
AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES



Newsletter

www.racp.edu.au/asid

March 2006

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*145 Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000*

Tel: 02 9256 5475

Fax: 02 9256 9692

Email: asid@racp.edu.au

Website: www.racp.edu.au/asid

ASID Meeting 2006

Wellington, New Zealand

Please contact:

*Shirley Corley, Dart Associates,
Conference organisers,*

Tel. 02 9418 9396/97;

Fax 02 9418 9398

Email: dartconv@mpx.com.au

*Please note: As all materials for the conference leave Sydney on **17 March**, unless registration and accommodation bookings are received within the next fortnight, late delegates risk not having access to accommodation close to the venue and may miss out on conference materials.*

ASID MEMBERSHIP FEES 2006

Reminders are enclosed for all those whose membership fees for 2006 are overdue – please send to the secretariat a.s.a.p. Please note that Retired membership is available for retired members, i.e., \$10.00 (plus GST if applicable) per annum. Please advise ASID secretariat.

Also, please advise secretariat of change of address, especially email address – in order to receive emails sent to all members.

*ASID 2006 - Advanced Trainees Session
Sunday 2 April 2006, at 1330*

Cutting edge and controversial ID issues

*Infectious Diseases SAC
Royal Australasian College of Physicians*

1. "Pathogen specific therapy in febrile neutropenia... stay broad or go narrow?"

Presenter: Dr Stephen Ritchie
Consultant: Professor Rod Ellis-Pegler

2. Animal bites 2006

Presenter: Dr Claire Dendle
Consultant: Dr David Looke

3. Staphylococcus nasal carriage: what does it mean, and what can we do about it?

Presenter: Dr Laurens Manning
Consultant: Dr Tim Blackmore

Chairs: *Mike Whitby - m.whitby@uq.edu.au &
Tim Blackmore - timothy.blackmore@ccdhb.org.nz*

All ASID attendees welcome
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ASID COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting of the ASID Council will be held on ***Saturday, 1 April 2006***.

ASID AGM

The Annual General Meeting will be held on ***Tuesday 4 April 2006***. A copy of the meeting agenda and the AGM Minutes 2005 are enclosed with this newsletter.

ADVANCED TRAINEES

Advanced trainees are invited to submit an application for associate membership of the Society. Applications will be tabled at the Council meeting on ***Saturday, 1 April 2006*** and ratified at the AGM to be held on ***Tuesday, 4 April 2006***. Applicants are required to be nominated and seconded by two Full members of ASID. Application forms are available upon request from the ASID Secretariat or they can be downloaded from the website www.racp.edu.au/asid. Please forward your application, together with a copy of your cv, to the ASID Secretariat ***no later than Monday, 27 March 2006***. Applications received after that date will not be ratified at the 2006 AGM.

ADVANCED TRAINEES

Following the November meeting of the Specialist Advisory Committee in Infectious Diseases and the Joint sub-Committee in Infectious Diseases and Microbiology, a number of issues have been clarified and are of import to Trainees:-

a. Trainees supervised by the Infectious Diseases SAC (RACP).

As of January 2006 (with a short period of grace), the RACP requires all supervisors of all Trainees to have completed the first part of the Supervised Accreditation Course. This ruling has been widely publicised over the past four years and supervisors courses have been held in each State. It is important that Trainees enquire of their Supervisors that the supervisor is accredited. A list of accredited Supervisors for all sub-specialities will, in due course, be incorporated in the members section of the College website. (Also applies to dual FRACP/FRCPA trainees)

From 2006, two supervisors reports per year will be required of trainees - the September report will remain unchanged from previous years. A new report to be completed by end June will be introduced. The purpose is to identify early in the year problems with an individual's training and allow time to correct those problems and so not jeopardise the possibility of accreditation of the year. This form will be shorter than the usual accreditation report predominantly involving tick boxes. It is a trainees responsibility to ensure that their supervisor completes these reports and that they are submitted to the SAC by the due date. (Also applies to dual FRACP/FRCPA trainees).

Completion of three projects within the advanced training period appears to remain an area of confusion. It is important that trainees have a clear idea of the acceptability of their project and ensure that they have sufficient resources including time and guidance towards completing the projects. Projects should be closely monitored by a trainee's supervisor who should sign off the project as acceptable before it is submitted to the SAC.

