



Newsletter

March 2015

Announcements

ELSO Center Members,

I hope this finds you slowing just a little from the busy winter season, and beginning to thaw a little bit. It was wonderful to see many of you at the recent CNMC Keystone ECMO symposium. The meeting was well attended with exciting presentations and great discussions. I didn't get to stay for the Crutch Award presentation, but I am hopeful that most skiers made it home unscathed.

It is also an exciting time for ECMO growth and for interest in areas such as adult ECMO support. Demand for training and education is high, and in January we completed a highly successful joint ECMO course with the Society of Critical Care Medicine. We are developing collaborative education programs with a number of societies in addition to our state of the art "stand-alone" ELSO training courses. We are trying to meet all these demands with an enhanced education team approach-more to come on that.

ELSO is also undergoing some exciting changes in its structure as an incorporated nonprofit that will allow continued growth and development to better meet the ECMO community's needs. We will be sharing more details on the changes in the coming months. Included in this newsletter we are sending out requests for nominations for Steering Committee positions, with elections to follow.

We particularly wanted to get this newsletter out to you quickly to make you aware of great new changes in the ELSO Award of Excellence Program, with new Silver, Gold and Platinum levels. Please review the information and note the application deadline dates. The Euro ELSO meeting in Regensburg is just around the corner in May. We hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Jim

Jim Fortenberry MD, MCCM, FAAP

ELSO Steering Committee Chair 2014-2016

Maquet Oxygenators

Leaking from Gas Outlet port

Over the summer of 2014, clinicians in various centers experienced several oxygenators that were leaking priming fluid out of the gas exhaust port. In some cases, the leak was not noticed until the circuit was blood primed or in a few cases after ECMO had been initiated. The leak occurred on the QUADROX-iD Adult oxygenators only. The attached Field Safety Notice from Maquet was devised and sent out around March 5, 2015 to USA customers. According to sources, the affected oxygenators leaked due to a complication in the process where the fibers are attached to the potting fixture. The cause of the production complication supposedly has been rectified, and no further oxygenators outside of the noted lot numbers should be affected.

As the Field Safety Notice notes, an oxygenator that minimally leaks blood outside of the gas exhaust port is defective, but may not be hazardous to the patient and in many cases will stop leaking over a period of time. If gas exchange is ever compromised or the pressure drop has increased, the oxygenator should be changed out. If no measurable changes, the institution must weigh the benefits of changing out the oxygenator with the risk of increased exposure to a new foreign surface, additional homologous blood exposure, and the chance of inadvertent catastrophe if the change out is not performed safely.

Those of us that used the older Kolobow silicone membrane oxygenator for ECMO in the 70' thru through the 90's often experienced blood leaks from the gas exhaust ports due to pinholes in the membrane material. More often than not, many clinicians would allow the leak to occur if blood loss was minimal and adequate perfusion was maintained.

Presently, oxygenator leaks are extremely rare and all manufacturers must strive to eliminate any leaks from occurring after the manufacturer process. When situations like this do occur, professionals need to contact their local representatives in a timely basis so that proper action can be implemented. If the company receives enough reports of a particular malfunction, they need to be acutely responsive, and not only investigate the issue, but notify the affected clinicians within a reasonable time period.

Luckily, those members of ELSO can notify the web site discussion board to mention if further issues are occurring, and if new problems exist with ECLS related equipment. The Device and Techniques committee will be setting up a distinct area of the web site for issues such as this one in order to notify colleagues sooner in the event of future issues in both disposable and non-disposable ECLS equipment.

Device and Techniques
Bill Harris CCP, Chair



ELSO Steering Committee Openings

Call for Nominations!

ELSO is accepting nominations for the Logistics and Education Chair, Protocol Chair, and two at large positions. These are three year terms and would begin September 2015.

Please email Peter Rycus (prycus@umich.edu) with your nominations. You may nominate another person or self-nominate. Please specify the position, and include a short one paragraph bio on the nominee. In the bio please focus on the nominee's relationship with ECMO, and previous participation and service with ELSO (service or research). Do not submit a CV. If you are nominating someone besides yourself be sure that person is aware and wishes to be considered prior to submitting. To be eligible for Steering Committee membership, a person must be in an active Extracorporeal Life Support (ECLS) leadership role (such as a physician leader or a coordinator) in an active ELSO center and providing clinical care.

The steering committee will then review the nominations and create a final ballot that will be voted on by our member centers. All nominations must be received by April 15th 2015 in order to be considered.



Award of Excellence

ELSO Award for Excellence in Life Support

Now open for 2015 applications!!

If you last applied for the Award before 2013
Your Award has Expired!

Note to European Centers:

We have extended the deadline to apply until April 1st

To be awarded at the Spring EuroELSO Conference in Regensburg, Germany

The Application Deadline is **JUNE 1st 2015**

To be awarded at the Fall ELSO Conference in Atlanta

Absolutely no late applications will be accepted!!!

