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TO: ALL HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS, SENIOR LECTURERS, LECTURERS, MEDICAL SCIENTISTS, ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS, TECHNOLOGISTS AND POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

Re: FACULTY RESEARCH FORUM: 28 AND 29 AUGUST 2014

Herewith a friendly reminder of our Faculty Research Forum that will be held on **Thursday 28 and Friday 29 August 2014**.

One of the most important yardsticks used to evaluate academic institutions is the quality of the research conducted at such an institution. At the Faculty of Health Sciences we place a high premium on the quality of research, and quality research is conducted on an on-going basis. The pursuit of improvement, a scientific approach and academic enrichment remains one of the objectives of the Faculty. The aim of the Faculty Research Forum is to serve as a showcase for all the research conducted in the Faculty and also as exposure for junior personnel members.

Personnel members involved in research are therefore invited to use this opportunity for presenting the results of their research.

The following persons may participate:

- i) The researcher must be a staff member of a department/division of the Faculty, and the work must be done by the staff member in the Faculty.
- ii) Should work be done at another institution, e.g. abroad, it must have been done with the permission of the Faculty.
- iii) Should a staff member be appointed in the Faculty after completion of the work and had done the work themselves, the staff member may participate.
- iv) Postgraduate students of the Faculty may participate.
- v) Enrolled undergraduate students take part in the Student Research Forum.
- vi) External persons with lecturer status.
- vii) Individuals and institutions who have a formal and informal association with the Faculty may participate.

In order to facilitate the arrangement of the Forum, kindly note the following:

1. ABSTRACTS

- 1.1 Papers will be the main theme at the Faculty Research Forum.
- 1.2 Only **three papers** that relate to a group research project will be accepted.
- 1.3 The closing date for the submission of abstracts of papers and poster presentations is **Wednesday, 16 July 2014**.
- 1.4 You are requested to click on the link that will be sent to you via MEDmail or e-mail, and complete your details on the webpage (this will replace Form A).
- 1.5 Approval by the Ethics Committee is essential. **No abstract will be accepted without an Ethics Committee registration number.** An Ethics Committee registration number must be obtained for case studies as well as clinical audit studies.

- 1.6 Your application will be submitted electronically and will only be eligible for submission once abstracts are uploaded.
- 1.7 Please note that selection as well as assessment will be based on the content of abstracts.
- 1.8 The abstract will be included in the programme in its original format. It will not be possible to do language and technical editing beforehand. You must therefore ensure that your submission is sub-edited for publication. Photocopies will not serve this purpose.
- 1.9 A maximum of three (3) abstracts with the same Ethics Committee registration number will be accepted.
- 1.10 Abstracts that fail to meet the requirements will not be accepted. It will be returned to the author and requested that the necessary changes within 24 hours be made within 24 hours. Neglect to do so will lead to the non-acceptance of the abstract.

2. **FORMATTING:**

- 2.1 The format of the abstract has already been created.
- 2.2 The template will be available on the intranet as well as on the webpage where one can apply for submission.
- 2.3 Please take the following into account when preparing the abstracts:
 - i) The maximum number of words (from Introduction to the end of the Conclusion) is 300. The number of words must be indicated on the abstract form. An abstract may be submitted in Afrikaans or English.
 - ii) The abstract must contain results and come to a decisive conclusion based on the results.
 - iii) The abstract must be structured as follows:
 - Title in bold
 - Authors (presenter must be underlined)
 - Departments of authors
 - Person presenting the abstract
 - Introduction and aim
 - Methodology
 - Results
 - Conclusion
- 2.4 References, acknowledgements, tables or graphics must be omitted.



2.5 Example:

THE INFLUENCE OF FINASTERIDE ON THE URINARY STEROID PROFILE OF HEALTHY MALE VOLUNTEERS

E Grobbelaar, PJ van der Merwe, L Potgieter

South African Doping Control Laboratory, Department of Pharmacology, UFS.

Presented by E Grobbelaar

Introduction and aim: Testosterone is mainly metabolized in the human body by the enzymes 5 α - and 5 β -reductase. The metabolites of testosterone are 5 α -androstenediol and androsterone (α -pathway) and 5 β -androstenediol and etiocholanolone (β -pathway). The urinary steroid profile is obtained by measuring the concentration of testosterone and these metabolites. Other anabolic steroids like 19-nortestosterone follow the same metabolic pathway with the α -pathway metabolites predominant. Finasteride is a drug that inhibits the enzyme 5 α -reductase and therefore can potentially reduce the excretion of the α -pathway metabolites. The aim of this study was to determine the influence of finasteride on the urinary steroid profile of healthy male volunteers.

Methodology: Six healthy male volunteers participated in the study. Fractional urine samples were collected for 24 hours prior to administration of finasteride to obtain a baseline. A single dose of 5mg finasteride was administered and urine samples were collected for 7 days. The concentrations of testosterone (T), 5 α -androstenediol (5 α -diol), 5 β -androstenediol (5 β -diol), androsterone (A) and etiocholanolone (E) were measured by GC/MSD. These concentrations were used to determine the ratios A/E, and 5 α -diol/5 β -diol.

Results: There is a significant decrease in the concentration of the α -pathway metabolites with an increase in the β -pathway metabolites. This resulted in a significant decrease in the ratios of A/E (87%) and 5 α -diol/5 β -diol (87%) within 24 hours post administration of finasteride.