The SAC has agreed that trainees must complete at least one substantive project within the three years of Infectious Diseases Advanced Training, given that two of the projects can be a case report if it is of a standard suitable for submission to a peer-reviewed Journal, and a substantive literature review. If two of the three projects are of this nature, then the third must show some substantial research skills in terms of both planning, design, methodology, analysis and discussion.

Trainees should discuss their projects at an early stage with their supervisor. If there is any doubt about the potential acceptability of a project, early discussions with the Chairman IDSAC is important.

In relation to supervisors reports for the six month period of laboratory training, the SAC has agreed that while it is useful to have a clinical supervisor during this period, the laboratory report must be filled out and signed by the laboratory supervisor and not by the trainees clinical supervisor.

b. Trainees supervised by the Joint Sub-Committee in Infectious Diseases and Microbiology (RACP/RCPA)

The RCPA Board of Censors have confirmed that Trainees in the joint training program will be exempt from the RCPA pathological sciences examination.

Trainees can begin training within the single Fellowship Infectious Diseases training program and opt into the joint training program at any time. They are not required to enter the joint training program on commencement of advanced training, although it is expected that many trainees will do so.

Joint trainees must have completed twelve months of microbiology training before attempting the FRCPA Part 1 examination. Provided that they successfully complete the Part 1 examination, trainees are able to attempt the Part 2 examination the following year.

The microbiology project is submitted to the RCPA one month before taking the Part 2 VIVA examination must a substantive project based on work undertaken following successful completion of the Part 1 examination. It is expected to meet the criteria considered acceptable for publication in a peer reviewed Journal. This project, if acceptable to the RCPA, will be considered as the third project required for the Infectious Diseases advanced training component of this program.

Infectious Diseases Trainees must be aware that entry into the joint training program does not guarantee the availability of an accredited microbiology training position at the required time. Trainees should be careful to plan their training with the availability of such suitable positions in mind.

Mike Whitby (SAC, Australia) and Timothy Blackmore (SAC, New Zealand)

MEETINGS OF INTEREST

Australasian Society for Infectious Diseases
Annual Scientific Meeting 2006
Wellington Convention Centre, Wellington, New Zealand
1 – 4 April 2006

Contact: Dart Associates
PO Box 781, Lane Cove, Australia 2066
Phone +61 2 9418 9396; Fax +61 2 9418 9398
Email: dartconv@mpx.com.au

Website: www.racp.edu.au/asid

ISPPD5 2006 Conference

Alice Springs Convention Centre, Alice Springs, Central Australia
2 – 6 April 2006

Contact: ISPPD5 Conference Managers
GPO Box 128, Sydney NSW 2001, Australia
Tel: +61 2 9265 0700; Fax +61 2 9267 5443
Email: isppd5@tourhosts.com.au

Website: www.isppd5.com

MEETINGS OF INTEREST (*continued*)**24th Annual Meeting of the European Society for Paediatric Infectious Diseases (ESPID)**

Basel, Switzerland

3 – 5 May 2006

Contact: Kenes International
17 Rue du Cendrier, PO Box 1726
CH-1211 Geneva 1, Switzerland.
Telephone: +41 22 908 0488, Fax: +41 22 732 2850
Email: espid@kenes.com

Website: www.kenes.com/espid**R.A.C.P Congress 2006**

Cairns Convention Centre, Cairns, Queensland, Australia

7 – 11 May 2006

Contact: The Meeting Planners
Telephone: +61 3 9417 0888; Fax: +61 3 9417 0899
Email: racp@meetingplanners.com.au

Website: <http://congress.racp.edu.au>**Ninth Annual Conference on Vaccine Research**

Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A.

8 – 10 May 2006

Contact: National Foundation for Infectious Diseases
4733 Bethesda Avenue, Suite 750, Bethesda, MD 20814, U.S.A.
Phone: + 301 656-0003 Fax: + 301 907-0878
Email: inovick@nfid.org

Website: www.nfid.org/conferences/vaccine06**National Medicines Symposium 2006**

National Convention Centre, Canberra A.C.T., Australia

7 – 9 June 2006

Contact: Syposium Secretariat
Phone: +61 7 3844 1138. Fax: +61 7 731 1541
Email: nms2006@icms.com.au

Website: www.nps.org.au/events**12th International Congress on Infectious Diseases**

Lisbon, Portugal

15 – 18 June 2006

Contact: International Society for Infectious Diseases,
181 Longwood Avenue, Boston MA 02115, USA.
Phone: +61 7 277 0551. Fax: +61 7 731 1541

Website: <http://www.isid.org>**International Symposium on HIV & Emerging Infectious Diseases**

International Convention Center, Toulon, France

21 – 23 June 2006Contact: toulon2006@club-internet.fr.Website: www.focusing-first-on-people.com**Annual Conference on Antimicrobial Resistance**

Bethesda, Maryland, U.S.A.

