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International Society for  
Adult Congenital Heart Disease

# ISACHD July 2010 Newsletter

## President's Message

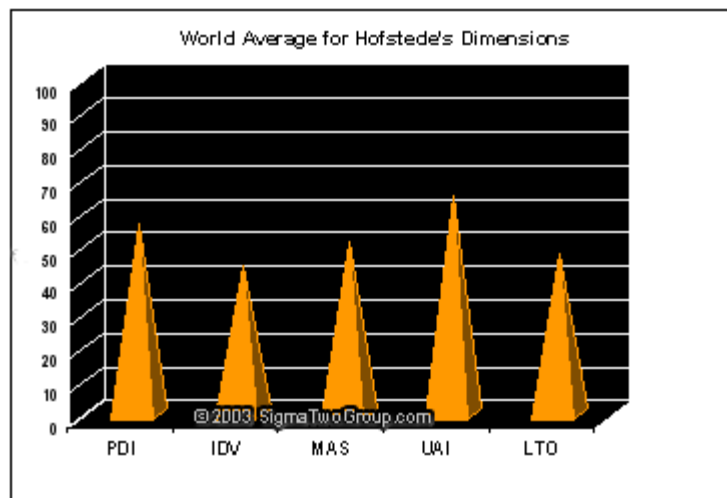
by *Barbara J.M. Mulder*



### ISACHD A Multi-culti- Society

Communication is a very important issue among ISACHD members around the World. Fortunately, e-mail and internet facilities have made an immense progress and have improved communication possibilities. However, especially with e-mail correspondence, one should be aware of potential misunderstandings. Personal face-to-face contact is always preferable for optimal communication. But even then, cultural differences may lead to confusing and painful misunderstandings. The unwritten rules of how we behave and do things differ from one human group to another. "Culture" is how we call these unwritten rules about how to be a good member of the group. We tend to classify groups other than our own as inferior or (rarely) superior. In our globalized world most of us can belong to many groups at the same time. But to get things done, we still need to cooperate with members of other groups carrying other cultures.

Geert Hofstede has described five dimensions of culture: 1) Power distance Index (PDI), the extent to which the less powerful members of organizations and institutions (like the family) accept and expect that power is distributed unequally, 2) Individualism (IDV) on the one side versus its opposite, collectivism, that is the degree to which individuals are integrated into groups, 3) Masculinity (MAS) versus its opposite, femininity, refers to the distribution of roles between the genders, 4) Uncertainty Avoidance Index (UAI) deals with a society's tolerance for uncertainty and ambiguity, 5) Long-Term Orientation (LTO) versus short-term orientation.



The world's average for these five cultural dimensions is shown in this figure.

Here are shown some examples, where you will notice the remarkable differences between societies.

In North-

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Chiba, Japan

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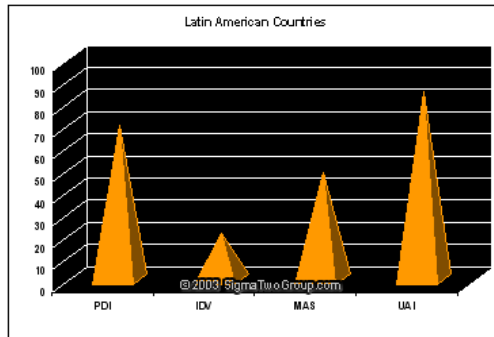
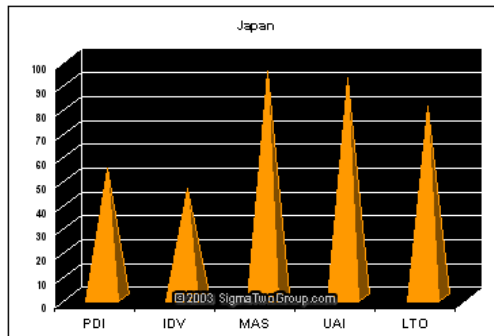
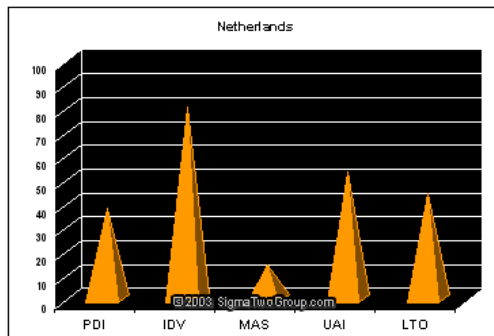
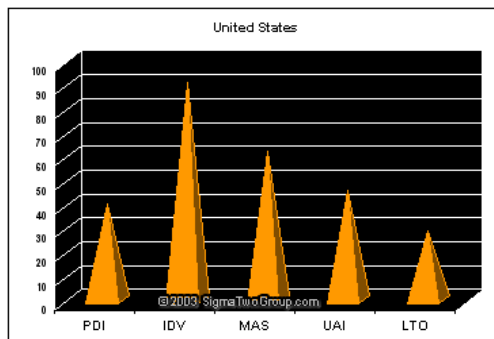
Gary Webb, MD  
1994-1996

