

Dear Colleague:

The development of the ILCOR 2010 International Consensus on CPR and ECC Science with Treatment Recommendations (CoSTR) will involve volunteer "worksheet authors" from all over the world who are dedicated to improving survival from cardiopulmonary arrest around the globe.

Specifically, worksheet authors will be asked to read and evaluate published, peer-reviewed scientific evidence following an approved systematic evidence evaluation process, which will serve as the foundation for the development of the 2010 CoSTR. The ILCOR task forces involved include:

- * Basic Life Support
- * Advanced Life Support
- * Pediatric Life Support
- * Education and Implementation
- * Acute Coronary Syndrome/ Myocardial Infarction

The American Heart Association, Emergency Cardiac Care – ACLS subcommittee and its representatives within the various ILCOR task forces for 2010 are looking for worksheet authors with an interest in many aspects of Advanced Resuscitation in the prehospital and hospital setting. We would like you to consider participating in the 2010 ILCOR evidence evaluation process as a worksheet author.

Review of a question will require between 40-100 hours of work and will be overseen by a taskforce member, taskforce co-chair and a worksheet evidence evaluation expert. It is expected that two worksheet authors will be assigned to each worksheet question. Worksheet authors are expected to work together to define the initial search strategy for the worksheet question as well as agreeing on the final consensus on science statement for presentation to the relevant ILCOR Taskforce.

Presentation of the worksheet may require travel to Dallas, Texas in February of 2010. Additional travel may also be required in 2008 and 2009 depending on the worksheet topic. If you are invited to present your worksheet, most travel expenses are covered by the American Heart Association. This opportunity to contribute to the review of science is open to all healthcare providers (physicians, nurses, paramedics, postgraduate trainees, graduate students, fellows) and research scientists.

The most important aspect of this opportunity is to work with colleagues with similar interests from all over the world. In 2005, all worksheets were published on line and are available at <http://www.c2005.org> (citable for your CV). Some authors combined their work and published it in a peer reviewed journals after the publication of the 2005 CoSTR.

We appreciate that the commitment is substantial and should not be taken lightly. Please go to www.americanheart.org/ILCOR to retrieve information about the evidence evaluation process that may assist you with your decision to participate. Once you have committed to a worksheet there is a professional obligation to complete the worksheet, as others who were similarly interested have been denied an opportunity in favor of your assignment to the task. You are expected to complete the review to the satisfaction of the worksheet evidence evaluation expert(s) and taskforce co-chairs within the time allotted, otherwise the worksheet question may be reassigned to a different worksheet author. Members of the relevant ILCOR Taskforce will of course assist you in the process, which is eased by the worksheet template and Endnote

software that will be provided. You may choose to do more than one worksheet although there are some topics that may be too large for this. The first detailed draft of most of these worksheets is required by the beginning of May 2008. An overview of the process of worksheet preparation and declaration of conflict of interest guidelines is posted on the internet at www.americanheart.org/ILCOR

To volunteer as a potential worksheet author please respond to me at reo4x@virginia.edu by February 10 2008 and identify any area(s) of interest within the following domains:

- * Airway
- * Ventilation
- * Defibrillation
- * CPR and adjuncts
- * Drugs
- * Sequence across modalities (timing of drug administration, shock, amount of CPR prior to analysis etc)
- * Special circumstances (non cardiac etiologies of cardiac arrest such as toxicology, asthma etc)
- * Diagnostic test and prognostic indicators
- * Education and Implementation
- * Acute Coronary Syndrome/ Myocardial Infarction

Please as well identify the task force (or task forces) that you feel your background/ expertise is most closely aligned with:

- * Basic Life Support
- * Advanced Life Support
- * Pediatric Life Support
- * Education and Implementation
- * Acute Coronary Syndrome/ Myocardial Infarction

We will forward your name directly to the ILCOR central office housed in the American Heart Association. The staff in the central office will process your application through various steps prior to being assigned to a question in your area of interest. This process will involve some email and web based correspondence between you and the staff and needs to be completed by February 24th 2008 to allow the task force sufficient time to select authors and match them to suitable questions. The relevant taskforces will review all potential authors and assign them to a question where there is minimal conflict of interest. The assignments balance council representation on the domain in addition to interest and expertise in the subject. You will be notified if you are chosen as an author by an email from a task force member and we hope to do this by March 10 2008. Each worksheet will be assigned two reviewers.

If you require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me at reo4x@virginia.edu

Yours truly,

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