan Kanter
Chicago, IL

Dr. Raymond Kaufman
Houston, TX

Dr. David Lehr
New York, NY

Dr. Robert Lichtenstein
Oakland, CA

Dr. Harold Mallong
Grand Blanc, MI

Dr. Benjamin Massouda
Toronto, Canada

Dr. Joseph Selman
Richardson, TX

Dr. Garland Sinow
Santa Barbara, CA

Dr. Stanley Tanger
Greensboro, NC

Dr. Albert Tannin
Bearsville, NY

Dr. Alvin Teirstein
New York, NY

The Israeli Ministry of Health and the Home Front Command will be hosting the Second Israeli International Conference on Healthcare System Preparedness and Response to Emergencies and Disasters. The Conference will provide a unique opportunity for professionals from around the world to share the latest findings and new experiences regarding health system readiness for disasters and emergencies of all types.

Save the date! Visit their website: www.ipred.co.il

Emergency and Disaster Preparedness Course in Israel

As this Newsletter is going to press, a group of physicians and healthcare professionals are returning from **APF's Emergency and Disaster Preparedness Course in Israel**. This five-day state-of-the-art training program is organized jointly by the American Physicians and Friends for Medicine in Israel (APF), the Israeli Ministry of Health (MOH), and the Medical Corps of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF).

Participants were granted unique access and insight into the preparedness plans of the military and civilian health systems in Israel. They trained alongside their Israeli colleagues in several civilian and military settings, gaining expertise in how to respond to emergency scenarios involving conventional military/terrorist attacks and non-conventional treats from infectious, toxicological, chemical and radiologic agents. Among the highlights was an emergency drill at Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem, hands-on emergency and trauma simulation practices at the Chaim Sheba Medical Center's MSR's Simulation Center in Tel Hashomer, a visit to the underground hospital in Nahariya, and a review of military/civilian disaster preparedness arrangements with the IDF Medical Corps and Magen David Adom.

The group also traveled south to learn about the psychological and medical issues of the population of Sderot, a community under stress because of the rockets launched from Gaza. The group learned first hand of the imminent dangers to the community; but more importantly they met with mental health workers, Magen David Adom workers, and countless others who on a daily basis care for their fellow citizens in this traumatic environment.

And these are only some of the highlights of the jam-packed syllabus. CME credits are available.

For more information about APF's Emergency and Disaster Preparedness Course, contact the APF office at 617-232-5382; or e-mail: info@apfmed; or visit our website at www.apfmed.org

Join us for the November, 2012 Course!

Dr. Mark Shilkrut
Recipient of the Claire and Emanuel G. Rosenblatt Fellowship Award

APF is proud to announce that Dr. Mark Shilkrut has been awarded the prestigious ***Claire and Emanuel G. Rosenblatt Fellowship Award*** for 2011 – 2012. This special grant is awarded to a post-doctoral Israeli fellow training in oncology at a leading U.S. or Canadian hospital or institution.

Dr. Shilkrut, an attending physician from the Oncology Department at Rambam Health Care Campus in Haifa, is participating in a two year fellowship in Clinical and Translational Radiation Oncology at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He hopes this fellowship will allow him to improve his skills by learning from top physicians in the field of Radiation Oncology, and thereby improving the treatment of cancer patients in northern Israel. During the second year of his fellowship he will be engaged in basic and translational research, which he would like to continue upon his return to Israel. Dr. Shilkrut also has a Ph.D. from the Department of Biophysics and Physiology, Faculty of Medicine of the Technion.

2011 Year-End Gift

We understand the financial situation we all find ourselves.

Yet APF needs your generous support to continue its mission.

Please consider APF in your year-end tax planning and make good use of the income tax charitable deduction. No matter what your income, if you itemize, you can almost always lower your income taxes through charitable giving. You can save money by making a donation.

And consider the APF in your estate plans. It is a wonderful way of helping a great cause in the future. Please consider a charitable bequest in your will.

Such acts of tzedakah are much appreciated.