26 – 28 June 2006

Contact: National Foundation for Infectious Diseases
4733 Bethesda Avenue, Suite 750, Bethesda, MD 20814, U.S.A.
Phone: +61 301 656-0003 Fax: +61 301 907-0878
Email: inovick@nfid.org

Website: www.nfid.org.**Australian Society for Microbiology Annual Conference 2006**

Gold Coast Convention Centre, Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia

2 - 6 July 2006

Contact: Janette Sofronidis, Conference Manager,
Australian Society for Microbiology Inc, Suite 23,
20 Commercial Road, Melbourne, Vic. 3004.
Phone + 61 3 9867 8699 Fax +61 3 9867 8722

Website: www.asmcconferences.org**AIDS 2006: XVI International AIDS Conference**

Toronto Canada

13 – 18 August 2006Email: info@aids2006Website: www/aids2006.org

MEETINGS OF INTEREST (*continued*)

IMC8 Eighth International Mycological Congress
Cairns Convention Centre, Cairns, Queensland, Australia
20 – 25 August 2006

Email: imc8@sapmea.asn.auWebsite: www.sapmea.asn.au/conventions/imc8/index.html

12th Asian Pacific Congress of Paediatrics
Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall, Colombo, Sri Lanka
5 – 8 September 2006

Contact: Sr Lanka College of Paediatricians
No. 6, Wijerama Mawatha, Colombo 7, Sri Lanka.
Telephone: +0094 11 2863 178, Fax: +0094 11 2863 178
Email: slcp@slmet.lk

Website: www.slcp.st.lk**ICAAC 2006:**

46th Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy
San Francisco, California, U.S.A.
27 – 30 September 2006

Email: icaac@amusa.orgWebsite: www.icaac.org**Australasian Sexual Health Conference 2006**

Carlton Crest Hotel, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Note changed dates:**9 - 11 October 2006**

The Australasian Chapter of Sexual Health Medicine would like to announce that the 2006 Australasian Sexual Health Conference is now to be held from 9 – 11 October 2006 in Melbourne. This is instead of previous dates of 26 – 28 October. This conference will now be run back-to-back with the 18th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine.

Contact: the Meeting Planners
Telephone: +61 3 9417 0888; Fax: +61 3 9417 0899
Email: sexualhealth2006@meetingplanners.com.au

Website: www.sexualhealth2006.com.au/dev/index.php**18th ASHM Annual Conference 2006 (Australasian Society for HIV Medicine Inc.)**

Carlton Crest Hotel, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

11 – 14 October 2006

Contact: conferenceinfo@ashm.org.au
Telephone: +61 2 8204 0770; Fax: +61 2 9212 4670

Website: www.ashm.org.au/2006_conf**The Australian Health & Medical Research Congress 2006**

Melbourne Exhibition & Convention Centre, Melbourne, Australia

26 November – 1 December 2006

Contact: ASN Events
Telephone: +61 3 9863 7867, Email: congress@asnevents.net.au

Website: www.asmr.org.au

17th European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases
and 25th International Congress of Chemotherapy

31 March– 3 April 2007

Contact: AKM Congress Service
PO Box CH4005 Basel, Switzerland
Email: info@akm.ch

Website: www.eccmid-icc.org**5th World Congress of the World Society for Pediatric Infectious Diseases (WSPID)**

Bangkok, Thailand

15 – 18 November 2007

Contact: Kenes International / WSPID 2007
17 Rue du Cendrier, PO Box 1726
CH-1211 Geneva 1, Switzerland
Email: wspid@kenes.com

Website: www.kenes.com/wspid

ASID SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

**** MIG (MYCOLOGY INTEREST GROUP)**

We look forward to seeing you all at the ASID conference and in particular the Mycology Interest Group Symposium.

