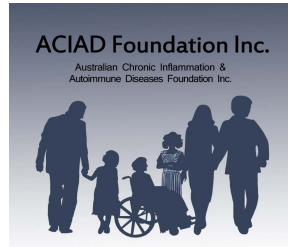


Australian Chronic Inflammatory and Autoimmune Diseases Foundation, Inc



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Doctors seminar and workshop details finalised

This year's MP doctors' workshop will be held in Canberra over the Queen's Birthday weekend (June 12,13,14) in Canberra.

The keynote speaker this year is Professor Eishi Yoshinobu, a Japanese research pathologist based at Tokyo Medical and Dental University. He has a particular interest in sarcoidosis and crohn's disease. He has published widely on the infectious causation of these diseases and their treatment with tetracyclines and macrolide drugs. Three of Professor Eishi's research colleagues are also accompanying him to Australia. His visit has been sponsored by the Foundation. His team will also visit medical researchers at ANU and in Sydney, with whom they have collaborative research projects.

Australian doctors will also be presenting a number of clinical case studies, with, this year, a special emphasis on sarcoidosis. We are hoping that information gathered at the workshop will assist the Foundation in commencing an application to the Therapeutic Goods Administration to have minocycline and clindamycin registered as orphan drugs for the treatment of sarcoidosis.

If your doctor is new to the MP in the last 12 months we might not have his or her details on file. Please let our secretary Vic Ryan (vicryan@ausautoimmunity.org.au) know their details so that they can be invited.

If you live in or close to Canberra and would like to assist in taking interstate doctors to and from the meeting, please let our secretary Vic Ryan know.

New name finally adopted

Members approved a broader and more inclusive name for the Foundation at last year's Annual General Meeting in October. The Victorian Associations Registrar approved the name change in December.

Unfortunately we had to delay the introduction of the new name due to long delays in getting the changes updated on the Australian Business Register. The website will be updated to reflect this change in the coming week. The website and forum addresses will , at least for the present, remain unchanged.

Canberra patient meeting and forum

We will also be holding a patient discussion forum after the doctors seminar/workshop at

11.00 am on Monday June 14. Patients, their families and carers are all welcome to attend. We expect a few of the doctors attending the earlier meeting will stay on for the patient forum.

The meeting will be held at University House Hotel, Balmain Crescent, Australian National University, Canberra ACT. A light lunch will be served at around 12.30 pm.

If you would like to organise or share transport from country New South Wales or from Sydney please ask in the Members discussion forum at <http://www.ausautoimmunity.org.au/Forum/viewtopic.php?f=2&t=7>

Vitamin D testing update

We have had some reports that some of the Vitamin D collection centres listed at our website www.ausautoimmunity.org.au/vitamin-d-testing.htm are not freezing their 1,25 D samples. We will be liaising with the pathology providers

and will update our website advices once the issue is clarified.

Webmaster wanted

We are still looking for a new webmaster. The role requires some familiarity with website organisation and updating, though not detailed programming expertise. If you would like to volunteer please write to contact our Secretary Vicki Ryan at vicryan@ausautoimmunity.org.au

Melbourne Patient Networking meeting

Just a reminder that the previously advertised Melbourne patient networking meeting will be on Sunday March 28. The venue is the Phyliss Hore Meeting Room at Kew Library, Cotham Road, Kew and will commence at 10.30 am through till 1.00pm.

There is off street car parking at the side of the library and wheelchair access. Entry to the meeting room is via the main library entrance foyer. Those wishing to BYO lunch can use the kitchen facilities attached to the meeting room.