Solomon Hirsh Memorial Education Fund Recipients for 2011

In 1988 Dr. Richard Hirsh established the **Solomon Hirsh Memorial Nurse Education Fund** at the American Physicians Fellowship for Medicine in Israel in memory of his father. The Fund sponsors Israeli nurses for short-term specialized training at leading medical centers in North America. Nurses have the opportunity to learn the most up-to-date techniques and to expand their knowledge and clinical expertise.

This year, in consultation with the Ministry of Health in Israel, the decision was made to send a delegation of Geriatric Nurses to a special two week training program at Baycrest Medical Center in Toronto, Canada. They learned about similarities and differences in the treatment of geriatric patients, methods, and the role of nurses in geriatrics. The knowledge they gained will be shared with their individual hospitals and institutions, and the nursing staff, with the expectation that it will help in the development of patient care of the elderly in Israel. Moreover, we hope that warm connections have been made between these Israeli nurses and the staff at Baycrest Medical Center.

The 2011 Hirsh Nurses

Vered Biton Regev
Head Nurse
Shmuel Harofe Geriatric
Medical Center,
Beer Yaakov

Zipora Levinson
Director of Nursing
Harzfeld Geriatric
Hospital,
Gedera

Ronit Har-Noy
Director of Nursing
Shoham Medical Center
for Geriatric Medicine,
Pardess Hanna

Tzvia Levi
Director of Nursing and
Paramedical Division
Herzog Hospital,
Jerusalem

Mazal Albagli
Director of Professional
Development Department
Nursing Division,
Ministry of Health, Israel

Israeli Trauma and Mass Casualty Nursing Course

The fifth Course for Israeli nurses is scheduled to take place this December at the Teaching Center for Trauma, Emergency and M.C.S. at the Rambam Health Care Campus in Haifa. Conducted under the auspices of the American Physicians and Friends for Medicine in Israel (APF), this specially designed Course brings together Israeli nurses, from different hospitals, and different specialties, to learn about nursing roles in emergency and disaster preparedness in mass casualty situations.

This year the 25 participants will come from 7 different hospitals in Israel

The APF thanks Ms. Gila Hyams, RN, the Director of the Teaching Center for Trauma, Emergency and M.C.S. for her efforts in organizing these Courses.

APF Attends the CJP Health Professionals Breakfast in Boston

On Sunday, November 20, 2011 Dr. Norton Greenberger, APF's President, joined by Dr. Daniel Steinberg, Dr. Bruce Rosengard, and APF Fellows Dr. Offir Ben-Ishay, Dr. Ron Cialic, and Dr. Moshe Rav-Acha, attended the annual CJP Health Professionals Breakfast in Boston, Massachusetts.

Taglit/birthright - APF Israel Student Tour

This year an enthusiastic group of almost 40 students spent 10 days in Israel on the sixth annual ***APF/Taglit birthright Medical Student Tour.***

Not only were they tourists visiting Israel for the first time, they also had the opportunity to go to three different medical sites – the underground hospital in Nahariya, Bahad 10 (the IDF school for medicine, located in Tzrifin), and Beilinson Hospital where they learned about advanced medical technologies and visited the new cancer center.

APF will undertake this program again during the summer of 2012. If you know of a student who might be interested, please have them contact the APF Office (info@apfmed.org or call 617-232-5382). We will not have the reserved date until early 2012, but we are aiming for a mid-June departure.

Jewish medical, dental, nursing, other healthcare professional students and pre-med students with a medical school acceptance, younger than 26 years of age, who have not been on an organized trip to Israel, are eligible.

It is free, but the memories are priceless!

CEDARS-SINAI

October 10, 2011

The Dr. Clara J. Szekely Foundation Fund

Re: Dr. AryehShalev APF award

My name is AryehShalev, a cardiologist from Soroka Medical Center, a tertiary hospital located at Be'erSheva, Israel. Currently I am a research fellow at the S. Mark Taper Imaging Institute at Cedars Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, under the mentorship of Dr. Daniel Berman, Head of Cardiac Imaging.The Cardiac Imaging Department at Cedars Sinai is considered one of the best across the nation, leading clinical and research fields with its devoted and talented team and I am fortunate to have joined that exceptional team.