Sharon Chen

Email: Sharonc@icpmr.wsahs.nsw.gov.au

**** ASPID (AUSTRALIAN SUBGROUP IN PAEDIATRIC INFECTIOUS DISEASES)**

See preliminary programme for Saturday, 1 April 2006, in conference brochure.

Mike Starr

Email: starm@cryptic.rch.unimelb.edu.au

**** HEALTHCARE INFECTION CONTROL SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (HICSIG)**

HICSIG is to have its inaugural meeting at the Wellington ASID meeting in April 2006. It owes its inception to the National Infection Control Meeting for interested ID/Micro specialists (organised by Mike Whitby and David McGeachie) that took place in the Clare Valley in 2005.

The proposed aims of group at this stage include:

- facilitate production of broadly supported, evidence-based IC-related guidelines on specific topics
- improve professional networking relating to IC issues
- organise symposium on HCIC for annual ASID meeting
- facilitate research into HCIC issues

Suggested areas of initial focus include:

- Screening for MROs
- 'Clearance' for MRSA/ VRE (how tested/documentated)
- Surveillance indicators for HCA MROs
- MRSA Decolonisation guidelines
- C. difficile (testing, surveillance, infection control)
- HC Antibiotic use and resistance

Draft operational guidelines for HICSIG will receive discussion at the ASID meeting. These can be viewed on the nascent HICSIG website at <http://www.geocities.com/mdj kf/>. It contains two options for discussion.

Listserv: there are currently more than 70 ASID members who have subscribed to the email listserv. To subscribe to the listserv, visit the link http://lists.icasa.org.au/mailman/listinfo/asid_ic.

*John Ferguson (John.Ferguson@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au)
& Tony Allworth (tony_allworth@health.qld.gov.au)
(Interim Convenors, HICSIG)*

RACP SHORT COURSES IN STI MEDICINE

The next Introductory Short Course in STI Medicine will be held at the Royal Australasian College of Physicians on **17 - 19 March 2006** with another planned for Perth **4 - 6 August** (which is for Western Australian practitioners only).

The brochure is available to download from the Chapter's website on the following link:
<http://www.racp.edu.au/members/fyi/sexualhlth/news.cfm#course>

SEXUAL TRANSMISSIBLE INFECTIONS SYMPOSIUM

Westmead Education & Conference Centre, NSW, Australia
31 March 2006

Contact: Judith Holford (Education Officer)

CIDM Public Health

Tel: + 61 2 9845 5541

Email: judithh@icpmr.wsahs.nsw.gov.au

Website: www.cidmpublichealth.info

Centre for Infectious Diseases & Microbiology – Public Health

ICPMR, Westmead Hospital, PO Box 533, Wentworthville, NSW 2145

VIRUSES IN MAY 2006

Diagnostic Virology -- Public Health Virology -- Emergency Department Virology

Learn and discuss fundamental and complex concepts concerning viral illness in an informal setting at the Carrington Hotel, Katoomba from the

11 - 13 May 2006.

Places are limited!

Early Bird Registration closes 17th of March.

For further details contact:

Jacqueline Faltas z3021301@student.unsw.edu.au or visit www.virusesinmay.com

VIROLOGY MASTERCLASS

will be held on

10 – 21 July 2006

at the University of Adelaide, South Australia

Course numbers are strictly limited.

Applications must be lodged by 10 March 2006.

For further details contact virology/2006@sapmea.asn.au

or visit website www.sapmea.asn/virology2006



The Royal Australasian
College of Physicians

The Richard Kemp Memorial Fellowship

The Research and Education Foundation is very pleased to invite applications for the above Fellowship, made available from funds raised by the Queensland Branch of the College, from private donations, and from The Australasian Society for HIV Medicine (ASHM) and The Australasian Society for Infectious Diseases (ASID), in memory of the lifelong commitment Richard Kemp displayed to the practice and teaching of clinical medicine in the areas of Infectious Diseases and HIV Medicine.

Purpose of the Fellowship:

To assist Trainees in their pursuit of clinical training in Infectious Diseases and/ or HIV Medicine. The Fellowship may be used to fund attendance at a clinical meeting, for travel to appropriate centres within Australia or overseas, for a clinical attachment, or other use as the Selection Committee shall allow.

