

# CorNotes

## CVI SEMINAR SERIES

There is no scheduled CVI Seminar during September. The next seminar will be held on October 18, 2007. Our speaker is Dr. Diane Wallis of Good Samaritan Hospital.

We have 2 open spots for CVI seminars (January and June). If you are interested in sponsoring a seminar speaker for the next academic year, please contact Dr. Leanne Cribbs at x72817.

## CVI JOURNAL CLUB

September 6.....Dr. Brueggemann  
September 27.....Dr. Akar

For further information, contact Dr. Ken Byron at x72819.

## 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 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.

Eligible patients must have documented atrial fibrillation and 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.

## WHITE MEMORIAL FUND

Just another reminder that an endowment fund has been established to defray the cost of student travel and presentation at scientific meetings and to support the cost of publishing scientific manuscripts by medical and graduate students. The endowment has been funded by Richard E. White and Angeline (Faye) Schrater in memory of Mr. White's parents. Faculty members who require travel support for their students to attend scientific meetings, or to defray publication costs of student papers, should direct written requests for funding to Dr. Samarel, Director of Research, CVI.

