

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS



האיגוד הקרדיולוגי בישראל
ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY



OF THE ISRAEL HEART SOCIETY



Editor's Note: (This issue was delayed for technical reasons.) Welcome to the Spring 2017 FIHS Newsletter. We wish all of our readers and members a Chag Kasher V'Sameach- a Happy Passover season.

This issue will include its usual features- a message from our President, Jeff Goldberger, announcements of Cardiology Meetings, and recently published research from Israel.

In addition, we include links to the Clalit Research Institute, winners of the New England Journal of

Medicine Challenge- they presented their first place entry by creating the best clinical application based on the SPRINT trial. We are announcing the winners of the Annual FIHS fellowship travel grants to Drs. Jeremy Ben-Shoshan and Shafik Khoury, both from Sourasky Medical Center in Tel Aviv.

Although there was no FIHS banquet at ACC this year, we have some pictures from ACC (thank you, Batia!).

Please note- description of new technology in our Newsletter does not constitute an endorsement. We just want to give our readership a sense of the vast scope of Israeli ingenuity in the fields of Cardiology.

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Remember, this Newsletter and Society belong to you, the membership. We look forward to enhancing this Society and the connections that we hope to foster between Israeli and non-Israeli cardiologists and their institutions. Please feel free to email us with questions, answers, comments, criticisms, or just to tell us to keep working harder!

Our immediate goal is to try to grow our membership and participation to include any and all cardiologists and fellows from around the world who would be interested in supporting this bridging relationship. If you know of any cardiologists or cardiology fellows who we can contact, please email me (my email is jackstroh@usa.net) and feel

free to forward this Newsletter.



Message from the President

Due to an abbreviated American College of Cardiology meeting, we did not have our usual reception. Rest assured that we have continued to work with the Israel Heart Society to provide support. The Meltzer Award was presented to the Israel Heart Society and was awarded at the 2017 Israel Heart Society meeting to Professor Doron Aronson, Director,

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Invasive Cardiac Care Unit
Rambam Medical Center,
Haifa, for his contribution in
the field of pulmonary
hypertension and its effect
on heart failure and death.
We were delighted to
present two travel awards to
Israeli cardiology fellows to
attend the American College
of Cardiology meeting –
congratulations to Drs.
Shafik Khoury and Jeremy
Ben-Shoshan from the
Sourasky Medical Center.

We are exploring ways to
enhance opportunities for
Israeli cardiology fellows to
obtain advanced training in
the US and Canada. There
are two major needs –
funding for these positions
and institutions that can
provide training slots. If you
can help toward any of these
goals, please reach out to
me. I am confident that our

membership has a broad
network that can help us
move toward accomplishing
these goals. The Israel Heart
Society has put together a
promotional video that does
an outstanding job
delineating the need and the
value of this educational
opportunity.

Our organization's success
in promoting these
educational interchanges is
thanks to the help and
support we receive from
you. We need to expand our
outreach to the cardiology
community – if you are
willing to help us do so in
your local community,
please contact me. We hope
that with our expanded
efforts, we will be able to
expand the scale of our
educational support for the
Israel Heart Society.

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We would like to acknowledge our Silver, Gold, or Platinum sponsors who are listed on page 18. As we are dependent on your charitable donations to maintain our activities, please remember to submit your annual membership dues which can be paid through the FIHS website at: <http://www.friendsihs.org/index.html>

Finally, our members are encouraged to send in news – personal and/or professional – to include in our **FIHS Heart Beats** section. Please provide us with your feedback on the newsletter – special thanks to Dr. Stroh for his continued efforts (jackstroh@usa.net).

With best wishes,

Jeff Goldberger

President, Friends of the Israel Heart Society



Meetings

The 2nd International meeting on CardiOncology- Advancing Cardiac Care for Cancer Patients

June 15-16, 2017

Dan Panorama Hotel,

Tel Aviv

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

The Committee-

Zaza Iakobishvili -Conference Chair

Dan Gilon – Scientific committee Chair

Ran Kornowski – Cardiology stream

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Pia Raanani – Hemato-
oncology stream

Rinat Yerushalmi – Oncology
stream

The field of cancer care has evolved over the past 20 years with the development of more aggressive cancer screening programs, improvement in diagnostic testing and more effective treatment options, including the incorporation of novel targeted therapies. As a result, cancer death rates are gradually declining while cancer survivorship is steadily rising. However, these benefits are offset by long-term adverse effects. Among them, cardiotoxicity is a leading cause for late morbidity and mortality. While conventional chemotherapy has been known for decades to induce detrimental effects on the heart and peripheral vasculature, the novel agents might also have harmful off-target consequences. Thus, there is an unmet need for

intimate collaboration between cardiologists, oncologists and hemato-oncologists.

