

CorNotes

CVI JOURNAL CLUB

August 8.....Dr. Vijayan
August 29.....Dr. Brueggemann

For further information, contact Dr. Byron at x72819

CVI SEMINAR SERIES

The next CVI seminar will be held on **Wednesday, August 14, 2002 at 4:00 p.m. in Building 120, Rm 360** (Cuneo Center Case Methods Room). Our speaker is:

David Wilber, M.D.
Professor of Medicine
Loyola University Medical Center

The title of Dr. Wilber's talk will be announced in a subsequent mailing.

For further information about the CVI Seminar Series, contact Dr. Leanne Cribbs at x72817.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS FROM THE CVI

Despa, S., Islam, M. A., Weber, C.R., Pogwizd, S.M., Bers, D.M. Intracellular Na⁺ concentration is elevated in heart failure but Na/K pump function is unchanged. *Circulation* 105(21):2543-2548, 2002.

Bers, D.M. Cardiac Na/Ca exchange function in rabbit, mouse and man: What's the difference? *J. Mol. Cell. Cardiol.* 34(4):369-373, 2002.

Bayer, A.L., Heidkamp, M.C., Patel, N., Porter, M., Engman, S., Samarel, A.M. Proline-rich tyrosine kinase 2 expression and phosphorylation increases in pressure overload-induced left ventricular hypertrophy. *Am. J. Physiol. Heart. Circ. Physiol.*, 283:H695-H706, 2002.

GENE THERAPY FIRST AT LUMC!

John Moran, M.D., Professor of Medicine and Director of Clinical Cardiology in The Cardiovascular Institute, is the LUMC Principal Investigator of a multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo controlled study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of Ad5FGF-4 in patients with stable angina. On July 30, 2002, history was made in Cath Lab B, as the first Loyola patient participated in this groundbreaking clinical trial. The study drug, consisting either of placebo, or 10⁹ or 10¹⁰ viral particles of recombinant adenoviral vector expressing FGF-4 under control of the CMV promoter, was administered by intracoronary injection to a patient with chronic ischemic heart disease. The replication-defective adenoviral vector is expected to produce fibroblast growth factor-4, a potent angiogenic factor that has been shown to stimulate new blood vessel formation in the myocardium of experimental animals. Ad5FGF-4 has already undergone Phase I/II testing in the AGENT Trial (see Grines et al., *Circulation* 105:1291-1297, 2002). **Allen Samarel, M.D.**, Director of Research, and **Alan Ferguson**, Lab Manager of the CVI, prepared the injection solution of adenoviral vector in the P2 Core Facility within the Falk Cardiovascular Gene Therapy Laboratories. **Fred Leya, M.D.**, Director of Cardiac Clinical Research and head of the LUMC Catheterization Laboratories, performed the left heart catheterization and injected the study drug.

To learn more about potential patient enrollment, and the inclusion and exclusion criteria for this trial, contact Dr. Moran. or **Debbie Jednachowski, R.N.**, Cardiology Clinical Research Nurse Coordinator at X72390.

