

## Guest Editorial

FROM OCTOBER 4 TO 7, 2007, the American Thyroid Association welcomes you in New York for the 78th Annual Meeting at the Sheraton New York Hotel & Towers in Manhattan. To use Fred Ebb Lyrics of the song made famous by Frank Sinatra, "Start spreadin' the news, I'm leaving today / I want to be a part of it: New York, New York." It is our impression that everybody with an interest in thyroid disease and research should be a part of it. The program is designed to address important management questions in clinical thyroidology, and it contains cutting-edge information about recent basic science developments. Moreover, it has a strong emphasis on translational aspects, such as presentations on emerging therapies for advanced thyroid cancer that are based on recent insights into the molecular pathogenesis of these malignancies.

Let us present some of the highlights of the program here; you will find a more detailed overview on the website of the American Thyroid Association at [http://www.thyroid.org/ann\\_mtg/](http://www.thyroid.org/ann_mtg/). On Thursday, after a CME session on *Applying ATA Guidelines to Limited or Localized Thyroid Cancer*, the main program will start with the Keynote Lecture given by Tony Bianco, M.D., on *The Role of Thyroid Hormone in the Regulation of Metabolism*. A translational symposium will then highlight how the syndrome of *Resistance to Thyroid Hormone* has led to the discovery of the fundamental mechanisms underlying thyroid hormone action, an excellent illustration of the merit in studying rare disorders. Attendees have a broad choice of selection for Meet the Professor sessions during the lunch hours Thursday through Saturday immediately following the poster review session. Rather than being formal lectures, these events should provide an opportunity for discussion with experts in their respective fields. In the afternoon, Arthur Schneider, M.D., will describe his studies of the consequences of radiation exposure to the thyroid in the Clark Sawin Historical Lecture. Before the members of the society will convene for the annual business meeting, a CME symposium on *Targeted Therapies in Thyroid Cancer* will inform you about the current status and challenges in this rapidly evolving field.

The Friday program has a special emphasis on clinical thyroidology as we will welcome many members of the New York Thyroid Club and other endocrinologists and physicians interested in thyroid disorders. After a CME lecture on *Hypothyroidism*, Kenneth Burman will present the Paul Starr Award Lecture. You then have the difficult choice between *Thyroid Grand Rounds on Challenges in the Management of Hyperthyroidism* or a translational symposium on *Genetics of Thyroid Cancer*. In the afternoon, Paul Walfish, this year's Ingbar Award Lecturer, presents his *Second Career Odyssey* in the field of *Thyroid Hormone Action*. Two additional symposia will focus on the current state of the art in the *Evaluation of Thyroid Nodules* and a cutting-edge overview on new insights into *Thyroid Hormone Synthesis and Thyronamines*. The day will conclude with a CME symposium on *Pregnancy and Thyroid Disease*.

Saturday's CME provides a review of the *Imaging Techniques* used for the monitoring of thyroid cancer. This is followed by

the Van Meter Award Lecture, an annual highlight and surprise, even to the chairs of the program committee. Aside from symposia on *Pediatric Thyroidology*, *Autoimmunity*, *Thyroid Cancer* and *Stem Cells*, we are fortunate that this year's Abbott State of the Art Lecture will be presented by Craig Thompson, M.D., who will review how programmed cell death can be used for the therapy of cancer. The banquet will be a festive occasion to gather with friends and colleagues, and to dance into the evening hours.

The Sunday morning session will feature presentations by four recipients of ATA/ThyCa research grants, a form of support that has allowed many investigators to pursue projects in new areas. This type of support is all the more essential in these times of limited funding opportunities. A discussion among our surgical colleagues will, among other lectures, present national trends in the surgical approach to thyroid cancer, and a basic science symposium will provide updates on the deiodinases. The meeting will end with a translational symposium on *Iodine Deficiency Disorders* that will highlight the successes and current challenges of this important public health issue that needs our continuing attention. The Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations, Kul Gautam, Deputy Director of UNICEF, will be among the speakers in this special symposium.

The oral presentations and the poster sessions will provide another ideal forum for presenting new information and constructive discussion. The number of abstracts submitted has reached an unprecedented level and is almost thirty percent higher than last year. Ninety-nine of these abstracts come from the USA and Canada, eighty-five from Europe, fifty from Latin America, sixteen from Japan, and a smaller number of abstracts from other countries including, among others, India, China and Iran. The fact that these abstracts come from all over the globe illustrates that there is an open worldwide exchange of ideas among thyroidologists, and it is a testament against insular thinking. The international collegiality and robust exchange of ideas at our annual meeting gives us a sense of optimism that is particularly meaningful in New York City.

For the first time, the American Thyroid Association will offer a Basic Fellows' Track, together with the Clinical Fellows' Track, which has proven to be highly successful in the past. Over seventy-five clinical and basic fellows will be invited to attend the meeting and participate in these special programs. The program of the Clinical Fellows' Track has been organized by Kathryn Schuff, M.D. and Bryan Haugen, M.D., and the Basic Fellows' Track has been planned by Antonio Bianco, M.D., Ph.D. and Sheue-yann Cheng, Ph.D. The two tracks will contain special workshops that are integrated into the regular scientific program, they will attempt targeting the special interests and needs of the fellows, and we hope that they will enhance their interest and commitment to thyroidology.

In planning the program, we had the privilege of working with a program committee covering a broad spectrum of expertise. Their contributions, and the input of many other members of the Society, are gratefully acknowledged. Last, but not

least, we are particularly grateful for the organizational skills, the numerous hours of work, and the collegial patience of Bobbi Smith, the Executive Director of the American Thyroid Association. Without the dedicated work of Bobbi and her staff, the meeting would simply not happen!

