

## Society of Anesthesia and Sleep Medicine Annual Report • October 2017

This 2017 Annual Report for the Society of Anesthesia and Sleep Medicine (SASM), now brings to a close our sixth year of successful operation. SASM is acclaimed as the premiere multispecialty organization that has contributed to improved perioperative care and influenced safety related to management of patients with sleep-disordered breathing (SDB). It is clear from its rapid growth that SASM fills a void by providing interactions between several disciplines including anesthesiologists, sleep physicians, surgeons, emergency physicians, hospitalists, and basic scientists. Thanks to the enthusiasm and hard work by our members, SASM has made tremendous strides and responded to the dynamic changes in matters common to anesthesia and sleep medicine.

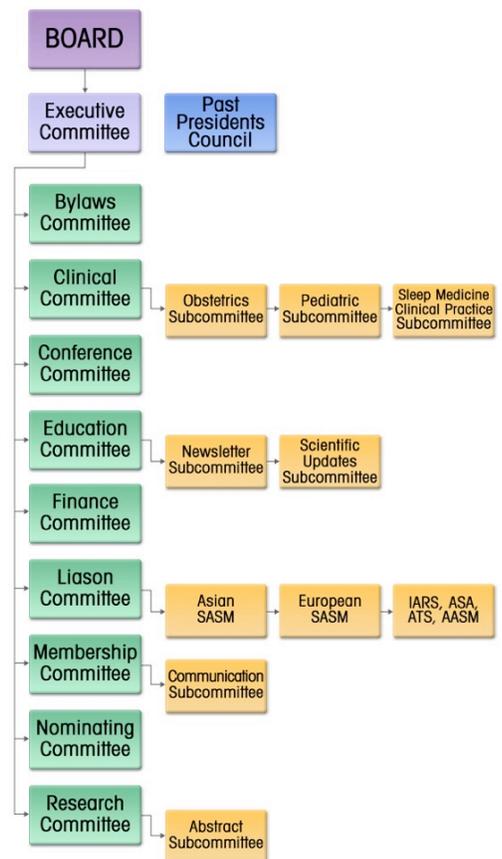
The Officers, Board of Directors, and members are extremely grateful to our Executive Director, Marie Odden, and the Svinicki Association Management, Inc. (SAMI) staff in Wisconsin for their professional administrative services. This relationship has proven a great benefit to the growth, expansion and success of SASM.

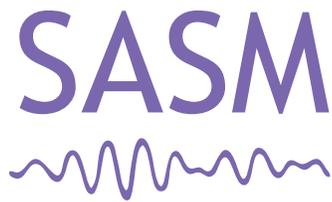
### Organizational Structure

Our organizational structure has evolved over the last year, reflecting the expansion of our activities. The committee and subcommittee structure has been modified to include new initiatives of our organization. These include formation of the obstetric and the sleep medicine clinical practice subcommittees as well as the Asian and European components of SASM. We have also created a Past President’s Council that will play a major advisory role and guide us through our rapid growth. The modifications in the organizational structure were approved by the Board, but will require bylaws changes and approval by our membership.

### Affiliation with International Anesthesia Research Society (IARS) and Section on “Respiration and Sleep” in Anesthesia and Analgesia (A&A) Journal

SASM continues its close affiliation with the International Anesthesia Research Society (IARS). The section on “Respiration and Sleep” in *Anesthesia and Analgesia (A&A)* is now two-years old. This partnership aligns with the mission and vision of SASM in terms of research and education. Also, helps achieve one of our goals to increase





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the number of sleep related publications in *Anesthesia and Analgesia*, thereby increasing exposure of the readership to the field of anesthesia and sleep medicine. The Section Editor for Respiration and Sleep section is David Hillman, MD, a Past President of SASM, Clinical Professor at the University of Western Australia, Past President of the Australasian Sleep Association, and founding chair of Australia's Sleep Health Foundation. He also plays the role of SASM liaison to IARS. We would encourage SASM members to submit their scientific work related to anesthesia and sleep medicine to the Respiratory and Sleep section of *Anesthesia and Analgesia*.

### **Bylaws Committee**

Bylaw changes are required to reflect the changes in the governance structure of SASM. In addition, there may be need for changes in bylaws to ensure that they reflect current circumstances and needs of the society. David Hillman, MD, Chair of the Bylaws Committee has guided us through the process of modifying the bylaws. The proposed changes were circulated to the membership in August 2017 for their consideration and endorsement at the October 2017 Annual Meeting in Boston.