Furthermore, accelerated research of tumor cellular signaling and genetics opens unlimited research interplays between these disciplines. This prompted the development of the new field of cardio-oncology.

We herein launch the second International Meeting in Cardio-oncology to be held on June 15-16, 2017 in Tel Aviv.

The main aims of this meeting are:

- To establish and develop the field of cardio-oncology in Israel.
- To bring together cardiologists, oncologists, hemato-oncologists and general practitioners from Israel and worldwide.
- To bring together national and international medical and para-medical disciplines involved, including the fields of

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imaging, biomarkers and others.

- To give stage for basic scientists and Pharma companies involved in the development of novel antineoplastic treatments with potential for off-target cardiovascular effects.
- To contribute to the development of international recommendations and guidelines in the field.

The meeting agenda is developed by multidisciplinary faculty led by prominent Israeli experts, including cardiology team (Prof. Ran Kornowski), oncology team (Dr. Rinat Yerushalmi), hemato-oncology team (Prof. Pia Raanani) with Prof. Dan Gilon in charge of the scientific program. The meeting is held biennially. It includes international faculty and medical staff as well as scientists and Pharma who will share cutting edge developments in the field, aiming at the development and

implementation of strategies for the prevention, early detection and management of cardio-oncology issues.



Conference on Women's Hearts 2017

July 6-8, 2017
Hotel Galilion, Near HaHula
Nature Park, Upper Galilee

Keynote Speakers

Dr. Tali Porter
Chairwoman of Conference
Petach Tikva

Professor Angela Mass
Radboud University, Netherlands

Professor Roxana Mehran
Columbia University, New York

Professor Silvia Priori
University of Pavia, Italy

Professor Ran Kornowski
President, Israel Heart Society

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Petach Tikva

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

Professor Chaim Lotan
Jerusalem



Professor Sami Viskin
Tel Aviv

Professor Lior Gepstein
Haifa

<http://www.cardiofemme.co.il/cardiofemme/>



**International Conference
for Innovations in
Cardiovascular Systems-
2017**

**Clalit Research Institute
finishes first in the New
England Journal of
Medicine Challenge!**

December 3-5, 2017

Tel Aviv, Israel

Meeting Directors-

Dr. Rafi Beyar

Dr. Chaim Lotan



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Hot off the presses, Clalit Research Institute won the prestigious NEJM SPRINT Challenge. The team was made up of our longtime friend Morton Leibowitz, Eitan Bachmat, Amichay Akriv, Tomas Karpati, Ilan Gofer, Eduardo Podjarny, Meytal Avgil Tsadok, Moshe Hoshen, Noa Dagan, and Director of Health Policy Planning Ran Balicer. Dr. Balicer presented their work, “To Treat Intensively or Not- Individualized Decision Making Support Tool.” To quote Dr. Dagan, Researcher and Head of Data Extraction of the Institute, “In the era of personalized medicine, population-based treatment efficacy measures are not sufficient. Treatment decisions should be personalized by considering the individual's specific characteristics, taking multiple outcomes into account,

and not overlooking adverse events. We created a personalized tool to support clinicians when deciding on intensive hypertension treatment. This tool considers predicted benefits and harms, weighted by the perceived severity of the events they represent, thus allowing for an efficient, personalized, and evidence-based decision.”

For more information, here are the links to the competition-
<https://challenge.nejm.org/pages/winners>

<https://challenge.nejm.org/posts/5826>

<http://clalitresearch.org/clalit-research-institute-wins-1st-place-in-the-nejm-sprint-challenge-for-its-individualized-treatment-decision-tool/>

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Noa Dagan MD MPH

For more information on Clalit Research Institute, here is their url:

<http://clalitresearch.org/>



Israel Cardiology News

Israeli tech cuts drug errors, Harvard study shows

Ra'anana-based MedAware has created software to identify and send alerts about prescription errors in real-time

BY SHOSHANNA

SOLOMON January 22, 2017

<http://www.timesofisrael.com/israeli-tech-cuts-drug-errors-harvard-study-shows/>



Ra'anana-based MedAware has developed software that uses algorithms and machine learning based on data and patterns gathered from thousands of physicians who treat millions of patients. The data is used to identify and

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give alerts about prescription errors in real time.