My main fields of interest are Cardiac Imaging and Acute Cardiac Care.During fellowship I intend to specialize in advanced Cardiac Imaging (cardiac CT and cardiac MRI), an evolving field of enormous clinical and research interest.This field of expertise is extremely important to our institution and currently a single expert is solely providing Cardiac Imaging services for a large population of over 800,000 people in the Negev area.

The field of Intensive Cardiac Care is striving for experts and is considered a profession in "acute distress" in Israel and especially in the Negev area.Upon completion of my fellowship I plan to return to Soroka Medical Center where a position is being held for me. I intend to share my work between the Intensive Cardiac Care Unit and the Imaging Department.

Ever since I began my clinical training in Be'erSheva, almost a decade ago, I have become committed to the Negev and its inhabitants and I feel it is my obligation and honor to share with them the knowledge and expertise I would gain during my fellowship. Strengthening the human, medical and academic resources in the Negev is a 'private dream' my spouse and I share and a national necessity.

I wish to profoundly thank you for awarding me a grant from *The Dr. Clara J. Szekely Foundation Fund*. The assistance provided is essential and would afford me and my family managea modest living in the costly environment of L.A. Your grant is accepted with the greatest gratitude.

Sincerely,

AryehShalev, MD
Research Fellow, Cardiac Imaging

APF Fellows for 2011 – 2012

David Arkadir – a neurologist at Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem is a fellow at the Neurological Institute at the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Columbia University/ New York Presbyterian Hospital in New York City, New York. He will be training in the Movement Disorder Division, specifically studying Parkinsonian and Dystonic patients. Dr. Arkadir is the recipient of a joint American Physicians Fellowship/Israel Medical Association Fellowship grant.

Akram Assadi – an urologist at Rambam Health Care Campus in Haifa is a research fellow in the Bone Marrow Transplantation Hematological Malignancies Laboratory at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC) in Boston, Massachusetts. He will be participating in studies of tumor immunology and cancer immunotherapy for metastatic renal cell carcinoma. Dr. Assadi is accompanied by his wife and their three children. He is the recipient of APF's Len Gottlieb Award for APF Fellows studying in Boston.

Offir Ben-Ishay – a surgeon from Rambam Health Care Campus in Haifa is a research fellow in the Department of Surgery at Children's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts. His research will be in conjunctions with the Advanced Fetal Care Center, using a multidisciplinary approach for the diagnosis and treatment of fetal congenital anomalies. Dr. Ben-Ishay is accompanied by his wife. He is the recipient of a joint American Physicians Fellowship/Israel Medical Association Fellowship grant.

Gideon Berger – an internist in the Pulmonary Division of Rambam Health Care Campus in Haifa is a research fellow in the Pulmonary and Critical Care Division at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago, Illinois. His specific field of study will focus on the mechanisms and pathophysiology of lung fibrosis. Dr. Berger is accompanied by his wife and three daughters. He is the recipient of a joint American Physicians Fellowship/ Israel Medical Association Fellowship grant.

Ron Cialic – an internist in the Department of Geriatric Rehabilitation at Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem is a research fellow in the Center for Neurologic Diseases at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School in Boston, Massachusetts. His research will specifically be related to the study of immune mechanisms in Alzheimer's disease. Dr. Cialic is accompanied by his wife and their four children. He is the recipient of a joint American Physicians Fellowship/Israel Medical Association Fellowship grant.

Miriam Ehrenberg – an ophthalmologist from Rabin Medical Center, Beilinson Hospital in Petach Tikva is participating in an International Fellowship in Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus at Children's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts. She hopes to learn theory, practice and advanced surgical methods, and eventually she would like to open a new unit for genetic diagnosis and counseling for various eye diseases. Dr. Ehrenberg is accompanied by her husband, an attorney, and their four children.

