

Why join WASOG?

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Current position:

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Main research interests: small fiber neuropathy in sarcoidosis, complications of steroids in sarcoidosis, therapy of sarcoidosis, cardiac sarcoidosis

1. Sarcoidosis is simultaneously a difficult and fascinating syndrome. Every patient is unique and each one has a different story. I very much enjoy the individualized nuances of diagnosing sarcoidosis and its mimics, the individualization of testing and therapy, and the opportunity to think about the patient on a holistic level rather than focusing on a single organ at a time. I also believe that the science in sarcoidosis is advancing very rapidly, making this an extremely exciting time to be involved with the disease. There are numerous opportunities to make a difference.
2. We do not have very good ways to make sure the burden of sarcoidosis and its therapies on patients. In fact, many of the difficulties for sarcoidosis patient's stem from features that are difficult to quantify and therefore often ignored by many in the scientific community. Additionally, funding for, and interest in, the study of sarcoidosis has lagged behind many other inflammatory diseases, which contributes to a scarcity of science that focuses specifically on the disease.
3. Research is moving very rapidly into an air of the data and higher computational power. Collaboration, unbiased (hypothesis free) research strategies, and large patient cohorts will be necessary to really advance the field in part due to the tremendous heterogeneity of sarcoidosis phenotypes. Funding agencies and pharmaceutical manufacturers will need to step up the game in order to stimulate sort of discovery that we'll really need to large skeletal improvements in the outcome
4. WASOG Is the only international organization dedicated to advancing the education and clinical care of sarcoidosis providers in

patients. Since this is a disease with marked differences in presentation and clinical course in various countries, we can learn a lot by comparing notes and forging collaborations. Epidemiology of sarcoidosis this weekend. WASOG brings together clinicians and scientists from all over the globe to share clinical insights, educate each other, and advance science.

5. WASOG can improve the opportunities for best practices to be disseminated, encourage the development of the next generation of sarcoidosis experts, stimulate interest in the disease among funding agencies and pharmaceutical companies, and develop consensus as a pathway to enhance research and clinical study of sarcoidosis.
6. This is a relatively small but extremely collegial community. It is my experience that individuals with interest, passion and talent are fostered through the collaborations and networking provided by WASOG. Also, because clinical care of sarcoidosis patients can be challenging due to the rarity of some of the manifestations, having an organization with access to experts from around the world greatly enhances the clinical care of our patients.