

# NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS



האיגוד הקרדיולוגי בישראל  
ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY



## OF THE ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY

**Editor's Note:** Welcome to the 2<sup>nd</sup> issue of the new and improved Newsletter of the Friends of Israel Heart Society. We hope to make this Newsletter a vital organ in the growth of this wonderful organization that seeks to connect cardiologists and cardiac surgeons across the globe.

We thank all of you who have written us emails lauding our maiden effort. We hope to keep improving in the issues to follow. Each quarterly issue will seek to inform our members about upcoming meetings in Israel as well as around the world. We also plan to highlight a different Israeli Heart Center in order to familiarize cardiologists with the state of cardiac care and medical advances in cardiology in Israel. This will include activities in clinical departments as well as clinical and/or basic research. This quarter's highlighted center is Lady Davis Carmel Cardiovascular Center in Haifa. Finally, we are trying to create an information stream that will encourage international members' support for and participation in cardiology activities throughout Israel.

To this end, this Newsletter will endeavor to become the link for cardiologists from around the world to join their Israeli counterparts in educational articles and programs, research endeavors, and collaboration between Medical Centers in Israel and

the their home countries. Upcoming Israeli Cardiology meetings will be announced with enough time for cardiologists and other professionals to change their vacation plans to be able to attend them.

New in this issue is a column called "Featured Research from Israel." This column will showcase cardiology research from Israel published in a major international cardiology journal.

Remember, this Newsletter belongs to the membership. Please feel free to email us with questions, advice, anything we inadvertently left out, or to just tell us we did a good job. We look forward to working with you to make this Newsletter and the connections between Israeli and foreign cardiologists and their institutions grow and prosper!



**Editor: Jack Stroh MD, FACC, FACP, FSCAI can be reached at**  
[jackstroh@usa.net](mailto:jackstroh@usa.net). FIHS is on the web at <http://friendsihs.org/index.html>.

1

# NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS



האיגוד הקרדיולוגי בישראל  
ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY



## OF THE ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY

### Message from the President

We are excited to distribute to you our second newsletter. I would like to thank our editor Dr. Jack Stroh for his tireless efforts in producing the newsletters and all the contributors who have assisted in putting this together. It has truly shaped up to be a meaningful tool for dissemination of relevant and interesting information.

One of the missions of the Friends of the Israel Heart Society is to enable cardiovascular trainees from Israel to attend major international cardiovascular meetings and for foreign cardiovascular trainees to attend meetings in Israel. Thanks to the efforts of Dr. Amir Lerman and the Fellowship committee, the FIHS will be providing stipends for two Israeli cardiology fellows to attend the American Heart Association meetings in November. In this newsletter, there is also an announcement for the Fellow's Case Competition for the 10<sup>th</sup> International Dead Sea Symposium. This program will provide stipends to fellows in accredited North American cardiovascular training programs to attend the meeting. Please distribute this announcement to fellows at your institution.

Over the last several months, you may have received information/emails about the petition against the appointment of Dr. Blachar (President

of the Israeli Medical Association) as President of the World Medical Association. The FIHS helped generate support for the counterpetition which was ultimately signed by over 5000 individuals. We received a letter from Dr. Blachar expressing gratitude for our support. Thank you to everyone who helped rally support for this endeavor. If there were ever any doubt, this situation certainly underscores the need for the Friends of the Israel Heart Society to be there to support our colleagues.

Finally, our ranks have grown in numbers. In particular, as we contemplate expanding our programs and outreach, we need to rely both on the growth of our membership and the generosity of those who can provide support at the Silver, Gold, Platinum, and President's Club levels. In this issue, we acknowledge those individuals who have joined as Silver, Gold, and Platinum members. It is not too late for anyone interested in joining for 2009!

Please feel free to forward this newsletter along to colleagues who are interested. We still need your help to reach out to all potential members! Thank you for your continued support!