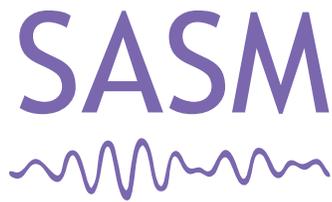
### **Clinical Committee**

Our Clinical Committee, under the superb leadership of Bhargavi Gali, MD, and Dennis Auckley, MD, has undertaken several educational efforts including preparation of white papers related to challenging and controversial aspects of care of OSA patients requiring procedural sedation/analgesia or general anesthesia as well as pain management. The projects of the committee include following:

- Educational documents have been revised and placed on SASM website
- Educational manuscript published in the American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses (ASPAN) journal
- White paper on perioperative management of patients with narcolepsy
- Educational materials (presentation slides) on opioids and respiratory depression
- Review article on role of CPAP in the perioperative period
- White paper on enhanced recovery after surgery pathways in patients with SDB
- Develop curriculum sleep medicine elective rotation for anesthesia residents

### **Obstetric Subcommittee**

Sleep-disordered breathing during pregnancy can have a major effect on the health of the newborn, otherwise resulting in prematurity or stillbirth. This committee has been most productive with regards to education on effects of SDB on pregnancy and labor. The group has conducted multiple teleconferences to work on several issues that are of interest to anesthesiologists, obstetricians, and neonatologists. An international group has been formed with members from the US, Canada and Britain. Alexandra Bullough, MD, previous Chair of the Obstetrics Subcommittee, has handed over the leadership position to Jennifer Dominguez, MD.



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The Obstetric Subcommittee is currently seeking a new Co-Chair. If you are interested, please get in touch with Dr. Dominguez or the SASM office.

### **Pediatric Subcommittee**

The Pediatric Subcommittee under the marvelous guidance of Kimmo Murto, MD, FRCPC, Chair, and Rajeev Subramanyam, MD, MS, Co-Chair, have worked hard to promote and take part in scholarly activity (e.g. clinical and bench research, guideline development, systematic review/meta-analysis) as it relates to the perioperative management of children and adolescents up to the age of 18 years with SDB, and to interpret what it means for the health care provider responsible for their care and ensure this knowledge reaches them.

Another project of the pediatric committee, led by Kimmo Murto, MD, FRCPC, will identify the controversial issues related to the care of children at risk for obstructive sleep apnea. This is a part of a bigger project of developing guidance for appropriate selection of children undergoing airway surgery on an outpatient basis. This project is being conducted in collaboration with the guidelines committee of the Society For Ambulatory Anesthesia (SAMBA).

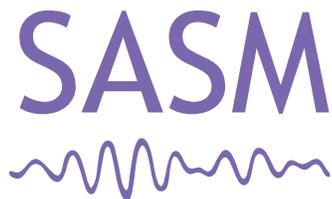
### **Sleep Medicine Clinical Practice Subcommittee**

This committee includes anesthesiologists with dual specialties: anesthesia and sleep medicine. One of the goals of this committee is to increase the interest in the field of sleep medicine and raise awareness of perioperative sleep-related issues. The committee would have formal networking and exchange of clinical ideas between anesthesiologists and sleep medicine physicians. In addition, this group would work with the American Board of Anesthesiology to advance the incorporation of sleep medicine into regular anesthesia residency curriculum and eventually into anesthesia board examinations. We are seeking new leadership for this committee. If any members are interested, they are urged to apply for this position.

### **Education Committee**

One of the major functions of SASM is to promote cross-fertilization between anesthesiology and sleep medicine practitioners to improve patient care and safety. The multidisciplinary membership with expertise in anesthesia and sleep medicine is in the forefront of research addressing optimal management of patients with SDB. SASM can be considered as a “think tank” with focus on perioperative care of patients with SDB. SASM has developed multiple avenues to achieve its educational goals including the annual meeting, a newsletter, and web-based education such as white papers and review of recent literature, to mention a few.

The SASM Annual Scientific Meeting, held just before the ASA Annual Meeting, is the showcase of our educational efforts. This year, it has been organized under the direction of Stavros Memtsoudis, MD, PhD and Babak Mokhlesi, MD, MSc, and their committee. This year’s theme, *Perioperative and Sleep Medicine: Controversies and Challenges*, has important implications for the broader issues and ailments for our hospitalized patients with SDB. We have continued our



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one-and-a-half-day format with a Thursday half-day and a Friday full day meeting of invited papers and poster presentations.

The SASM annual meeting provides a perfect opportunity to exchange ideas with an expert group focused on the sleep-anesthesia interplay. Abstracts are an important component of the annual meeting. Malin Jonsson Fagerlund, MD, PhD, and Toby Weingarten, MD, ably lead the Abstract Subcommittee. This year, we again have over 30 abstracts with awards to be presented to the best research.

### **Newsletter Subcommittee**

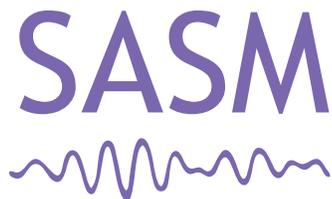
The Newsletter Committee, under the leadership of Jean Wong, MD, FRCPC and Mandeep Singh, MBBS, MD, MSc, FRCPC and their diligent committee, produces excellent newsletters at a regular interval of three times a year. The SASM newsletter is a rich source of information and continues to update us on the activities of SASM and articles on current trends and controversies surrounding perioperative care of patients with SDB. The circulation of the SASM newsletter is an important task due to our connection to the IARS and the World Anesthesia Network. The newsletter is posted on the SASM web site and other websites as well. The newsletter is being revised for a new, more modern look that will be featured in the September issue.

