



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR OTITIS MEDIA

Newsletter

#9

Brighton beckons

In 1971 Ben Senturia in the USA convened a small symposium on otitis media, and sowed the seeds that developed into our regular symposium, and later our society. Exactly fifty years on, and for reasons apparent to all, our biennial conference is for the first time being held in a virtual format.

I am grateful to my medical school in Brighton (UK) for supporting our conference next month, and to others who have helped in getting sponsorship, making suggestions for the program, and giving moral support. Our meeting will take place over two half days on June 11th and 12th, feature 5 keynote sessions and over 40 oral presentations, and I am confident will include content of interest to all of us.

The virtual format does make coordinating live interaction across world time zones difficult (although conference content will be recorded), but conversely offers opportunities to enhance participation. From the outset the ISOM Board were keen to make the conference free of cost, to enable more people to join, and enrich our discussions and experience.

I am particularly keen to get engagement from those in lower resource settings who may not have been in a position to attend previous conferences, but may live in regions where the burden of chronic suppurative otitis media is highest.

By early May we had over 200 people registered from 29 countries on every continent. If you have not yet done so, please do register yourself, and please encourage friends and colleagues to do the same. See you there!

www.bsms.ac.uk/OM21



Prof Mahmood Bhutta
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President's statement



It is humbling honor to serve our Society along with our amazing group of Board members over the upcoming year. These are most unprecedented times, with each and all of us being maximally strained on both a personal and professional level. Along with massive challenges posed by the ongoing viral pandemic, new opportunities for camaraderie, growth, and recalibration of our value system also arise. Social media has served to connect us to colleagues all over the world like never before, linking global sister societies through a constant flow of information and idea exchange.

As you may know, the ISOM meeting during the summer of 2021 has moving to a virtual platform, with an excellent and completely free-of-charge program scheduled June 11-12, 2021. Special gratitude and thanks to Dr. Mahmood Bhutta for donating his time and efforts to organizing this virtual meeting. I would also like to thank the virtual meeting's program committee composed of Ken Brockman, Ann Hermansson, Regie Santos-Cortez, Jian-Dong Li, Tal Marom, and Kevin Mason. Joe Kerschner, ISOM Past President, has been amazing in recruiting several sponsors for this meeting – and for that – we are all extremely grateful. Please make sure to visit the virtual exhibits for each of these sponsors at the June meeting.

Led by Stephen Pelton, the ISOM Education committee has uploaded all abstracts and content from 2019 onto the ISOM website. Kevin Mason our

Secretary has worked tirelessly to ensure our Board meetings and directives continue to run smoothly on a scheduled, iterative pace. Jian-Dong Li has organized and managed ISOM's finances impeccably, also donating a great deal of time and effort to this aspect of our society. ISOM remain financially solvent and strong.

Finally, in 2023, we look forward to hopefully being able to meet in person once again, in Milwaukee. This Milwaukee symposium promises to be a most unique and exciting meeting; with great plans for extra-curricular activities on top of the always stellar scientific aspects of our symposia.

Along with our Board, I hope to humbly carry forth the mission of our Society over the next two years, and greatly look forward to emerging stronger out of this pandemic with a smooth transition to new leadership in 2023. Look forward to seeing everyone virtually in June. Feel free to email me directly with any ideas, issues, questions!



Diego Preciado MD PhD
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20th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Otitis Media

The 20th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Otitis Media was convened on June 9, 2019 in Hollywood, California and adjourned on June 13, 2019. The program was robust and incorporated an opening and closing keynote address and daily plenary sessions followed by two parallel sessions customized for attendees with mostly a clinical focus versus those with more of a basic science focus. Opening the symposium, Dr. Shelly Chadha of the World Health Organization provided an outstanding Keynote lecture of the WHO's work on prevention of deafness and hearing loss entitled "Ear and Hearing Care – a Global Health Priority: Really?". The Closing Keynote Address was delivered by an early career research fellow from the Department of Surgery at the University of Auckland, New Zealand - Dr. Brett Wagner. She delivered a state-of-the-art presentation on the "Ear, Nose and Throat Microbiome". Daily Plenary sessions provided latest updates from experts in Vaccines, Biomedical Advances in OM research and Microbiome and Respiratory Health. Included in the program were 5 expert panels entitled: "Comparing OM management and outcomes in US and Australia/New Zealand; OM post-PCV; How Societal and cultural context affect treatment decisions, Clinical guidelines – do we need an update; Microbiota: What do we know? Where do we want to go? What is holding us back?



We welcomed attendees representing 18 countries. Throughout the meeting special attention was paid

to the integration of junior faculty, trainees, women, and underrepresented minorities into the scientific program. Of invited talks, 28 were delivered from the podium by trainees vs. 32 that were from established investigators during the conference. Awards were conferred in two categories: podium presentation and poster presentation after compiling scores from 3 independent judges of all presentations. New this year was the popular 'lightening poster session' whereby trainees had the opportunity to present a one-minute overview of their poster prior to a poster session.