Yael Haberman Ziv – a pediatrician from The Chaim Sheba Medical Center in Tel Hashomer is a clinical fellow in the Department of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition at Cincinnati Children's Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio. Her ultimate goal, upon her return to Israel, is to initiate and establish a unit for genomic assessment and treatment of gastrointestinal autoimmune diseases. Dr. Haberman Ziv is accompanied by her husband, an attorney, and their two children. She is the recipient of a joint American Physicians Fellowship/Israel Medical Association Fellowship grant.

Aviad Hoffman – a surgeon from The Chaim Sheba Medical Center in Tel Hashomer is a fellow in the Adult Sarcoma Research Lab at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. During his fellowship his goals are to link his clinical practice with basic, disease-oriented research. Dr. Hoffman is accompanied by his wife, also a physician, and their two children. He is the recipient of the Richard Klitzberg Oncology Award.

Miryam Kerner – a dermatologist from HaEmek Medical Center is a dermatology research fellow at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City, New York. Her goal is to eventually establish a skin cancer center at HaEmek Medical Center as the incidence of melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers in Israel is among the highest in the world. Dr. Kerner is accompanied by her husband, an attorney, and their three children. She is the recipient of a joint American Physicians Fellowship/Israel Medical Association Fellowship grant.

Efrat Landau-Nof – a radiation oncologist at The Chaim Sheba Medical Center in Tel Hashomer is a fellow in the Division of Radiation Oncology at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. Her goal is to gain the best clinical knowledge and experience in radiation oncology and bring this back to Israel to give the best treatment available, with the least toxicity to her young patients. Additionally, Dr. Landau-Nof will be participating in individual research projects at St. Jude. She is accompanied by her husband, and their five children. She is the recipient of the Richard Klitzberg Oncology Award.

Nir Lubezky – a surgeon from Sourasky Medical Center in Tel Aviv is a multi-organ transplant fellow in the Recanti/Miller Transplantation Institute at Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York City, New York. Due to the relatively low volume of transplant surgeries in Israel, Dr. Lubezky hopes to be well prepared for any scenario he may encounter in the future as an attending surgeon in Israel. He is accompanied by his wife and their two children. He is the recipient of APF's Dr. Alvin Hoffman Award.

American Physicians and Friends For Medicine in Israel

APF

A Challenge…you can help us meet it!

Yossi Mandel – an ophthalmologist and former Head of the Research and Foreign Affairs Directorate of the IDF Medical Corps is a fellow in the Department of Ophthalmology and the Hansen Experimental Physics Laboratory of Stanford University in Stanford, California. Specifically Dr. Mandel plans to conduct research in hemorrhage control in order to better understand the mechanisms which underlie vasoconstriction and thrombosis caused by short electrical pulses. Upon his return to Israel, he would like to set up a research laboratory in ophthalmic technology, as well as continue to help develop a Military Medical Research Center. Dr. Mandel is accompanied by his wife, an attorney, and their three children. He is the recipient of APF's Dr. Alvin Hoffman Award.

Ofer Margalit – a physician-scientist from the Oncology Department of the Chaim Sheba Medical Center in Tel Hashomer is a fellow in the Department of Cancer Biology at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. His focus will be in the field of inflammation and cancer, specifically gastrointestinal malignancies. He hopes that this fellowship will help him to do more interdisciplinary research in cancer genetics, genomics, bioinformatics and cancer modeling. Dr. Margalit is joined by his wife and their three young children. He is the recipient of a joint American Physicians Fellowship/Israel Medical Association Fellowship grant.

Lior Nesher – an attending physician from Soroka Medical Center in Beer-Sheba is a fellow in the Department of Infectious Diseases at M.D. Anderson in Houston, Texas. Specifically he will be working with immunocompromised patients, advancing his clinical skills. He also has a special interest in emergency medicine and medical education, and he was recently appointed head of the paramedic training program at the Emergency Medicine Department of the Faculty of Health Sciences at Ben Gurion University. Dr. Nesher is accompanied by his wife, a nurse, and their two children.

