

CorNotes

CVI SEMINAR SERIES

The next CVI Seminar will be held on **Wednesday, October 4, 2006 at 12:00 pm** in **The CVI Research Division Conference Room, Building 110, Room 5215**. Our speaker is:

Sara Danzi, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Medicine
NYU School of Medicine
Director, Laboratory of Molecular Endocrinology
Feinstein Institute for Medical Research
Manhasset, New York

The title Dr. Danzi's talk is:

"Role of Antisense RNA in the Regulation of Cardiac Gene Expression"

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

CVI JOURNAL CLUB

October 12.....Dr. Marchese
October 26.....Dr. Martin

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**:

October 19.....Dr. Jawed Fareed

The title of Dr. Fareed's talk is:

"Update on Anticoagulation Approaches in Cardiology"

For further information, contact Dr. Samarel at x72821

NEW FALK FELLOWSHIP AWARDED



A 2-year Falk Cardiovascular Research Fellowship has been awarded to **Cornelia Florentina Pluteanu, Ph.D.** Dr. Pluteanu received the Ph.D. degree in Biology (Magna cum laude) from the University of Bucharest in 2002. She then served as a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Animal Physiology and Biophysics at the University of Bucharest before joining the CVI Research Division in 2005 as a Research Associate in Medicine in the laboratory of Dr. Leanne Cribbs. Dr. Pluteanu's project deals with regulation of T-type calcium channel expression in cardiac myocytes and vascular smooth muscle cells.

Dr. Pluteanu is the 16th postdoctoral fellow to receive a Falk Cardiovascular Research Fellowship since inception of the program in 1996.

RE-LY CLINICAL TRIAL

Dr. Peter Santucci of the Section of Electrophysiology is the Principal Investigator conducting the RE-LY Clinical Trial on behalf of Boehringer Ingelheim.

RE-LY is an exciting new study of an investigational oral anticoagulant. It is comparing warfarin to dabigatran etexilate, a direct thrombin inhibitor.

The primary objective of the trial is to demonstrate the efficacy and safety of dabigatran etexilate in patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation for the prevention of stroke and systemic embolism.

Patients will receive either open label warfarin or dabigatran etexilate. For those patients receiving warfarin, their INRs will be obtained through the Coumadin Clinic and the warfarin dose adjusted per protocol (INR value is within the range of 2.0-3.0). Patients receiving dabigatran etexilate do not require INR monitoring. If the patient is randomized to dabigatran etexilate the dose will be one of two blinded doses.

Inclusion criteria: documented atrial fibrillation. In addition to AF, patients must have one of the following additional risk factors for stroke: history of previous stroke TIA or systemic embolism; LVEF<40%; symptomatic heart failure (documented to be NYHA Class 2 or greater); age > 75 years or >65 years with one of the following additional risk factors: DM on treatment, documented CAD, or hypertension requiring medical treatment.

Patients already on coumadin are eligible, but in particular, patients newly beginning anticoagulation are needed.

Standard safety labs will be obtained on all patients participating in the study. The duration of the trial will range from a minimum of 12 months to a maximum of 3 years.

For more information or to alert the Electrophysiology team of potential participants, please contact the project's coordinator, Cindy Finn, at 708-216-2646.