**Jeff Goldberger MD**, President,  
Friends of the Israel Heart Society

**Editor: Jack Stroh MD, FACC, FACP, FSCAI can be reached at**  
[jackstroh@usa.net](mailto:jackstroh@usa.net). FIHS is on the web at <http://friendsihs.org/index.html>.

2

# NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS



האיגוד הקרדיולוגי בישראל  
ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY



## OF THE ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY

### MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

At this time we would like to acknowledge the generous support provided to the FIHS. It is only through the support of all of our members that we can meet our goal of forming a world-wide network of cardiologists and associated professionals dedicated to furthering relationships with our Israeli counterparts.

To our Platinum, Gold, and Silver patrons - we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Please spread the word!

#### *Platinum Members*

Dr. Jeffrey S. Borer  
Dr. Michael J. Wolk  
Dr. Douglas P. Zipes

#### *Gold Members*

Dr. Jeffrey Goldberger  
Dr. Amir Lerman  
Dr. Charles J. Love

#### *Silver Members*

Dr. Charles Antzelevitch  
Ms. Kathy Binder  
Dr. Eugene Braunwald  
Dr. David S. Cannom  
Dr. Robert L. Frey  
Dr. Zev Jacobson  
Dr. Helmut U. Klein  
Dr. Morton Leibowitz  
Dr. Arthur Moss  
Dr. Richard L. Popp  
Dr. Joe L. Rod  
Dr. Stacey Rosen  
Dr. David Rosenbaum  
Dr. Gregory Schwartz  
Dr. Jack Stroh

**Thank you!**

Editor: Jack Stroh MD, FACC, FACP, FSCAI can be reached at [jackstroh@usa.net](mailto:jackstroh@usa.net). FIHS is on the web at <http://friendsihs.org/index.html>.

3

# NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS



האיגוד הקרדיולוגי בישראל  
ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY



## OF THE ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY

**FELLOW'S CASE COMPETITION** at the 10<sup>th</sup> International Dead Sea Symposium (IDSS) on Cardiac Arrhythmias and Device Therapy

**8 to 10 February 2010**

**Tel Aviv, Israel**

On behalf of the Organizing Committee and Scientific Board for the 10<sup>th</sup> International Dead Sea Symposium, we invite fellows to submit a case for the 2010 Fellow's Case Competition. The case should involve either a challenging diagnostic or therapeutic issue or a novel diagnostic or therapeutic approach related to pacemakers, ICDs, or electrophysiology. Five cases will be selected for presentation to a panel of experts at the conference. The fellows selected to present the cases will be awarded a \$2500 educational grant at the meeting to be used for conference travel and expenses.

**Who is eligible?** Fellows in Good Standing with an ACGME-approved Cardiology or EP program.

**Instructions for case report:** The case report should have a title page with the title of the case report, the submitter's name, the submitter's institution name, contact address, program office phone number, submitter's phone number (please provide two) and the submitter's email address. The text of the case report should be no more than two pages, double-spaced, with 1 inch margins. Times or Helvetica 12-point font may be used. The report should begin with the case description and should include a

**Editor: Jack Stroh MD, FACC, FACP, FSCAI can be reached at**  
**jackstroh@usa.net. FIHS is on the web at <http://friendsihs.org/index.html>.**

brief discussion of the challenging or novel aspect of the case. A maximum of three references may be cited (but are not necessary). Up to two figures may be included. The figure legends should accompany the figure(s).

**What to submit:** Please submit one copy of:

1. The case report
2. Your CV
3. Letter from your program director affirming your status as a fellow in Good Standing in an ACGME-approved Cardiology or EP program.

