

CorNotes

CVI SEMINAR SERIES

There will be no CVI Seminar during the month of December. Monthly seminars will resume in January, 2006. Happy Holidays!

CVI JOURNAL CLUB

December 8.....Dr. Martin

For further information, contact Dr. Byron at x72819.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS FROM THE CVI

Abu-Amarah, I., Bidani, A.K., Hacıoglu, R., Williamson, G.A., Griffin, K.A. Differential effects of salt on renal hemodynamics and potential pressure transmission in stroke-prone and stroke-resistant spontaneously hypertensive rats. *Am. J. Physiol. Renal Physiol.* 289(2):F305-F313, 2005.

Despa, S., Bossuyt, J., Han, F., Ginsburg, K.S., Jia, L.G., Kutchai, H., Tucker, A.L., Bers, D.M. Phospholemman-phosphorylation mediates the β -adrenergic effects on Na/K pump function in cardiac myocytes. *Circ. Res.* 97(3):252-259, 2005.

Lidington EA, Steinberg R, Kinderlerer AR, Landis RC, Ohba M, Samarel AM, Haskard DO, Mason JC. A role for protease-activated receptor-2 and protein kinase C ϵ in thrombin-mediated induction of decay accelerating factor on human endothelial cells. *Am. J. Physiol. Cell Physiol.*, 289:C1437-C1447, 2005.

Blum JL, Samarel, AM, Mestrlil R. Phosphorylation and binding of AUF1 to the 3' untranslated region of cardiomyocyte SERCA2a mRNA. *Am. J. Physiol. Heart Circ. Physiol.*, 289:H2543-H2550, 2005.

Samarel AM. Costameres, focal adhesions and cardiomyocyte mechanotransduction. *Am. J. Physiol. Heart Circ. Physiol.*, 289:H2291-H2301, 2005.

ECLIPSE Clinical Trial

Dr. Alain Heroux of the section of Heart Failure/Transplant is the principal investigator conducting the ECLIPSE clinical trial on behalf of Otsuka Maryland Research Institute, Inc.

The trial is a multicenter, double-blind, placebo-controlled study to evaluate the effect of single oral tolvaptan tablets on hemodynamic parameters in subjects with heart failure.

Tolvaptan administration generates profuse, dose-dependent production of dilute urine without significant electrolyte loss. The compound is being developed as an adjunct to diuretic therapy to treat patients with decompensated heart failure.

The main objectives of this study are to evaluate the effects of three doses of tolvaptan on hemodynamic parameters in symptomatic heart failure patients who have been on standard therapy and to identify the mechanism of action of tolvaptan on the treatment of volume overload and the relief of signs and symptoms of congestion.

Heart failure patients who are on standard medications for heart failure may be eligible for this study.

Patients will be admitted to the hospital for up to three days. A catheter will be placed in the heart to monitor heart measurements. If measurements are within the limits for the trial, patients will be given one pill of either study medication or placebo. There are 3 out of 4 chances to receive study medication. During the study, patients will be closely monitored to determine the safety and action of the study medication on heart function. Vital signs and blood tests will be conducted during the stay. After leaving the hospital, patients will be contacted by phone seven days after they have received study medications to answer a few questions.

For more information or to alert the Heart Failure/Transplant team of potential participants, please contact the project's coordinator, **Melissa Hill**, at 708.327.2723.