

2006 Professional Activities

In June 2006, Margie attended the 24th Barany Society Meeting held in Uppsala, Sweden.

This International Society was founded in 1960 by Dr CS Hallpike and Professor CO Nylen to honour the memory of the late Robert Barany who was Professor of Otorhinolaryngology at the University of Uppsala from 1926 to 1936.

Two hundred people from all parts of the globe – Finland, Norway, Sweden, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic, Mexico, Greece, Russia, Brazil, Argentina, Italy, Spain, New Zealand, Korea, Japan, Taiwan, England, France, Nepal, Luxembourg, Germany, Australia, Canada, Switzerland, Netherlands and the United States of America attended the Meeting.

There were six Australian at the Meeting – five from Sydney and myself from Adelaide. I learnt I was the only physiotherapist from Australia. It was a wonderful opportunity to interact with many of the world's leading vestibular researchers and clinicians, to see colleagues and meet new people, some of who were therapists. There were six of therapists at this Meeting. They were from Norway, Luxembourg, and the United States of America.

The oral and poster presentations were excellent, provoking vigorous discussion and debate throughout the Meeting. The intellectual stimulation was second to none.

Some of the highlights of the Barany Society Meeting were:

The establishment of an Ad Hoc Vestibular Rehabilitation Standards Committee, of which I am a committee member and the Regional Co-ordinator for Australia, New Zealand, the Asian and Pacific region under the auspices of the Barany Society.

Learning new diagnostic techniques for the evaluation of vestibular disorders. These techniques have been incorporated into patient evaluation and treatment at the Centre.

Findings of a study revealing a relationship between women with osteoporosis or osteopenia and Recurrent Benign Paroxysmal Positioning Vertigo (BPPV).

Professor Dr Margie H Sharpe was appointed to the Ad Hoc Vestibular Rehabilitation Committee, Barany Society, Sweden in June 2006. She is also the Regional Co-ordinator for Australia, New Zealand, the Asia and Pacific region.

Conference Papers

Professor Dr Margie H Sharpe was an invited speaker at the Osteoporosis Conference held by the South Australian Orthopaedic Nurses Association on 22 August 2006. Her paper was entitled ***Do Ears Have Bones? Is there a relationship between Benign Paroxysmal Positioning Vertigo and Osteoporosis and Osteopenia in Women?***

Professor Dr Margie H Sharpe was interviewed on radio in July 2006 talking ***about the incidence, diagnostic and treatment procedures for Benign Paroxysmal Positioning Vertigo.***

Professor Dr Margie H Sharpe was an invited speaker at a Public Seminar held by Better Hearing Australia (Adelaide) Inc. on ***Vestibular Disorders: Treatment and Management***, Adelaide, February, 2006.