We strongly hope that you will find the program stimulating, informative, and conducive for the discussion and exchange of clinical, basic, and translational topics in thyroidology. Your participation will enrich the conference and permit us to strengthen personal and professional bonds. In addition, you

will have a great opportunity to discover or rediscover the rich and diverse culture and history that make New York such a unique city. We are looking forward to seeing you soon in The Big Apple!

—Peter Kopp  
Basic Chair

—Michael McDermott  
Clinical Chair

Abstracts from the

AMERICAN THYROID ASSOCIATION



78<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
SHERATON NEW YORK HOTEL & TOWERS  
OCTOBER 3-7, 2007 • NEW YORK CITY

Thyroid

The Official Journal of the



AMERICAN  
THYROID  
ASSOCIATION

FOUNDED 1923

## **CME**

### **CME Accreditation:**

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint sponsorship of the University of Colorado School of Medicine and the American Thyroid Association. The University of Colorado School of Medicine is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The University of Colorado School of Medicine designates this educational activity for a maximum of 33.25 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

### **Target Audience:**

This meeting is designed for the worldwide community of thyroid specialists: endocrinologists, surgeons, basic scientists, nuclear medicine scientists, pathologists, endocrine nurses, and other health care professionals who wish to broaden and update their knowledge of the thyroid gland and its disorders.

### **Educational Design:**

The ATA Annual Meeting features interactive sessions discussing oral and poster abstracts, innovative talks on cutting-edge topics, case studies, “meet the professor” workshops, panel discussions and a great balance between basic science and clinical topics. The Annual Meeting is known for its state-of-the-art information, unparalleled networking opportunities, and warm collegiality.

### **Educational Objectives:**

Upon completion of this conference participants should be able to:

1. Describe state-of-the art findings on the mechanisms, prevention, diagnosis, and management of thyroid disease and thyroid cancer
2. Recognize the impact of health policy, environmental factors, and non-thyroidal conditions on thyroid disease and thyroid cancer
3. Incorporate new treatment options for thyroid disease and thyroid cancer in patient care
4. Identify and increase your opportunities for networking and collaboration with other professionals in furthering research in the fields of thyroid disease and thyroid cancer and patient care.

### **CME Notices:**

As a sponsor accredited by the ACCME, the University of Colorado School of Medicine must ensure balance, independence, objectivity, and scientific rigor in all its sponsored educational activities. All faculty participating in a sponsored activity are expected to disclose to the provider any relevant personal financial interest or other relationship involving themselves or their spouse/partner within the last 12 months with any proprietary entity producing health care goods or services (excluding nonprofit or government organizations) related to the content of the activity.

The intent of this disclosure is not to prevent a faculty contributor/speaker with a significant financial or other relationship from making the presentation, but rather to identify and resolve any conflicts of interest that may control the content of the activity. Faculty must also disclose any unlabeled use or investigational use (not yet approved for any purpose) of pharmaceutical and medical device products.

Specific disclosure will be made to participants prior to the educational activity.

### **Fellows Track – Clinical and Basic:**

*Program Directors nominate fellows to be part of the special fellows’ tracks.*

Co-chairs of the Fellows Track, Bryan Haugen and Kathryn Schuff, have designed a parallel and integrated program to the main meeting which will provide topics and skill enhancement opportunities (including lectures of relevance) to selected fellows who have attended the one-day fellows conference preceding the meeting.

For the first time ever, this year there will be a basic program designed for Basic Post-Doctoral Fellows. Co-chairs, Antonio Bianco and Sheue-yann Cheng have designed a program to provide lectures and skill enhancement opportunities, special presentations by ATA meeting faculty focusing on basic science, grantsmanship and career development.

**Headquarters Hotel of the ATA 78<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting:**

Sheraton New York Hotel & Towers

Located on 7th Avenue between 52nd and 53rd Streets in midtown Manhattan.

**Awards Presentations:**

Prestigious awards are made to clinicians, academicians, young researchers, and premier ATA members who have made outstanding contributions in thyroidology. The awards include the Paul Starr Award, Sidney H. Ingbar Distinguished Lectureship, the Van Meter Award, the ATA Distinguished Service Award, and the John B. Stanbury Thyroid Physiology Medal.

**Women in Thyroidology: Wednesday, October 3, 5–6 pm**

The ATA's Women in Thyroidology (WIT) will meet. All women meeting attendees are encouraged and welcome to attend.

**Newcomers' Welcome: Wednesday, October 3, 6–7 pm**

This reception is to welcome new members and first-time attendees to our meeting. Your hosts will be the ATA Board of Directors, Committee Chairs and other leaders.

**Welcome Reception: Wednesday, October 3, 7–8:30 pm**

Join us for a relaxed time with old friends and a chance to greet new ATA members. Music by ATA member, Joe DiStefano and company.

**ATA Annual Business Meeting: (ATA members only)**

The annual business meeting held on Thursday, October 4 at 5:45 pm in the Metropolitan West Ballroom will feature election results, committee reports, and important member issues.

**ATA Annual Banquet: Saturday, October 6, 7:30–11:00 pm**

Attendees and their guests are invited to enjoy a night of dining and socializing at this annual gala.

**Registration Hours:**

Wednesday	1:00–9:00 pm
Thursday	6:00 am–6:00 pm
Friday	6:00 am–6:00 pm
Saturday	6:00 am–6:00 pm
Sunday	7:00 am–Noon

**Poster Sessions and Exhibit Review:****New York Ballroom:**

Thursday, October 4:	10:00–10:30 am; 11:45 am–12:45 pm; 3:15–3:45 pm
Friday, October 5:	10:00–10:30 am; Noon–1:00 pm; 2:45–3:15 pm
Saturday, October 6:	10:00–10:30 am; Noon–1:00 pm