**Who to submit to:** Please submit one copy electronically (.doc) to Jeffrey Goldberger MD and Valaree Williams Walker at [valaree@northwestern.edu](mailto:valaree@northwestern.edu)

**Subject Line:** 2010 Fellow's Case Conference

**Address correspondence to:**

Jeffrey Goldberger MD (Fellow's Case Competition), Northwestern Memorial Hospital, 251 E Huron St., Feinberg 8-503, Chicago, IL 60611

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** ALL materials must be received by November 9, 2009; 5:00pm (central time). Selected fellows will be notified by November 20, 2009.

**Website:** [http://www.idss2010.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=2&Itemid=18](http://www.idss2010.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2&Itemid=18)

This program was made possible through unrestricted educational grants from Medtronic, St. Jude Medical, and Biotronik.

# NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS



האיגוד הקרדיוולוגי בישראל  
ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY



## OF THE ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY

### UPCOMING MEETINGS OF INTEREST

Anglo-Israel Seminar: New  
Directions in Cardiology

October 20, 2009, Hotel Dan  
Caesaria, Caesaria, Israel

<http://www.israel-heart.org.il/Caesarea1009.pdf>

57<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the  
Israel Heart Society/Israel Society  
of Cardiothoracic Surgery

April 14-15, 2010, David  
Intercontinental Hotel and  
Convention Center, Tel Aviv,  
Israel

<http://www.israelheart.com/>

6th International Meeting on  
Intensive Cardiac Care

October 25-27, 2009, Dan  
Panorama Tel Aviv, Israel

<http://www.isas.co.il/cardiac-care2009/index.php>

Innovations in Cardiovascular  
Interventions- ICI 2009

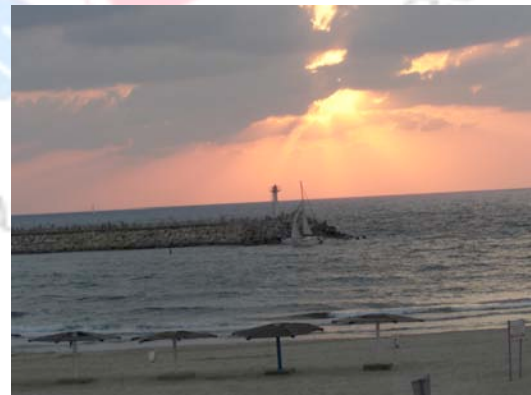
December 6-8, 2009, Hotel David  
Intercontinental, Tel Aviv

<http://www.congress.co.il/ici2009/>

The 10th International Dead Sea  
Symposium on Cardiac  
Arrhythmias and Device Therapy  
(IDSS)

February 7-10, 2010, Tel Aviv

[http://www.paragon-  
conventions.com/arrhythmia2010](http://www.paragon-conventions.com/arrhythmia2010)



Editor: Jack Stroh MD, FACC, FACP, FSCAI can be reached at  
[jackstroh@usa.net](mailto:jackstroh@usa.net). FIHS is on the web at <http://friendsihs.org/index.html>.

5

# NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS



האיגוד הקרדיולוגי בישראל  
ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY



## OF THE ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY

### Featured Research from Israel

Welcome to our new column. We hope to highlight cardiology research published from Israeli institutions in our quarterly FIHS newsletters in an attempt to showcase the fine Israeli institutions and researchers, as well as offering email links to contact them with comment. Enjoy!

#### Intracoronary Injection of In Situ Forming Alginate Hydrogel Reverses Left Ventricular Remodeling After Myocardial Infarction in Swine

(J Am Coll Cardiol 2009;54:10014-23)

<http://content.onlinejacc.org/cgi/content/full/54/11/1014>

In this research from the Neufeld Cardiac Research Institute, Sheba Medical Center in Tel Hashomer and the Department of Biotechnology Engineering at Ben Gurion University of the Negev in Beer Sheva, Drs. Jonathan Leor and Smadar Cohen and colleagues describe their novel catheter based strategy of injecting bioresorbable alginate implant directly into infarcted cardiac tissue to improve cardiac remodeling after myocardial infarction (MI). The model used mimics ST segment elevation MI with early reperfusion, which is a scenario generally, associated with improved infarct healing and LV remodeling. The injectable implant increases scar thickness and provides physical support for improved healing and repair. As noted by the authors, the hope is that the ability to deliver biomaterial into the infarct by intracoronary injection at the time of intervention can revolutionize treatment after MI and could prevent mechanical complications, heart failure, and death.

