



ASEPM NEWSLETTER

American Society of Evoked Potential Monitoring

WINTER 1991

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Presidential Address

Jack M. Kartush
President, American Society
of Evoked Potential Monitoring

Intraoperative neurophysiologic monitoring is a rapidly evolving field. Its benefits cross the boundaries of conventional medical specialties. As such, it has attracted practitioners from many different fields. Overall, this is favorable, since it brings ideas and new perspectives. But now that we've come to rely upon monitoring, we must assure the highest quality of care.

Monitoring requires appropriate technique and interpretation by the operative monitoring team. The ability, for example, to perform diagnostic auditory brainstem evoked recordings is an excellent but inadequate background to assist in operative monitoring. Similarly, a surgeon's experience does not translate to an immediate ability to interpret evoked potentials. Further study and experience are essential in both cases.

Education and training, however, have not yet caught up with this new wave. Because monitoring is such a broad discipline, there is no single organization that have overseen its evolution and clinical application.

To this end, the American Society of Evoked Potential Monitoring (ASEPM) was formed to unify neurophysiologic monitoring. The Society is nearly unique in its multidisciplinary constituency.

With your support, the ASEPM will play an important role in shaping standards for training and clinical practice in the coming years.

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Editorial

Aage R. Moller
Editor, ASEPM Newsletter

As was stated by the President of the American Society of Evoked Potential Monitoring (ASEPM), Jack Kartush, in his Presidential Address, the aim of the Society is to help united and educate people who are performing intraoperative monitoring of evoked potentials. The ASEPM Newsletter is one of the ways by which the society will provide a means of disseminating information to accomplish this goal. Other activities of the ASEPM will include meetings and courses: in this, the first issue of the ASEPM Newsletter, there is a brief report on the First Annual Meeting of the ASEPM that was held May 11-12, 1990 in Livonia, Michigan, as well as a preliminary program regarding the development of criteria for intraoperative monitoring that will be discussed at the next annual meeting of the ASEPM that is planned to occur May 9-11, 1991 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The ASEPM Newsletter will be used to communicate more directly with the members of the Society, and we invite contributions on subjects that may be of interest to other members. Good examples of such contributions are those included in this first issue by Drs. Donald York and Gary Jacobson on false-positive or false-negative responses.

Report On The First Annual Meeting Of The American Society Of Evoked Potential Monitoring

Gary Jacobson

The First Annual Meeting of the American Society of Evoked Potential Monitoring (ASEPM) was held May 11-12, 1990 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Livonia, Michigan. The general theme of the meeting was "Intraoperative Monitoring Techniques for Preserving Peripheral and Cranial Nerve, Spinal Cord, and Brain Function: State of the Art." Invitations to attend this meeting were sent to 104 individuals who had applied for membership or who were members as of the ASEPM's inception, February 28, 1990. A total of 69 individuals attended the meeting. We were pleasantly surprised by the number of people who called when they learned by word-of-mouth about the availability of the material that was presented at the First Annual Meeting. It is unfortunate that these individuals had to be turned away, since this meeting was specifically for the membership and the venue could hold no more than 75 attendees. The cost of this meeting was partially underwritten by donations from Bio-logic Systems Corp., Cadwell Laboratories, Inc., Nicolet Instrument Corp., and Xomed, Inc. We are grateful for this past support and look forward to continued financial support from the manufacturing community.

The didactic sessions covered a wide range of monitoring issues that included techniques for monitoring cerebral and brainstem perfusion (Drs. Michael Mahla, Steve Hyman, Robert Chabot, and Daniel Schwartz), techniques for monitoring auditory system function during endolymphatic sac surgery (Drs. Mitchell Schwaber and La Var Best) and posterior fossa surgery (Dr. Aage R. Moller), techniques for monitoring the

function of cranial nerves II, III, IV, V, VI, XI, and XII (Dr. Aage R. Moller), the effects of anesthetic agents on sensory evoked potentials (Drs. Kirk Hogan and Tod Sloan), and techniques for monitoring sensory and motor pathway function in the spinal cord (Drs. Richard Brown, Donald York, and Jeffery Owen) and peripheral nerves (Robin Sharp and Dr. Leo Happel). Additionally, interspersed throughout the didactic presentations were Open Forum sessions wherein the attendees presented either scientific papers or confronted controversial issues. These short presentations were followed by chaired discussions. These sessions were often the most interesting, since many diverse and sometimes conflicting viewpoints were voiced. We were particularly pleased the Dr. Clark Watts (Chairman, Department of Neurosurgery, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri) took time out of his schedule to present medico-legal issues that affect those who conduct intraoperative monitoring activities.

