Dear Colleague

This year the BSH will hold three symposia during the British Cardiac Society (BCS) Annual Scientific Conference 2004. The first, to be held on Monday 24 May, is on a practical theme – how to deliver evidence-based care to heart failure patients in the UK. It is aimed at any health professional who would like to obtain up-to-date information on how best to diagnose and treat heart failure and will reflect on the role of guidelines in clinical practice. It will also address the importance of multi-professional working, providing research evidence to demonstrate how this has been achieved successfully in a variety of clinical settings.

The second symposium will be held on Tuesday 25 May in conjunction with the British Pacing and Electrophysiology Group (BPEG). Distinguished speakers will summarise the different types of electrical devices available for heart failure patients and explain why there is a case for their increased use, as well as discussing the financial implications of this type of therapy.

The last symposium, also on 25 May, will focus on the role of anti-thrombotic therapies in heart failure treatment. The speakers will argue for and against their use in different patients, looking at the evidence. Professor John Cleland will also present his guide to the different anti-thrombotics and their uses.

To attend any of these symposia you will need to register with the BCS for their Annual Scientific Conference. If you are a BSH member (or a member of another of BCS affiliated group, e.g. BPEG) you can attend the conference for a reduced registration fee of £30 (before 1 March 2004) or £65 (between 2 March and 19 April 2004). After this date registration will only be available on-site and the fee is £100. Registration for full BCS members is free-of-charge until 1 March, and £50 from 2 March to 19 April.

You can access an electronic version of the BCS meeting registration form on the BCS website (http://www.bcs.com/documents/registrationform2004.pdf) or telephone the BCS on 020 7383 3887.

We look forward to seeing you at the symposia.

Henry Dargie
BSH Chairman

The British Society for Heart Failure gratefully acknowledges the support provided by the ‘Friends of the Society’:

AstraZeneca
Bayer Healthcare
GlaxoSmithKline
Medtronic
Merck Pharmaceuticals
Pfizer
Roche
Servier
Takeda

If you would like further information about the British Society for Heart Failure, membership, becoming a Friend of the Society or future events, please contact:

Rose-Marie Wilkinson/Michelle Glanville
BSH Secretariat
‘Nought’ The Farthings
Marcham
Oxfordshire
OX13 6QD
UK

Telephone: +44 (0)1865 861911
+44 (0)1865 391215
Fax: +44 (0)1865 391836
E-mail: bsh@medical-interaction.com
Website: www.bcs.com/affiliates/bsh.html

Registered charity number: 1075720
Monday 24 May 2004, 15.00–16.30
Heart failure – delivering evidence-based care in the UK

Teach-in

Each presentation will have a duration of 12 minutes, followed by a 3 minute panel discussion after each presentation

Co-chairs: Henry Dargie (Glasgow)
Strat Liddiard (Poole)

NICE guidelines: forces for good?
Martin Cowie (London)

Improving diagnosis
Ahmet Fuat (Darlington)

Improving treatment
Suzanna Hardman (London)

Improving multi-professional working
Hayley Pryse-Hawkins (London)

Future directions: Panel discussion
(including Lynda Blue)

Tuesday 25 May 2004, 09.00–10.30
Electrical device therapy in heart failure: unmet need and unmet cost

Plenary session

A joint meeting with the British Pacing and Electrophysiology Group (BPEG)

Co-chairs: Henry Dargie – BSH (Glasgow)
Anthony Rickards – BPEG (London)

09.00 Dysfunction, dysynchrony and dysrhythmia: what is the unmet need?
Theresa McDonagh (Glasgow)

09.15 Cardiac resynchronisation therapy (CRT) device implantation – a single centre experience
Jonathan Clague (London)

09.30 High vs low voltage CRT in heart failure: the trial evidence
John Boehmer (Hershey, Pennsylvania, USA)

09.50 What’s currently happening in the UK? Patterns of implantation and patient survival
David Cunningham (Glasgow)

10.05 Service implementation: which patients, how to follow them up and finding the funding
Martin Cowie (London)

10.20 Discussion and questions

Tuesday 25 May 2004, 11.30–13.00
Anti-thrombotic therapy for heart failure: which agent if any?

Plenary session

Co-chairs: John Cleland (Hull)
Gordon Lowe (Glasgow)

11.30 Vascular biology in heart failure – contribution to thrombotic risk and protection
David Newby (Edinburgh)

11.45 Haemostatic dysfunction in heart failure
Gordon Lowe (Glasgow)

12.00 Contribution of vascular events to the clinical progression of heart failure
Iain Squire (Leicester)

12.15 Does anti-thrombotic therapy reduce events in patients with heart failure?
Greg Lip (Birmingham)

12.30 Which anti-thrombotic agent should be preferred, if any?
John Cleland (Hull)

12.45 Discussion and questions