Carol Warnes, MD  
1996-1998

Richard Liberthson, MD  
1998-2000

Daniel Murphy, Jr., MD  
2000-2002

Thomas P. Graham, Jr., MD  
2002-2004



America, people have a high level of individualism. Individual pride and respect are highly held values and degrading a person is not well received, accepted, or appreciated.

In the Netherlands, a low level of masculinity means that females are treated more equally to males.

On the contrary, in Japan, the male dominates a significant portion of Society

In Latin America, Society does not readily accept change and it is very risk adverse.

Knowing about these cultural differences can help us to avoid unfortunate misunderstandings and miscommunication. We all use different ways of expressing similar thoughts. We have a different view on social, professional, scientific and personal issues. These differences are largely based on our cultural background. It inspires symbols, heroes, rituals, laws, taboos, and all kinds of practices - but its core is hidden in unconscious values. For nearly all countries around the world the score of these five cultural dimensions can be found at [www.geert-hofstede.com](http://www.geert-hofstede.com).

Skills in cooperation across cultures are vital for our common goal: improving ACHD care around the world.

Michael A. Gatzoulis, MD,  
PhD, FACC  
2004-2006

Jack M. Colman, MD  
2006-2008

Michael J. Landzberg, MD  
2008-2010

**Join ISACHD  
Today!**

**JOIN NOW**

## Regional News From Asia Pacific

by *Koichiro Niwa MD*



We had a big meeting in Japan last week.

We organized the 46th Congress of Japanese Society of Pediatric Cardiology and Cardiovascular Surgery combined with the 3rd Congress of Asia Pacific Pediatric Cardiology and 2nd Congress of Asia Pacific Society for Adult CHD from July 6-10, in Chiba, Japan. We had a lot of attendants from all over the world and a lot of interesting

presentations with exciting discussion. We appreciate your incredible support for us that made this meeting successful. Mike Landzberg, Carole Warnes, Andre Bozio, Michael Gatzoulis, Adrienne Kovacs, Pam Miner and other Asian Specialists joined the Congress.

On this meeting, we believe, we made a step forward for close collaboration between Asia and, Euro and the North America. Especially we are happy that young fellows recognized this movement. Attendants from Asia, Euro and the north America shared the data together and had a hot discussion for the future development of this evolving field. Topics in this meeting included from basic, educational to updated topics.

Through presentation and discussion, after meeting events, also new friendship between attendants has been made.

Nearly 1600 attendants from Japan and over 400 attendants from Asia, Euro and the North America kindly joined this congress. We really felt that very intimate friendship and strong support from our attending colleagues from the world. We really appreciated that real friendship.

Now it is the very moment to make progress of this movement such as collaborative studies and support project internationally. We should work together to keep continuing this trend with thought ful mind and respect each other and walk hand in hand for the promising future.  
Thank you for joining the congress and sharing the data with us.

## Regional News From Canada

by *Erwin Oechslin, President CACH Network*



It is my great pleasure to congratulate Dr. Paul Khairy for his nomination to be one of top 40 under 40. This selection was made by the Globe and Mail and you can access the article at: <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/managing/top-40-under-40-2009/paul-khairy-38-quebec/article1591192/>

Dr. Paul Khairy raises the voice about ACHD and contributes to increase the public awareness of ACHD.

Please join me in congratulating Paul on the honour of this well deserved nomination.

## Regional News From Europe

by *Folkert Meijboom*



## Grown-up Congenital Heart Disease

Read you the [latest newsletter](#) about our Working Group's activities.

In this edition you can read more about:

- Our pages on the ESC Web Site - we are seeking active contributors!
- Election for new nucleus members - apply now if you are interested in joining us
- New Guidelines for 2010
- ESC meetings in Stockholm - don't miss our general assembly and social event!
- GUCH Working Group Courses - mark your calendar now
- Ongoing registries

The social event of the GUCH Working Group will take place on Sunday evening, August 29th. All ISACHD members are very welcome to join this party!

Best regards, on behalf of all members of the nucleus.