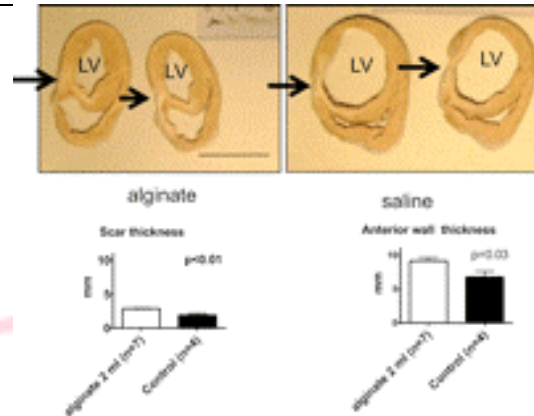


Figure 7. Alginate Implant Increases Scar Thickness by Post-Mortem Morphometry, 60 Days After MI. Representative sections of heart treated with alginate (upper left panel) or saline (upper right panel). Morphometry shows that injection of alginate solution (2 ml) increases scar thickness (arrows) as well as anterior wall thickness (lower panels).

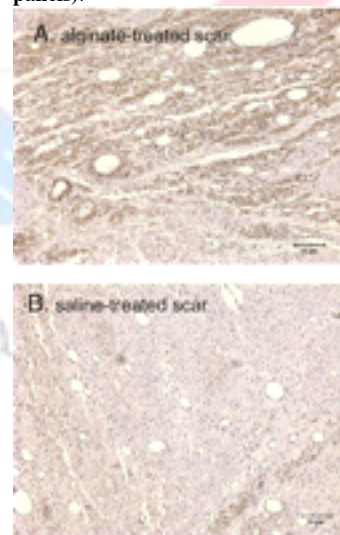


Figure 8. Representative Micrographs of Infarcted Hearts After Immunostaining for  $\alpha$ -SMA, 60 Days After Either Alginate or Saline Injection. (A) Examination of the scar tissue showed that the alginate-treated scar is populated with numerous myofibroblasts that were stained positive for  $\alpha$ -SMA. (B) Examination of control sections treated with saline showed positive staining for  $\alpha$ -SMA predominantly on the vessel walls. SMA = smooth muscle actin. Email Dr. Leor at [leorj@post.tau.ac.il](mailto:leorj@post.tau.ac.il) and Dr. Cohen at [scohen@bgu.ac.il](mailto:scohen@bgu.ac.il).

Editor: Jack Stroh MD, FACC, FACP, FSCAI can be reached at [jackstroh@usa.net](mailto:jackstroh@usa.net). FIHS is on the web at <http://friendsihs.org/index.html>.

6

# NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS



האיגוד הקרדיולוגי בישראל  
ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY



## OF THE ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY

**Featured Center of the Quarter-**  
Lady Davis Carmel Medical Center  
(LDCMC) in Haifa



The Department of Cardiovascular Medicine at the Lady Davis Carmel Medical Center (LDCMC) in Haifa serves as a tertiary-quaternary medical facility for cardiovascular diseases in the north of Israel. Housed in a 450 bed Medical Center perched, with magnificent views, on top of Mount Carmel, the Department is one of the largest in Israel (40 inpatient cardiology beds, 25 physicians) and engages in all aspects of cardiology. This includes inpatient and outpatient care and a number of units addressing specific aspects of cardiology: a modern interventional suite performing some 3000 procedures a year, electrophysiology, non-invasive services including echocardiography, exercise testing and nuclear cardiology, a heart failure center and new imaging technologies. There is