Conclusion: The use of finasteride may reduce the concentration of metabolites formed by the α -pathway to below the limit of detection leading to a false negative result. Finasteride may therefore be used as a masking agent for anabolic steroids and this justifies the inclusion of finasteride on the WADA list of prohibited substances.

3. CATEGORIES OF PARTICIPATION AND EXPLANATION OF TERMS (Only three abstracts per person per category will be accepted, but not on the same subject.)

3.1. Papers (Category A)

- i) Clinically-orientated
- ii) Laboratory-orientated
- iii) Educational research

3.2. Poster presentations (Category B)

- i) Clinically-orientated
- ii) Laboratory-orientated
- iii) Educational research

3.3. Junior personnel member

Staff members WITHOUT a doctor's degree or MMed

3.4. Senior personnel member

- i) Personnel members WITH a doctor's degree
- ii) Specialists (MMed)

3.5. Laboratory-orientated

Include results in which the patients are not directly involved. It might therefore comprise new analytical methods or the development of new antibodies for possible clinical application, or even new surgical procedures on animals before clinical application.

3.6. Clinically-orientated

Papers/presentations in the clinical group will include results affecting the treatment of patients.

3.7. Education and/or qualitative research

All qualitative research and/or research investigating undergraduate or postgraduate student training. This could include the development of learning programmes, curricula, educational techniques, learning methods or any other student-related matter. It may also include qualitative research that would advance patient treatment.

4. PRESENTATIONS

- 4.1 15 minutes (5 minutes discussion and question time included) will be allowed for the reading of a paper. The duration will be strictly adhered to. Presentations will take place in the Kines.
- 4.2 4 minutes (2 minutes for presentation and 2 minutes discussion and question time included) will be allowed for a poster presentation. The duration will be strictly adhered to. Poster presentations will be presented in the foyer of the Faculty's Building.
- 4.3 The paper/poster must be presented in such a manner that any person in the audience would be able to understand it.
- 4.4 Selection will be based on submitted abstracts.
- 4.5 Personnel members submitting papers or posters must in each case indicate the category in which they wish to be evaluated, if they wish to be evaluated at all.
- 4.6 The impression the presentation makes on the audience, the scientific content and value; as well as visual aids used during the presentation will play a role in the evaluation of a presentation.
- 4.7 Facilities for colour slides and computer presentations will be available only for presentations
- 4.8 Persons delivering presentations are politely requested to load their presentations onto the folder marked Kine 1, Kine 2 or Kine 3. Further particulars will be forwarded in due course.
- 4.9 Corporative format is compulsory. Information in this regard is available on the UFS Home Page, Staff Intranet, UFS Corporate Identity. If using PowerPoint, take note that the first and last slide must comply with the Corporate Identity.

5. POSTERS

- 5.1 **Poster size: maximum 1,37 X 1,80 m (± 10 cm deviation will not be penalised)**



- 5.2 4 minutes (2 minutes for presentation and 2 minutes *discussion and question time included*) will be allowed for a poster presentation. The duration will be strictly adhered to. Poster presentations will be presented in the Foyer of the Faculty's Building.
- 5.3 Since it will not be possible to supervise the posters at all times, the *name and telephone number* of the presenter must appear on the poster in order that he/she may be contacted should there be enquiries.
- 5.4 Posters must be set up on **Wednesday, 27 August**.
- 5.5 Posters must not be taken down before 14:00 on Friday afternoon.
- 5.6 Personnel members that are submitting posters must indicate whether they want their poster to be evaluated.
- 5.7 The care that went into the preparation of the poster and the aesthetic impression it creates, its scientific content and value, the methodology, results and conclusion will play a role in the judging of a poster.
- 5.8 The graphics division of CHESD can be service to you regarding the layout and printing of posters.
- 5.9 Corporative format is compulsory and portrait outlay is preferred. Information in this regard is available on the UFS Home Page, Staff Intranet, UFS Corporate Identity.

6. **SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES WITH A VIEW TO THE AWARDING OF THE MULLER POTGIETER, JOHN VAN DER RIET AND KERNEELS NEL MEDALS**

During the Faculty Research Forum, three medals are awarded to the authors of the best scientific articles published in a scientific journal. The requirements are as follows:

- 6.1 Journals must have made use of peer review
- 6.2 The participant must be one of the authors
- 6.3 The first author must be a personnel member and/or student of the Faculty
- 6.4 The article that is submitted must have an affiliation with the University. Acknowledgement must also be given to the University, regardless of where the research had been conducted.
- 6.5 Articles published between January and December of the previous year may be submitted for evaluation.
- 6.6 Articles published in a reputable online publication will also be accepted for entry for the medals.

The John van der Riet medal is awarded in the clinical disciplines, the Muller Potgieter medal in the laboratory disciplines and the Kerneels Nel medal in the educational research. The closing date for submission of articles is **Friday, 25 April 2014**.

7. **FLOATING TROPHIES**

Floating trophies will be awarded to the three best papers in each of the three categories.

8. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF WINNERS**

The winners will be announced directly after the Forum during a cocktail reception. All participants must be present. No winner will be contacted. Please keep the entire afternoon until 18:00 free.

I wish to thank you in advance for the attention you will once again devote to the Faculty Research Forum this year and for your expected participation, which will contribute towards the success of this important event.

Yours sincerely

M. Oberholzer
CHAIR: ORGANISING COMMITTEE 2014