Amir Oron – a hand surgeon from Kaplan Medical Center in Rehovot is participating in a fellowship at the Kleinert Institute for Hand and Microsurgery at the Jewish Hospital in Louisville, Kentucky. While there he hopes to further enhance his surgical competence and become familiar with new surgical techniques, with an emphasis on minimally invasive and arthroscopic hand surgery. Dr. Oron is joined by his wife and their three children. He is the recipient of a joint American Physicians Fellowship/Israel Medical Association Fellowship grant.

Moshe Rav-Acha – a cardiologist from Hadassah University Hospital, Ein Kerem Campus, in Jerusalem is a fellow in the Department of Cardiac Electrophysiology at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts. He hopes with the comprehensive and thorough training he receives he will return to Israel and combine both clinical work and research in this field. Dr. Rav-Acha is accompanied by his wife, an attorney, and their three children. He is the recipient of the APF's Dr. Paul Liebman Award for Vascular Surgery.

Aryeh Shalev – a cardiologist in the Intensive Care Unit at Soroka Medical Center in Be'er Sheba is a fellow in The Heart Institute at Cedars Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, California. He hopes to focus in two specific areas: advanced cardiac imaging and acute cardiac care. Dr. Shalev is accompanied by his wife and their three children. He is the recipient of a grant from APF's Dr. Clara J. Szekely Foundation Fund.

David Shasha – an attending physician from the Department of Infectious Diseases at Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem is a research fellow at The Ragon Institute of MGH, MIT and Harvard in Boston, Massachusetts. He is joining a laboratory that works on the immunology of the HIV virus infection. Dr. Shasha is joined by his partner. He is the recipient of a grant from APF's Dr. Clara J. Szekely Foundation Fund.

Dan Spiegelstein – a cardiac surgeon from the Chaim Sheba Medical Center at Tel Hashomer is a fellow in the Division of Cardiovascular Surgery at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Dr. Spiegelstein will be participating in the aorta and endovascular hybrid program and in transplantation, and hopes to contribute to the development of complex hybrid cardiac procedures at his hospital in Israel. He is accompanied by his wife, also a physician, and their three children. Dr. Spiegelstein is the recipient of the 2011 David A. Shaller Award.

Orna Steinberg-Shemer – a pediatric hematologist/oncologist from Schneider Children's Medical Center of Israel in Petah-Tikva is a fellow in the Division of Hematology, at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, in Pennsylvania. She plans, as part of her fellowship, to perform research that "better defines the mechanisms of pediatric blood and cancer disorders, and elucidates new treatment approaches," which will help her to achieve her long-term goal of becoming a physician-scientist in Israel. Dr. Steinberg-Shemer is joined by her husband and two young children. She is the recipient of a joint American Physicians Fellowship/Israel Medical Association Fellowship grant.

Ilan Youngster – a pediatrician from Assaf Harofeh Medical Center in Zerifin is a fellow at Children's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts in the Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases. In addition to his clinical duties during this fellowship, he hopes to participate in research in viral vaccine development and acquire the skills to incorporate meaningful research into his clinical activities upon his return to Israel. Dr. Youngster is accompanied by his wife, also a physician, and their two young children. He is the recipient of a joint American Physicians Fellowship/Israel Medical Association Fellowship grant.

July 12, 2011

To: The American physicians & Friends for Medicine in Israel
2001 Beacon Street, Suite 210
Boston, MA, 02135-7771

It is with much appreciation that I would like to express my heartfelt thanks for the grant which was so kindly offered to me.

The commitment towards helping Israeli physicians, who leave their homes & families to come to the United States to complete their fellowship is of great assistance and serves to help overcome the hardships of relocation.

The support which was granted to me by the APF will enable me to invest more in the fellowship program itself and lessen the financial burden. This will also allow me to devote myself to becoming a better trained pediatric ophthalmologist and thus ultimately contributing more to the patients in need in my country.

I am very grateful to the Foundation not only taking the time to review my application amongst the many others received, but for also choosing me as a recipient.

It goes without saying I will commit myself thoroughly and use this grant to not only advance my personal training, but to also contribute to the field of ophthalmic research as well.