The company says its self-learning, self-adaptive system is proven to dramatically reduce healthcare costs while improving patient safety.

The Harvard study analyzed records from almost 800,000 patients to assess the efficacy of MedAware's software. The report found that MedAware's technology identifies errors otherwise undetected by current systems in use, minimizes the risks arising from fatigued doctors who are used to getting false alerts from current systems, and reduces prescription errors with high accuracy.

The findings, published on Sunday in the Journal of American Medical Informatics Association (JAMIA), showed that MedAware's technology sets a new standard for prescription alerts and patient

safety vis-à-vis traditional safety systems, which only detect a fraction of actual errors, and are not geared up to identify random or complex errors, like prescribing a medication used only in pregnant women for an elderly make, for example.

The current clinical decision support (CDS) systems that are used by physicians are not patient-specific and suffer from high false alarm rates — which create a phenomenon known as “alert fatigue,” in which physicians simply learn to disregard notifications, a statement issued by MedAware said.

In the US healthcare market, more than \$20 billion is lost, annually, as a result of prescription errors and their consequences, the statement said. In the US alone, medication errors harm at least 1.5 million people every year and cause the annual

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premature death of more than 220,000 patients, MedAware says on its website. Adverse drug events are among the most common medical errors. Out of the 4 billion medical prescriptions that are written up annually in the US, 8 million contain life-threatening errors.

“MedAware’s medication error detection system appears to have the ability to generate novel alerts that might otherwise be missed with existing clinical decision support systems,” said Dr. Ronen Rozenblum, project co-investigator and assistant professor at Harvard Medical School, in the statement.

The study conducted by Harvard was carried out at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital’s (BWH) Center for Patient Safety Research and Practice (CPSRP). It also made use of retrospective data from Partners HealthCare BWH and Massachusetts General

Hospital (MGH) homegrown outpatient electronic health record (EHR).

MedAware is a part of OurCrowd’s portfolio of companies.



Afghan Toddler Receives Life-Saving Heart Surgery in Israel

by [ISRAEL21c](#) | 03.02.17

<http://www.thetower.org/4657oc-afghan-toddler-receives-life-saving-heart-surgery-in-israel/>



It took a global effort to save the life of an Afghan toddler suffering from a congenital heart defect. Israeli doctors,

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who voluntarily carry out heart surgeries for Save a Child's Heart foundation, this week performed life-saving surgery on the two-year-old boy at the Wolfson Medical Center in Holon.

The toddler, Yakub, had a harrowing journey from a remote Afghan village to Holon that included a six-hour trek through snow, securing immediate permission for entry into Israel, and flights from Kabul to Istanbul and Tel Aviv. When Yakub arrived in Israel, he was blue.

"Yakub came to us at the very last minute. He arrived in poor condition, was extremely underweight and we had to revive him twice before getting into the operating room," Dr. Rachaeli Sion Sarid told Ynet News. "He suffers from a congenital heart defect that prevents blood flow to the lungs and reduces oxygen in the blood. He underwent emergency surgery and his condition is stable. He is

breathing alone and he even shook our hands and is eating alone."

Yakub, who was accompanied by his father on the journey to Israel, is now recovering at the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit of Wolfson Medical Center.

Yakub's father speaks only Pashtu and is communicating with local hospital staff via a group of volunteers from the Afghan community in Israel.

[Save a Child's Heart](#), an international humanitarian organization based in Israel, has saved the lives of more than 4,000 children around the globe through its [lifesaving](#) heart initiatives.



Israeli technology
revolutionizes heart
attack detection with
one drop of blood

By: Gila Green, World Israel News
Courtesy Channel Ten News, March 6, 2017

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<https://worldisraelnews.com/israeli-technology-revolutionizes-heart-attack-detection/>



Israeli technology has changed the face of heart attack detection with a kit so small it fits in the palm of your hand. The results are available within minutes.