close collaboration with the Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery and approximately 1000 patients undergo open-heart surgery for coronary bypass, valve or other surgical disease annually. There is also collaboration with a modern and active department of vascular surgery and vascular radiology. The "Heart Hospital" at Carmel therefore includes approximately 100 beds, and occupies about one quarter of the Medical Center. Cardiovascular Medicine occupies the 3 lower floors. Of note is the very newly opened (April 2009) physical cardiology inpatient facility, the product of some 10 years of planning and 2-3 years in construction. The new modern and attractive inpatient facility provides a new, modern and spacious patient environment with attractive and functional office and workspace for the medical and paramedical staff.

The academic affiliation of the department is to the Ruth and Bruce Rappaport School of Medicine of the Technion. There is an active student teaching program, a large research collaboration and academic appointments of the staff. The 4 medical schools in Israel follow the British pattern – a 6-year university course followed by a year's internship. Clinical teaching commences with frontal lectures in the 4<sup>th</sup> year, with

**Editor: Jack Stroh MD, FACC, FACP, FSCAI can be reached at**  
[jackstroh@usa.net](mailto:jackstroh@usa.net). FIHS is on the web at <http://friendsihs.org/index.html>.

7

# NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS



האיגוד הקרדיולוגי בישראל  
ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY



## OF THE ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY

additional cardiology teaching as separate rotations in the 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> year and as part of the internal medicine rotations. In addition, students of the American Touro College courses offered by the faculty also undertake cardiology rotations at Carmel.



In addition to the regular range of services offered by a modern cardiology department, the Lady Davis Carmel Center boasts several unique capabilities.

- The interventional center has entered the area of balloon aortic valvuloplasty (BAV) and shortly Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation.
- The heart failure center has an advanced temporary and permanent LVAD program based on the use of the implantable Heart Mate II (and hopefully soon newer smaller devices) as destination therapy for end-stage patients not

suitable for a transplantation program, generally because of age or too complicated comorbidities.

- The echo facility has upgraded to both TTE and TEE 3D capability, particularly useful for planning of valve and other surgical treatment strategies.
- Cardiac imaging has an ongoing collaboration (beta site) for new and developing cardiac CT and CTA angiography with Philips imaging, who develop Philips cardiac CT in the miniature industrial silicon valley at the foot of Mount Carmel. The LDCMC has an experience of more than 5000 cardiac CT procedures and present interest is in the clinical applicability of the new "nextgen" 128–256 slice equipment into clinical practice.

The Lady Davis Carmel Research Center consists essentially of 2 major programs – basic research and clinical research. The *molecular and cellular cardiology program* has developed a gene transfer platform aimed at the field of angiogenesis and bio-grafts seeded with autologous endothelial cells overexpressing VEGF and other angiopoietic genes. Two clinical projects under FDA authorization are currently running in Michigan and Univ Penn in the USA. Centers are also

Editor: Jack Stroh MD, FACC, FACP, FSCAI can be reached at [jackstroh@usa.net](mailto:jackstroh@usa.net). FIHS is on the web at <http://friendsihs.org/index.html>.

8

# NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS



האיגוד הקרדיולוגי בישראל  
ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY



## OF THE ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY

now being recruited for a phase I/IIa program in Israel. The second research unit is a large *clinical cardiovascular research program*. The clinical research unit is involved in some 20-30 multinational multicenter clinical trials, and in addition functions as an ARO to co-ordinate projects in collaboration with, amongst others, the TIMI group in Boston, the Oxford group (UK), the PHRI at McMaster in Canada and more recently the DCRI at Duke. These programs keep cardiologists, residents and the paramedical nursing and technical staff in constant contact with new therapeutic approaches and treatment options, particularly in the field of acute coronary syndromes, atrial fibrillation, cardiac interventions and more recently new therapeutic options in the area of prevention of cardiovascular disease. There are of course in addition a host of investigator initiated and local work as in all cardiac departments.