Value: \$A5,000

Eligibility:

Advanced Trainees of The Royal Australasian College of Physicians or its Faculties or Chapters, members of ASHM or ASID, or Trainees in other recognised programs offering a postgraduate qualification in the areas of Infectious Diseases or HIV Medicine.

The Selection Committee will include representatives of the College, ASHM and ASID.

Closing date: 1 July 2006

For further details please contact Sophie Rae at foundation@racp.edu.au or phone 02 9256 9639.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Professor Roderick Boyd Ellis-Pegler of Auckland, New Zealand, who received a New Zealand New Year Honour – Member (NZM) – for services to medicine.

Dr David Lloyd Bradford of Queensland who received an Australia Day Honour – Member (AM) in the General Division – for service to medicine in the field of sexual health as a contributor to public policy development through education programs for the medical profession and the community, and to leadership roles in professional organisations.

AWARDS

- **ASID Council Scholarships 2006 (2)**

The ASID Council funds two scholarship to attend the Annual Scientific Meeting at Wellington, New Zealand, in April. Applications closed 24 February 2006. The two successful applicants will be advised shortly.

- **Frank Fenner Award for Advanced Research in Infectious Diseases 2006**

Applications for this Award closed in November 2006 and applications have been forwarded to reviewers for ranking. The successful applicant for 2006 is **Kumar Visvanathan** and he will be presented with the award at the Annual Scientific Meeting in Wellington, New Zealand, in April 2006.

- **ASID International Travel Award 2006**

Applications for this Award closed in November 2005 and the successful applicant for 2006 is **Irani Ratnam**.

- **AstraZeneca Travel Scholarship 2006 – Two awards**

Applications for the first 2006 Award closed in November 2005 and applications have been forwarded to reviewers for ranking. The first successful applicant for 2006 is **Grant Mackenzie**. The second AstraZeneca Award will be advertised mid-2006.

- **John Forbes Developing Nations Travelling Scholarship 2006**

Applications for this Award closed in November 2005. The successful applicant will be announced and presented with the award at the Annual Scientific Meeting in Wellington, New Zealand, in April 2006.

- **ASID Advanced Trainees Research Award 2006**

This Award is seen as a means of recognising and rewarding the valuable contribution made by Advanced Trainees in the field of Infectious Diseases who are Associate members of ASID and whose membership has been ratified by an ASID AGM.

On the basis of abstracts submitted for this Award, applicants will be selected from oral presentations given at the Annual Scientific Meeting by advanced trainees who are training with the Royal Australasian College of Physicians and whose Associate membership has been ratified at an ASID AGM. The prize will be awarded based on the best oral presentation. The judging panel will be chosen from three senior delegates attending the Meeting. Previous winners may not apply. Award will not be granted on the basis of research for which a previous award has been received. Applicants must specify their personal contribution to the research and list other authors.

The value of the 2006 ASID Annual Scientific Meeting Advanced Trainees Research Award is \$2,000 and will be awarded at the Annual Scientific Meeting in Wellington, New Zealand.

- **ASID Best Poster Award 2006**

The ASID Annual Scientific Meeting Best Poster Award 2006 will be chosen from posters presented by ASID members at the Annual Scientific Meeting (whose Full or Associate membership has been ratified at an ASID AGM). This award will be determined by selecting 4-6 posters for a brief oral presentation during the Meeting. Previous winners may not apply.

The judging panel will consist of a small group of senior delegates who have no association with the posters. The final choice is based primarily on the merits of the poster supported by the oral presentation.

The value of the 2006 ASID Annual Scientific Meeting Best Poster Award is \$1,000 and will be awarded at the Annual Scientific Meeting in Wellington, New Zealand.

Report for the John Forbes Travelling Fellowship for 2005 - Trip to East Timor

East Timor is a new tropical country just north of the Northern Territory with population just under a million. Life expectancy is 57 years. The majority of the population live in poverty and the adult illiteracy rate is approximately 50%. Half of the population live in urban areas. Income per capita is about \$2-\$3 a day which makes it the poorest country in Asia. Portuguese is the official language and Tetun the national language, with many dialects spoken. Indonesian and English are also used.

Colonised by the Portuguese, then invaded by Indonesia some 25 years ago, East Timor finally after liberation, became a new nation in 2002. East Timor heavily relies on international support to maintain itself as infrastructure has been decimated after Indonesia withdrew following independence.