### **Finance Committee**

Our financial affairs are still in good order with continuing broad support from our many sponsors, who are listed in the meeting syllabus and on our website. We have worked hard to ensure that our administrative costs remain modest, allowing us to re-invest our funds in our educational program, outreach activities and in supporting research.

Under the excellent fiscal stewardship of our Treasurer, Dennis Auckley, MD, our governance arrangements ensure appropriate oversight. Most importantly, there is a monthly financial reporting structure in place to the President and the Treasurer. We have worked hard to increase our membership and sponsorship from various sources to ensure a strong financial position.

We need to obtain more corporate support that would allow us to pursue various projects that expand membership benefits. As will be presented at this Annual Meeting, our financial support has diminished this year for a number of foreseen and unforeseen events. The very generous startup grants from our ResMed and Phillips Respironics colleagues have now been consumed and we are now competing in an ever more challenging medical societal world. We can only maintain our success with ongoing support from our present devoted followers and also continue to seek out new generous partners.



## **Involvement in Activity of Other Professional Societies**

There is emerging opportunity for SASM to advance perioperative care of patients with SDB and enhance patient safety worldwide. The liaison committee under the leadership of David Hillman, MD, PhD and Frances Chung, MBBS, FRCPC has plans to expand the activities of SASM to Asia and Europe. Of note, the satellite meeting of the Asian SASM held immediately before the World Congress of Anesthesiology was a great success. During the October 2016 SASM Annual Meeting held in Chicago, IL a group of anesthesiologists and sleep medicine physicians planned to start a European SASM. Such efforts will help cultivate relationships between SASM and international professional societies.

The SASM Board, committee chairs and committee members are often invited to speak at numerous national and international anesthesia and sleep medicine conferences as well. The SASM has had panel sessions at the IARS and American College of Chest Physicians meetings and a full day workshop at American Thoracic Society meeting, organized by Najib Ayas, MD and titled, "Workshop Project: Research Priorities in Perioperative OSA."

## **Membership Committee**

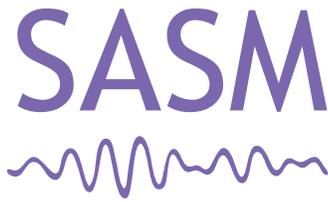
The SASM Board members are always mindful of the need to attract new members and therefore are always looking for ways of providing value to our members. We have introduced innovations in our membership drive to broaden our membership base due to the splendid efforts of Stavros Memtsoudis, MD, PhD, Membership Committee Chair, Meltem Yilmaz, MD, Co-Chair, Ellen Soffin, MD, PhD, Vice Chair and their committee. Another approach to increasing our membership is through the international outreach program, an endeavor that would provide education and professional guidance to our international colleagues.

## **Communication Subcommittee**

Our website continues to flourish under the leadership of Michael Pilla, MD, and his committee. The Scientific Updates Subcommittee, under the outstanding guidance of Susana Vacas, MD, PhD, provides continuing educational material to our members via the website. There are regular, bi-monthly featured articles and scientific updates of recently published literature.

## **Obstructive Sleep Apnea Death and Near Miss Registry**

In May 2014, SASM partnered with the Anesthesia Quality Institute of the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) to launch a registry to identify recurring patterns underlying perioperative deaths or adverse events in patients with known or suspected obstructive sleep apnea. Norman Bolden, MD led the project in collaboration with Karen Posner, PhD, University of Washington, Seattle and the ASA Closed Claims Project. The Registry has been completed and includes 77 patients. The members of the committee are compiling and analyzing the information in the database.



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## **Perioperative Care Guideline Taskforce**

SASM has been involved in the development of clinical practice guidelines, advisories, and statements that address clinical dilemmas we face in day-to-day practice when managing patients with SDB. A multidisciplinary task force led by Frances Chung, MBBS, FRCPC developed guidelines on preoperative screening and assessment of adult patients with obstructive sleep apnea, which has already been published in the August 2016 issue of *Anesthesia & Analgesia*.

A task force on intraoperative care, under the leadership of Crispiana Cozowicz, MD and Stavros Memtsoudis, MD, PhD is currently working very hard to develop guidelines for intraoperative management of patients with obstructive sleep apnea. As you can imagine this is a significant undertaking that requires considerable commitment. The task force plans to meet during the SASM Annual Meeting in Boston to finalize the recommendations. These guidelines will be of great value to our members and improve patient safety.

## **Conclusion**

SASM remains a vibrant organization and the future for SASM is bright. SASM creates an environment where ideas and information is being exchanged and clinical standards and scientific enquiry is being enhanced. Although much has been achieved, lots need to be done. There is enough talent within our membership to further expand our activities and continue to grow through numerous initiatives. This will be a year of some further changes, as several new and eager replacements will take on new tasks. I am very grateful for the hard work of the Board Members, the Committee Chairs and Committee Members who contribute to the immense success of the SASM. SASM is always seeking involvement from its members. If you would like to serve in any capacity, please submit your request on the SASM website ([www.sasmhq.org](http://www.sasmhq.org)) with your curriculum vitae.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Goshi' in a cursive, slightly stylized script.

Girish P. Joshi, MBBS, MD, FFARCSI  
President, Society of Anesthesia and Sleep Medicine