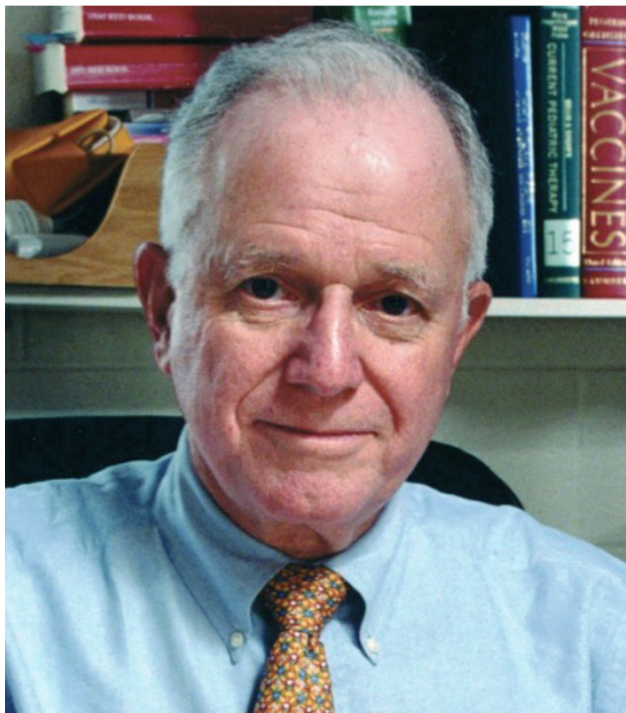
Also new to the 2019 program was the integration of the Research Conference report-outs to all attendees which occurred on Wednesday, June 12th, 2019 during a special 2-hour session with plenty of time for Q&A from the audience. Attendees heard summaries from each of the eight convened panels. After the symposium adjourned, Panel Chairs and Co-Chairs focused on a timely and rapid publication and dissemination of each of the 8 panel reports: Panel 1: Biotechnology, biomedical engineering and new models of otitis media; Panel 2: Recent advance in otitis media bioinformatics; Panel 3: Genomics, precision medicine and targeted therapies; Panel 4: Recent advances in understanding the natural history of the otitis media microbiome and its response to environmental pressures; Panel 5: Impact of otitis media on quality of life and development; Panel 6: Otitis media and associated hearing loss among disadvantaged populations and low to middle-income countries; Panel 7: Pathogenesis of otitis media; Panel 8: Vaccines and immunology. A Link to the publication of all 8 panel reports as a supplement to the International Journal of Pediatric Otorhinolaryngology can be found on the ISOM website:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/international-journal-of-pediatric-otorhinolaryngology/vol/130/suppl/S1>



JEROME O. KLEIN, MD

February 10, 1931 - February 17, 2021



Dr. Klein excited generations of trainees and colleagues in Pediatrics and Infectious Diseases. He was an inspiring person who took genuine interest in those whose paths crossed his. He provided mentoring, support, and guidance, and each were welcomed into his professional family. He spent nearly all of his professional career at Boston City Hospital and Boston Medical Center following in the footsteps of his mentor, Dr. Maxwell Finland. He took exceptional pride in being able to care for his patients, teach his medical students, residents and fellows, and in being a role model for subsequent generations of physicians. He was especially generous with his time and knowledge and provided guidance for many of us throughout our careers.

Dr. Klein was Emeritus Professor of Pediatrics at Boston University School of Medicine and former Chief of Pediatric Infectious Diseases at BMC. He had a national and international reputation as an educator and scholar, and was the recipient of many awards. Distinguished Physician Award of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society, the Bristol Award for Distinguished Achievement of the IDSA, Clinician of the Year Award of the Massachusetts ID Society, Lifetime Achievement Award for Clinical Research of the Society of Ear, Nose and Throat Advances

in Children, and the Maxwell Finland Award for Scientific Achievement from the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases, are just a select few. Dr. Klein was also an Associate Editor at Clinical Infectious Diseases Journal and a lecturer at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Klein was a distinguished faculty member and physician in pediatric infectious diseases for over 50 years. He had over 500 publications including peer-reviewed manuscripts, book chapters and books on important topics such as infection in the newborn, otitis media, bacteremia, bacterial pneumonia, meningitis, Haemophilus influenzae and antimicrobial therapy.

Dr. Klein earned his medical degree from Yale University in 1956 and completed his internship in Minneapolis. He then served as a Senior Assistant Surgeon for the CDC before completing his residency training at Boston City Hospital in 1961. He remained at Boston City Hospital, under the tutelage of Dr. Maxwell Finland, first as a Research Fellow in Infectious Diseases, Visiting Physician, and Associate Director in Pediatrics, until being named to the Director of Pediatric Infectious Diseases in 1977, a position he held until 1996. Dr. Klein became an Emeritus Professor of Pediatrics at BUSM when he retired in 2017.

In 2011, to honor his legacy and many contributions to Boston City Hospital and Boston Medical Center, the Jerome Klein Award for Physician Excellence was established. This award is presented annually to a physician who shares Dr. Klein's attributes, commitment and dedication as an outstanding mentor, clinician and/or physician scientist, leader and supportive of colleagues and trainees. Dr. Klein was revered by his colleagues, which included healthcare workers, researchers, and administrative staff, and all became his work family! He was genuine, kind, good humored, and truly served as an inspiration. He was the eternal optimist. He lived his life to the fullest, and will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Dr. Klein is survived by his wife Linda, their three children Andrea, Adam and Bennett and 3 grandchildren. The family will have a private burial service. We will have a celebration of Dr Klein's life and career in the future, when gatherings are permitted.

Text by Stephen Pelton

Virtual meeting

21st International Symposium on Recent Advances in Otitis Media

11-12 June 2021



Hosted by



FREE REGISTRATION

Conference chair:
Professor Mahmood Bhutta

Registration & abstract submission
www.bsms.ac.uk/OM21

Abstract submission deadline
28th March 2021



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