If your centers' Award expires in 2015, you must apply for renewal by June 1st to assure continuous designation as a Center of Excellence.

NEW! Announcing: Silver, Gold and Platinum Levels

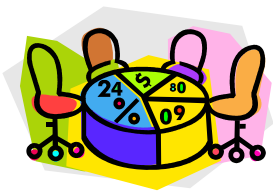
The Silver Level ELSO Award is recognition for ECLS Programs that are based on established ELSO Guidelines. These programs are on the Path to Excellence, but have not yet demonstrated the extraordinary achievement in all categories as required for the Center of Excellence Designation. These programs desire recognition for their adherence to the ELSO Guidelines in providing ECLS patient care and are working towards the requirements for designation as a Center of Excellence. The following is an explanation of how new ECMO Centers may apply:

After you join ELSO you will receive an ELSO Center number. That is how any reports will be designated for your center and how you will submit data to the registry.

You will be applying for the Silver level as a Center on the Path to Excellence - and you can apply without having supported any ECMO patients yet. Once you have all the structure, systems and processes in place and are an ELSO center you may apply for this level.

You cannot apply for the Center of Excellence (Gold or Platinum level) until you have been supporting at least 5 ECMO patients per year for at least 5 years, and have been a member of ELSO for at least 3 years.

The Gold and Platinum Level Awards will be designated amongst the applications that are established and have invested time. Minimum requirements are that you have been a member of ELSO for at least 3 years and have supported a minimum of 5 patients per year for 5 years.



MEETINGS

26th Annual ELSO Conference
www.else.org
September 17-20, 2015
Atlanta GA USA



4th Euro-ELSO Meeting
www.regensburg-euroelso2015.com
May 7-10, 2015
Regensburg, Germany



2nd Annual Asia-Pacific ELSO Meeting
www.apelso2015.com
July 17-19, 2015
Kyoto, Japan





TRAININGS

Extracorporeal Life Support in Adult Critical Care An ELSO Course

This intense four day course is designed for physicians and specialists caring for adult patients with severe acute respiratory and cardiac failure who may be candidates for Extracorporeal Respiratory Support. Common diagnoses considered for adult ECLS support include: H1N1, other viral or bacterial pneumonias, burn and inhalation injury, traumatic lung injury, pulmonary contusion, pulmonary embolism, post-shock or sepsis associated ARDS, or other forms of reversible acute lung injury or illness.

Course content includes indications and contraindications, cannulation techniques, initiation of support, patient and circuit physiology of ECMO, programmatic design and management, and all aspects of patient management and decision making for patients on ECMO. Complementing the twelve hour didactic course is an eighteen hour high fidelity simulation lab with an ECMO circuit utilizing centrifugal pump technology. All learners will participate in a four hour “ECMO Essentials 101” simulation workshop before the didactic sessions to review the fundamentals of bedside ECMO, such as, a circuit check, equipment components, alarms, pressure monitoring, stopcocks and pigtails, drawing samples from the circuit, de-airing the circuit, and hand cranking the pump. The goal is to immerse the learner in ECMO terminology and concepts before the didactic course to enhance the learning process. In the conference simulation workshop, small groups will participate in scenarios reviewing emergency procedures and highlighting adult ECMO physiology with a learner to instructor ratio of 2:1. Simulation education will allow participants to develop skills in common bedside procedures and to learn key assessments for decision making by “hands on” experience. The course is appropriate for centers setting up new programs, or for existing centers expanding into adult services.

Registration per person is \$3,000 and includes the ECMO Specialist Training Manual and the Red Book.

Space limited to 48 registrants!

Information will soon be available on our website with details about upcoming dates and locations.



Facebook

If you use Facebook please visit our sites and “like” us! We intend to use Facebook as a way to present information to not only ELSO members but to anyone who is interested in our organization.

www.facebook.com/ELSO.org

Euro-ELSO Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/EuroELSO



Twitter

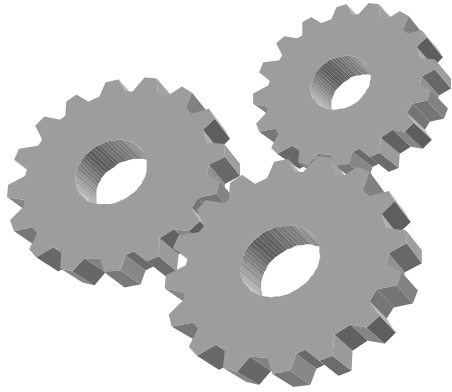
Follow us on twitter! www.twitter.com/ELSOOrg



SURVEYS



At the request of several centers, the steering committee has decided to include links to center surveys in ELSO's periodic newsletter. Each time we will describe the purpose of the study, who is asked to participate, and who is collecting the data. All surveys will be linked to "survey-monkey" which will collect the data. If you have a survey you would like to submit, please send the information to ELSO via Peter Rycus, MPH (prycus@umich.edu).



ELSO Corporate Member Announcements

This section will allow ELSO's corporate members an opportunity to pass on important information.