Just one drop of blood can tell within minutes if a patient has had a heart attack thanks to a revolutionary kit developed in Israel that is already saving hospitals time and money. More important, it can save lives.

A health professional needs only one drop of blood to let a

patient know if a heart attack has occurred. If two stripes appear on the kit, the result is positive and the patient must immediately receive additional care.

The test is easy, noninvasive and takes less than 15 minutes to perform.

One in three Israelis appears in emergency rooms across the country convinced that he or she has had a heart attack. Many people believe they can identify classic heart attack symptoms, which include chest pain, dizziness, nausea, pain traveling particularly to the left arm, wheezing and extreme anxiety similar to a panic attack. In reality, these can be symptoms of heartburn, but until now, in order to find out, a patient would have to wait in an emergency room and undergo at least six hours of testing, including blood tests and an EKG.

On the other hand, less than 50 percent of heart attack

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victims experience classic symptoms. Many people have atypical symptoms such as shoulder or stomach pain or exhaustion. By the time they have finished with the classic tests, precious hours will have passed, which can lead to unnecessary heart damage and even heart failure.

Even better news for heart attack victims is that this kit is more sensitive than traditional tests. There have already been numerous heart attacks picked up by this new miniature kit that went undetected by traditional testing.

The kit is already in use in Israeli hospitals and will be in Israeli emergency rooms this week. The next step will be making it available to consumers, who will be able to do the simple test on their own.



FIHS was proud to announce the winners of the recent

Annual Travel Grants to Drs. Jeremy Ben-Shoshan and Shafik Khoury, both of Sourasky Medical Center in Tel Aviv. Congratulations! Dr. Ronen Rubinshtein, Secretary General of the Israel Heart Society, presented the award at the recent American College of Cardiology meeting in Washington, DC.

The following are statements from each of the winners:

Jeremy Ben-Shoshan (MD PhD), from the Cardiology Department of the Tel-Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, presented in ACC.17 a study entitled: "Absence of clinical triggering in diabetic patients with st-segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) predicts multiple vessel coronary disease and is associated with increased mortality". In fact, this is a sub-

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analysis of the recently published study: "Comparison of triggering and non-triggering factors in STEMI and extent of coronary arterial narrowing" (*Am J Card*; 2016). The study focus on the clinical triggers (i.e. physical exertion, psychological stress, and acute illness) that precede the symptomatology of STEMI and show that absence of such triggers (i.e. rest angina), is strongly associated with multiple vessels coronary disease on angiography and, in diabetic patients, even predicts higher long-term mortality compared with triggered-STEMI. This study emphasizes the importance of thorough clinical anamnesis on admission as a liable diagnostic and prognostic tool, unfortunately often undervalued nowadays.

My name is Shafik Khoury and I am a fellow in cardiology in the Tel-Aviv Medical Center. During the last years, I have led and participated in many

researches. One of my works was accepted for poster presentation in the American College of Cardiology meeting which was held in March 2017. The work is titled "Incidence and Outcomes of Early Left Ventricular Thrombus Formation Following ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction Treated with Primary Percutaneous Coronary Intervention".

I was happy to learn that the Friends of the Israel Heart Society decided to award me a travel grant that gave me the opportunity to participate in the conference and present my work.

Thank you for your support. I felt the meeting was productive, and that it helped further enhance my career.

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are Dr. Rubinshtein and our lovely Batia Ziv. We thank Batia for always giving us a warm welcome (and if you ask nicely, she always has some candy and halva also!!).



Speaking of ACC, here are pictures of the IHS booth at the meeting. Pictured below

I would also encourage Israeli programs to let our membership know about happenings and offers for

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training in Israel: Please email these to me at jackstroh@usa.net.



FIHS Heart Beats 

Are you a member of FIHS and have major news you would like to share with our readers? Have you published a book or been honored by your Society? Share it with us all! Please email these to me at jackstroh@usa.net.



That's it for this issue of the newsletter of the Friends of Israel Heart Society. Special thanks as always to **Batia Ziv** for being our "eyes and ears on the ground" in Israel. Special thanks in America to our Society Administrators- **Janice and Larry Brown!**

Have any ideas to make this a better tool for our Society? Share them with us!

Tell your friends that we want them to join our mission to be a bridge between Israeli Cardiology and the world. If you have any questions, comment, criticisms (my favorites!) please email me at jackstroh@usa.net.



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