### **Lady Davis Carmel Cardiovascular Center - Contact information:**

Director: Basil S. Lewis, MD, FRCP  
([lewis@tx.technion.ac.il](mailto:lewis@tx.technion.ac.il))

Deputy Directors: David A. Halon, MB, ChB (also Interventional)  
([halondav@tx.technion.ac.il](mailto:halondav@tx.technion.ac.il))

Moshe Y. Flugelman, MD  
([flugelman\\_m@clalit.org.il](mailto:flugelman_m@clalit.org.il))

Dov Weiss, MD ([dovwe@clalit.org.il](mailto:dovwe@clalit.org.il))

CCU: Jacob Goldstein, MD and Salim Halabi, MD

[JacobGo@clalit.org.il](mailto:JacobGo@clalit.org.il) and  
[saleemha@clalit.org.il](mailto:saleemha@clalit.org.il)

Cardiology: Rafael Wolff, MD  
([RafaelWo@clalit.org.il](mailto:RafaelWo@clalit.org.il))

Electrophysiology: Arie Militianu, MD  
and Jorge Schliamsner, MD

[militianu\\_arie@clalit.org.il](mailto:militianu_arie@clalit.org.il) and  
[jorge6@bezeqint.net](mailto:jorge6@bezeqint.net)

Echocardiography: Avinoam Shiran,  
MSc, MD and Salim Adawi, MD

[shiran\\_avinoam@clalit.org.il](mailto:shiran_avinoam@clalit.org.il) and  
[SalimAd@clalit.org.il](mailto:SalimAd@clalit.org.il)

Exercise testing: Lena Rosenblum, MD

Heart Failure: Offer Amir, MD  
([offeram@012.net.il](mailto:offeram@012.net.il))

Cardiac Imaging and CT: Ronen  
Rubinshtein, MD  
([ronenrub@clalit.org.il](mailto:ronenrub@clalit.org.il))

Outpatient Cardiology (Lin and Zvulun  
outpatient clinics): Nisan Yaniv, MD

[NISANYA@clalit.org.il](mailto:NISANYA@clalit.org.il)

**Editor: Jack Stroh MD, FACC, FACP, FSCAI can be reached at**  
[jackstroh@usa.net](mailto:jackstroh@usa.net). FIHS is on the web at <http://friendsihs.org/index.html>.

9

# NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS



האיגוד הקרדיולוגי בישראל  
ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY



## OF THE ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY

Senior physicians:

Ronen Jaffe, MD ([jaffe@clalit.org.il](mailto:jaffe@clalit.org.il))

Nader Khader, MD  
([NaderKh@clalit.org.il](mailto:NaderKh@clalit.org.il))

Clinical Cardiovascular Research  
Center: Ms. Rita Yuval  
([yrita@clalit.org.il](mailto:yrita@clalit.org.il))

Molecular and Cellular Research Unit  
(MGVS): Ms. Limor Prozer  
([l.prozer@mgvs.co.il](mailto:l.prozer@mgvs.co.il))

Website (Hebrew):  
<http://www.clalit.org.il/carmel/Content/Content.asp?CID=16&u=315>



\*\*\*\*\*

Know anybody who might want to join FIHS in our quest to connect Israeli Cardiology with the World? Give them this URL: <http://friendsihs.org/Register.html>

The bigger we get, the more connections we can make! Any comments or suggestions- don't be shy, contact me! If I can't answer your question, I will find someone who can!

Look for the next Newsletter to be emailed in December! Have a happy and healthy New Year!

Please send comments to:

Jack Stroh MD, FACC, FACP, FSCAI

[jackstroh@usa.net](mailto:jackstroh@usa.net)

Editor: Jack Stroh MD, FACC, FACP, FSCAI can be reached at [jackstroh@usa.net](mailto:jackstroh@usa.net). FIHS is on the web at <http://friendsihs.org/index.html>.

10