## Regional News From Latin America

by *Luis E. Alday*

During the XXXVI Argentine Congress of Cardiology, to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from October 7th to 9th, 2010, there will be a Joint Session between the ISACHD and the Argentine Society of Cardiology on "Adult Congenital Heart Disease" with the participation of Drs. Jane Somerville and Michael Landzberg, as special guests. Endorsement of EURO GUCH has also been requested.



## News from the Nursing Network

by *Desiree Fleck*

Dr. Philip Moons has received a full professorship at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven. Desiree Fleck received her PhD in Nursing from the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia Pennsylvania after completing a study on Correlates of Self-care in Emerging Adults with Congenital Heart Disease. At the last ACHD international symposium, there were 5 abstracts presented with 3 oral presentations. These abstracts were called: Cardiologists treating ACHD patients by Disty Pearson; Sue Fernandes presented Parental Knowledge for Lifelong Care; Desiree Fleck presented Pediatric Cardiologists Understanding of Transition; Poster presenters included: Martha Tomlin presenting The Changing Face of Congenital Heart Disease - Transitioning into the Adult Years ; Linda Hauser presented: Pregnancy in patients on anticoagulation: Initial experience of a nurse managed counseling service. Desiree Fleck presenting: Neurocognitive Issues in Emerging Adults with Congenital Heart Disease. Desiree Fleck, PhD, CRNP.

## Journal Watch

**Heart. 2010 Jul 18. [Epub ahead of print]**

**[Congenital heart defects are under-recognised in adult patients with Down's syndrome.](#)**

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**[Impact of Sildenafil Therapy on Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension in Adults with Congenital Heart Disease.](#)**

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**[The CALF \(Congenital Heart Disease in Adults Lower Extremity Systemic Venous Health in Fontan Patients\) study.](#)**

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**J Am Coll Cardiol. 2010 Jun 29;56(1):58-64.**

**[Cardiac outcomes in young adult survivors of the arterial switch operation for transposition of the great arteries.](#)**

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**Heart Rhythm. 2010 Jul 7. [Epub ahead of print]**

**[An Alternative Technique of Implanting A Non-Transvenous ICD System In Adults With No or Limited Venous Access to The Heart.](#)**

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**[En face view of atrial septal defect by two-dimensional transthoracic echocardiography: comparison to real-time three-dimensional transesophageal echocardiography.](#)**

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**Catheter Cardiovasc Interv. 2010 Jul 2. [Epub ahead of print]**

**[Premere occlusion system for transcatheter patent foramen ovale closure: Mid-term results of a single-center registry.](#)**

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**Expert Rev Med Devices. 2010 Jul;7(4):519-27.**

**[Device therapy for arrhythmia management in adults with congenital heart disease.](#)**

*McLeod CJ, Asirvatham SJ, Warnes CA, Ammash NM.*

**Int J Cardiol. 2010 Jun 24. [Epub ahead of print]**

**[Replacement therapy for iron deficiency improves exercise capacity and quality of life in patients with cyanotic congenital heart disease and/or the Eisenmenger syndrome.](#)**

*Tay EL, Peset A, Papaphylactou M, Inuzuka R, Alonso-Gonzalez R, Giannakoulas G, Tzifa A, Goletto S, Broberg C, Dimopoulos K, Gatzoulis MA.*

**Int J Cardiol. 2010 Jun 24. [Epub ahead of print]**

**[Alternative approach for selected severe pulmonary hypertension of congenital heart defect without initial correction - Palliative surgical treatment.](#)**

*Lin MT, Chen YS, Huang SC, Chiu HH, Chiu SN, Chen CA, Wu ET, Chiu IS, Chang CI, Wu MH, Wang JK.*

**Int J Cardiol. 2010 Jun 4. [Epub ahead of print]**

**[Emergency admissions in Asians with adult congenital heart disease.](#)**

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**Am J Cardiol. 2010 Jun 15;105(12):1836-41. Epub 2010 Apr 27.**

**[Frequency of sleep apnea in adults with the Marfan syndrome.](#)**

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**Korean J Intern Med. 2010 Jun;25(2):147-53. Epub 2010 Jun 1.**

**[Characteristics of double-chambered right ventricle in adult patients.](#)**

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**Am J Cardiol. 2010 Jun 1;105(11):1610-6. Epub 2010 Apr 2.**

**[Right ventricular systolic pressure response during exercise in adolescents born with atrial or ventricular septal defect.](#)**

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**Eur Heart J. 2010 Jun;31(11):1305-10. Epub 2009 Dec 22.**

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**Int J Cardiol. 2010 Jun 25;142(1):44-9. Epub 2009 Jan 26.**

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