February 2007 Volume 12.2

CorNotes

CVI SEMINAR SERIES

The next CVI Seminar will be held on **Thursday, February 15, 2007 at 4:00 pm** in **The Van Kampen Conference Center, Building 110, Room 6294**. Our speaker is:

Jeffrey Molkentin, Ph.D.
Professor of Molecular Cardiovascular Biology
Children's Hospital Medical Center
Cincinnati, OH

The title Dr.Molkentin's talk is:

"The Three Faces of Calcium in the Heart: Contractility, Hypertrophy, and Death"

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

CVI JOURNAL CLUB

February 8…….Mr. Goussetis
February 22……..Dr. Byron

CVI Journal Club is held at 12:00 noon in the CVI Research Division Conference Room, Rm 5215. For further information, contact Dr. Ken Byron at x72819.

CARDIOLOGY – CVI RESEARCH DIVISION BASIC SCIENCE SEMINAR

The Cardiology Division and the CVI Research Division are sponsoring a series of joint seminars by Loyola Faculty. The following seminar is scheduled at **7:30 am** in the **Van Kampen Conference Center**:

February 15…….Dr. Walter Jeske

The title of Dr. Jeske's talk is:

"Anti-Platelet Therapy in Acute Coronary Syndrome and PCI"

For further information, contact Dr. Samarel at x72821

VALOR II TRIAL

Dr. J. Michael Tuchek of the Department of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery is the principal investigator conducting the VALOR II clinical trial in collaboration with Medtronic Vascular.

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the safety and efficacy of the Valiant Thoracic Endovascular Stent Graft System in the treatment of descending thoracic aneurysms of degenerative etiology in subjects that are candidates for endovascular repair. An economic objective is threefold: to describe medical resources, use patterns, and associated medical costs for the Valiant Thoracic Stent Graft System; to perform cost effectiveness analysis; and to perform quality of life assessment analysis.

The Valiant Thoracic Stent Graft is introduced via a femoral artery cannulation or a retroperitoneal approach. The technology and techniques associated with the endovascular stent for the treatment of thoracic aneurysm expands the armamentarium of treatment options available for this already high-risk patient population. The less invasive technique could contribute to greater patient comfort post-procedure and a shorter hospital length of stay. The patient would not have to be placed on the heart-lung bypass machine and there would be reduced complications associated with the invasive conventional surgical intervention.

For more information or to alert the Thoracic and CV Surgery team of potential participants, please contact the project's coordinator, Sally Botkin, at 708-327-2494.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS FROM THE CVI

Heidkamp MC, Iyengar R, Szotek EL, Cribbs LL, Samarel AM. Protein kinase Cε-dependent MARCKS phosphorylation in neonatal and adult rat ventricular myocytes. J. Mol. Cell. Cardiol., 42:422-431, 2007.