Sincerely,
Miriam Ehrenberg & family

New Board Members

Dr. Ken Brandis and **Dr. Robert Kelman** were elected to the ***Board of Trustees of The American Physicians and Friends for Medicine in Israel*** in April, 2011. Welcome!

These short biographical sketches below omit much of their distinguished work. We keenly appreciate their interest in the development of medicine in Israel and their commitment to APF.

Dr. Ken Brandis, M.D., FAAEM, a graduate of the Chicago Medical School, is an Emergency Department physician at St. Joseph's Hospital in Tucson, Arizona. He is also an instructor for the Oral Boards Preparation Course in Emergency Medicine given by AAEM. Dr. Brandis is Chair of the People-to-People Program with Partnership 2000 in Tucson.

Dr. Robert Kelman, M.D., FAAEM, a graduate of Wayne State University School of Medicine, is an Emergency and Employee Health Physician at St. John Macomb Hospital in Warren, Michigan. Dr. Kelman is a long-time member of APF and a founding member of its Michigan Chapter.

Dr. Greenberger Presentation

At the November 2011 APF Board Meeting **Dr. Norton Greenberger** was presented **The Physicians Oath** by the late renowned Israeli artist Gad Almaliah, in appreciation of his term as President of APF (2006 – 2011), his vision, leadership, and distinguished service.

APF's Special Grants

The American Physicians and Friends for Medicine in Israel is glad that it was able to facilitate travel grants and special awards for physicians nominated by the Israeli Ministry of Health and the Medical Corps of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF). These grants allow physicians to attend international meetings and conferences, and meet both formally and informally with their colleagues from around the world.

A grant was awarded to **Dr. Elon Glassberg** to participate in the Advanced Technology Applications for Combat Casualty Care (ATACCC) Conference in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. The Conference was organized by the U.S. Department of Defense through the Program of Combat Casualty Care and Research. The Conference encompassed presentations and poster sessions for improving the care for those wounded and in need of medical care --- from the point of injury, through the different levels of care, evacuations, in hospital care and rehabilitation and how to incorporate new technologies.

Pavel Eidelman, an advanced medical student, also serving in the IDF, attended a 3 week course at USUHS (the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences) in Baltimore, Maryland. The goal of this program is to provide students with the necessary military knowledge expected of a uniformed physician at different unit levels. The curriculum for the Military Contingency Medicine Course is specifically designed to prepare medical students to provide the highest quality of health care for those in service. The Course consists both of lectures and didactic discussions, practice labs, and a field exercise.

Dr. Tal Brosh-Nissimov attended the IMED Conference (International Meeting on Emerging Diseases and Surveillance) in Vienna, Austria. The Conference included updates and changing ideas on emerging public health threats and their management. Dr. Brosh-Nissimov wrote that "the meeting had an important impact" and that he "intends on using the information he gained for his missions with the Ministry of Health, as well as the Israeli Epidemic Management Team."

APF facilitated the attendance of **Dr. Yididia Bentur** at the 13th Medical Chemical Defense Conference organized by the Bundewsehr Institute of Pharmacology and Toxicology held in Munich, Germany. The main theme of this year's Conference was the current status of therapeutic approaches to nerve agent poisoning. Dr. Bentur wrote that the Conference strengthened his ability to contribute to the medical preparedness of the Israeli health system.

The Emergency Medical Volunteer (EMV) Registry

The American Physicians and Friends for Medicine in Israel (APF) maintains the **Emergency Medical Volunteer Registry** of individuals from the US and Canada who have indicated their willingness to go to Israel in the event of a declared national emergency. Currently there are over 400 physicians and other healthcare professionals who have joined the EMV Registry.

The Ministry of Health in Israel would use the APF EMV Registry to identify physicians and other healthcare professionals needed should an emergency occur. Volunteers are contacted routinely by APF to update the expired supporting materials in their file. Having copies of your up-to-date documents in your file means that you would not have to take them to Israel should you be called in a declared emergency.

If you are not a volunteer, please consider becoming one!

For Further Information:
E-mail the APF Office at info@apfmed.org or call 617-232-5382

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