Health and education are priorities in government expenditures. The Health Budget derives its money solely from UN aid and amounts to about \$USD10 per person yearly.

There is a Central (National) Hospital, 2 referral hospitals and six regional hospitals. Regional clinics exist also.

In January 2005, a planning day involving delegates from PLWHA NT; the NT AIDS and Hepatitis Council; the BBV and Sexual Health Unit of CDC NT and other interested parties was held. The purpose of this planning day was to decide on what help we could give East Timor in regards to people infected or a risk of infection to HIV. The group, Australian Support Program for East Timor HIV (ASPET), was formed.

Darwin is less than an hour's flight from East Timor with daily flights to and from Dili. ASPET originally proposed that a physician regularly fly over to help in setting up appropriate structures, developing clinical services and possibly assistance in collecting and transporting pathology specimens to Australian centres. It was important that we be involved in endeavours that could be sustainable.

Below – This large statue overlooks the harbour on the outskirts of Dili, the capital of East Timor



From 28 April to 3 May 2005, a number of physicians working in at the main hospital in Dili (Hospital Nacional Guido Valadores) attended a short course in HIV medicine in Darwin organised by ASHM. The course was aimed in providing these physicians with appropriate clinical knowledge which could be used in their resource poor setting. A one day clinical placement at Clinic 34 Darwin was also organised. After meeting with these physicians, I planned an initial four day trip for later in the year to Dili to

1. Meet with these physicians again;
2. Visit the national hospital and associated services, including clinics run by NGOs; and
3. Assess what further sustainable help ASPET and I could give in conjunction with ASHM and AFAO in helping build HIV and STI services.

I finally made it over to Dili in the first week of August.

Despite obvious major damage to infrastructure, considerable rebuilding had occurred. There was an air of enthusiasm about the future in the local people who were very patriotic. Unfortunately the health system was very fragmented with entire areas either run by different NGOs or various countries. Physicians working in the hospitals were frustrated by lack of funds, had language difficulties in communicating with patients as they were often from another country. Poor communication between sectors and unsustainable international interventions were also common gripes. The high prevalence of tuberculosis, malaria and dengue appeared to overwhelm the health system. A mature HIV epidemic did not appear to be occurring, but with little testing, prevalence is difficult to estimate. Despite this, the National Hospital has started a clinic for HIV testing and management. Called the Tropical and IFD Clinic, it will also provide management for STI's. The clinic is run by two nurses, two midwives, and two doctors (A general physician, Dr Gaspar Quintao and Dr Julius Tanasale an internist of Infection Diseases). Pamphlets in Tetun, one of the local languages, had been produced explaining what HIV and AIDS were, how you can be infected and how you could get a test. Despite being a strongly Catholic nation, this didn't seem a major barrier to preventative education efforts.

Counselling and point of care HIV testing were being offered but no treatment. The hospital didn't have a sustainable supply of antiretroviral medications.

It was decided that my assistance with creating some simple HIV testing and management protocols would be helpful. Since my visit, ASHM and in particular Marina Carmen, has maintained links with the clinicians in East Timor. Protocols for use of antiretrovirals appropriate to East Timor have been drafted. With ongoing guidance by ASHM and me, it is hoped that a supply of antiretroviral medication from Brazil will occur in the near future.

It is hoped that ASHM and myself can also provide ongoing technical advice, policy and advocacy support to the National AIDS Commission in East Timor and the National Hospital.

It is clear from my visit that support is needed for National hospital rather than sending more money to NGOs. Reagents and maintenance of equipment for pathology testing is also a major issue. Currently, only POC HIV testing kits are available. The current 5-year contract signed by St. John of God to run laboratory services will certainly help with HIV diagnosis and management. It is hoped that antenatal or MTB patient testing for HIV will become standard of care. The confidence of the public in the national hospital is lacking in some sectors, derived from suspicion of the previous Indonesian occupation. It is important, however that the HIV clinic set up by the National hospital is supported by NGOs and international players to improve antenatal care and patients with active tuberculosis. A well run service with clear protocols will also improve clinical services and communication with other non-government run clinics. Testing for HIV will also increase.

Dr Brian Hughes, FRACP

*Below - The Hospital in Dili (Hospital Nacional Guido Valadores)
The hospital has 265 beds and 40 doctors including 13 specialists*