The feeling at the close of the meeting was that there was a strong need for the ASEPM to help disseminate current information in the field of neurophysiological monitoring. This meeting was and future meetings will be an avenue for providing practitioners with state-of-the-art information.

Additionally, a special note of appreciation is extended to all the presenters and moderators that were drawn from the Executive Council, Advisory Board, and general membership. We look forward to seeing the entire membership when the Second Annual meeting of the American Society of Evoked Potential Monitoring convenes in Minneapolis, Minnesota, May 9-11, 1991.

Criteria for Membership

Categories of membership in the ASEPM are based on academic degree and clinical experience. The application and the prospective member's curriculum vitae will be reviewed by the Membership Committee for approval to one of three unique levels of membership. Individuals who initially satisfy the criteria for Associate Member or Member may apply for the next higher level upon completion

of all requirements necessary for membership and advancement. Only those individuals that are accepted either as Fellows or Members are eligible to run for office or vote on society issues.

The three levels of membership are:

FELLOW- a member holding a minimum of a doctoral degree (Ph.D., M.D., D.Sc., D.D.S., etc.) having at least three years practical clinical experience in neurophysiologic monitoring and who has made outstanding contributions in the field of neurophysiological monitoring can be awarded fellowship in the

Society upon approval of the Membership Committee.

MEMBER- an individual who has at least two years practical clinical experience in neurophysiological monitoring can be awarded membership in the Society upon approval of the Membership Committee.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER- anyone with an interest in neurophysiological monitoring who does not satisfy the criteria for Member or Fellow can be considered an Associate Member upon

Information on the Second Annual Meeting of the American Society of Evoked Potential Monitoring

The Second Annual Scientific and Educational Conference of the American Society of Evoked Potential Monitoring will be held
May 9-11, 1991

**Sheraton Park Place Hotel
Minneapolis, Minnesota
1-800-542-5566**

Invited speakers and program moderators are:

Gene K. Balzer, Ph.D. <i>Conference Chairman</i>	Peter J. Jannetta, M.D.
LaVar Best, Ph.D.	Jack M. Kartush, M.D.
Marc J. Bloom, M.D., Ph.D.	Paul R. Kileny, Ph.D.
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Keith H. Bridwell, M.D.	Aage R. Moller, Ph.D.
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Stephen G. Harner, M.D.	Marion L. Walker, M.D.
Kirk Hogan, M.D.	Charles D. Yingling, Ph.D.
Gary P. Jacobson, Ph.D.	Donald H. York, Ph.D.

In addition, scientific papers and poster session material may be submitted:

CALL FOR SCIENTIFIC PAPERS & POSTER SESSION MATERIAL

SCIENTIFIC PAPERS

10 minute length
300 or less word abstract
(no later than March 1, 1991)
Multi-specialty topic range

POSTER SESSION

During Wine & Cheese Reception Mixer
4' x 8' space
Topic and abstract
(no later than March 1, 1991)

Please designate Paper or Poster

Send to: **CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
A S E P M 1991
Executive Secretary Services
P.O. Box 39
Bismarck, North Dakota 58502**

Applications for registration to this Conference can be obtained by writing to:

**Executive Secretarial Services
P.O. Box 39
Bismarck, North Dakota 58502**

Registration fees are as follows:

ASEPM Member	
Before April 1, 1991	\$ 200.00
After April 1, 1991	\$ 225.00
Non-Member	
Before April 1, 1991	\$ 250.00
After April 1, 1991	\$ 275.00

The non-member fee difference may be applied to membership. Fees include Association Luncheon. A \$25.00 fee to cover administrative costs will be charged for all refunds, but after May 1, 1991, the registration fee is not refundable.

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