



AUSTRALIAN RESUSCITATION COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN

A/Professor I G Jacobs, BAppSc, DipEd, PhD, RN, FRCNA

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

Dr P Morley, MB BS, FRACP, FANZCA, FFICANZCA

SPONSORED BY

. Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

. Australian and New Zealand
College of Anaesthetists

28th ANNUAL REPORT

It is with much pleasure that I present the 28th Annual Report for 2003/2004. The Council has endured a very busy and productive year which represents continuing growth of the ARC. Of particular importance is the specific initiatives undertaken to increase the profile of the Council within the health sector and community in general. Such initiatives have included meetings with the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aging, letters to State Health Departments, Medical and Nursing Registration Boards, Professional Colleges and State Coroners. This has proven very successful with very positive responses being received by Council.

During the year the ARC took a very proactive step in making the ARC guidelines freely available on the ARC website. While the guidelines have been available electronically to subscribers it was considered timely that these become accessible to the wider community in general. As ARC subscriptions form a significant part of ARC revenue we hope that this move will not translate to a fall in the number of subscribers. Accordingly, the ARC is looking at ways to increase the value of being a subscriber. Such "value adding" initiatives will include access to an Endnote bibliographical database of the resuscitation literature, evidence base worksheets used to develop guidelines, summaries of guideline changes and generic Powerpoint presentations of ARC guidelines.

As previously announced the ARC now develops guidelines rather than policy statements. This is in keeping with the concepts of evidence based health care and consistent with the development of international consensus on resuscitation science. You will have noted that guidelines now contain an indication of the level of evidence underpinning the guideline and a treatment recommendation.

Page 1 of 3

AUSTRALIAN RESUSCITATION COUNCIL INC.

ABN 73708 281 962

C/- Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

College of Surgeons' Gardens, Spring Street, Melbourne 3000

Telephone: 03 9249 1214

Facsimile: 03 9249 1216

E-mail: carol.carey@surgeons.org

Website: www.resus.org.au

This is also in line with the recommendations by the National Health and Medical Research Council for developing guidelines. This change won't occur overnight however, the ARC has firmly established the mechanisms for this ongoing approach to undertake the core business of the ARC.

The ARC remains very active within the international resuscitation community. As a member of the International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation (ILCOR), the ARC is working on the update to Guidelines 2000. The final output to this process will be an international consensus on resuscitation science which will be used by the various resuscitation councils to develop their guidelines.

The fifth International Spark of Life Conference will be held at the Adelaide Hilton 15-16 April, 2005, with workshops being held on Thursday 14th April. Planning is well underway for what should be once again a very successful event with high quality speakers from Australia and overseas. Please check on the ARC website for further information.

While the ARC can reflect with considerable satisfaction on the achievements during the past 12 months, we must also be mindful of our future directions. Clearly the continued development of evidence based resuscitation guidelines will remain core to the ARC activities. Translating the evidence into nationally appropriate guidelines is paramount and will necessitate our ongoing international involvement. To underpin the current and new initiatives of Council it will be essential to ensure that the ARC is able to maintain a sound and sustainable financial base. Increasing the profile of the ARC within Government, the health sector and broader general community will remain a priority for Council.

As with all organisations, it strength comes for those committed to making it all happen. During the year we have had a number of Councillor's stand down and to those I wish to record our warmest thanks for their outstanding contribution. To new Council members, welcome and I trust you will find the experience rewarding. I would also record Councils' appreciation to the member organisations and state branches who support the ARC and their representatives to attend. Finally, my sincere thanks to the Executive Committee and Carol Carey our Administrative Officer who put in so much time and effort to see that the Council remains Australia's peak resuscitation advisory body.



Associate Professor Ian Jacobs
Chairman

MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

Australasian College for Emergency Medicine

Australian College of Ambulance Professionals

Australian College of Critical Care Nurses Ltd

Australian Defence Force

Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists

Australian New Zealand Intensive Care Society (ANZICS)

Australian Red Cross

Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand

Convention of Ambulance Authorities

National Heart Foundation of Australia

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners

Royal College of Nursing, Australia

Royal Life Saving Society - Australia

St John Ambulance Australia

Surf Life Saving Australia Limited

The Australian College of Paediatrics

State Branches