



ANNUAL REPORT 2009 – 2010

Once again it has been a busy year for the committee, state coordinators and volunteers as they worked behind the scenes to keep our Mission Statement alive.

Great advancement has been made on our member's database, website and eagerly awaited release of the member's log in as we maintain an up to date support register for our members as well as a support source of information for all interested people. This work would not have been possible without the professional assistance of Barbara Elliot (volunteer) working with Sue Kozij (director) and Kathryn Skelsey (member) who will be acting as a moderator for the chat forum. We express our gratitude to these three ladies for their valuable work in this area. This year SciGen (Australia) Pty Ltd have generously contributed financially towards the maintenance/upkeep costs of the website allowing the Foundation to invest its capital funds into the new developments as mentioned above.

Our newsletter continues to be our main form of communication to members. This contains an overall insight into the Foundations activities such as seminars and social functions etc, as well as some very interesting patient stories. Health care specialists and others supply the latest medical updates on illnesses, conditions and treatments as the feature article on the front page. We say a very real "Thank You" to all these contributors on behalf of all our members. We also express our gratitude to Ipsen Pty Ltd which continues to sponsor the "Pituitary Connection" newsletter.

The year has been a busy one as we have worked throughout all the States to extend the hand of help and support through seminars, social functions and telephone support. No matter who presents at our seminars or tells their story at social functions, the learning curve continues to grow as a very real plus for our members and attendees. We are also being as proactive as we can to promote the paediatric aspect of pituitary conditions which, of course, does have a very real impact on parents and associated family members as they try to come to terms with the growing up of their children as well as the associated condition problems.

We cannot forget to extend a message of thanks to our corporate sponsors, Avalde Pty Ltd, Baker & McKenzie Lawyers & Norek Holdings Pty Ltd as well as the many devoted members who have contributed donations over the past year. Pharmaceutical companies Novartis, SciGen, Pfizer, Novo Nordisk, Merck Serono, Ipsen, Lilly, and Ferring ensure our continuing seminars, Pituitary Awareness Week promotion and other educational activities by way of sponsorship.

We also say "Thank You" to health care professionals, doctors and nurses who lend their expertise to give advice to the committee and contribute when requested. Assistance like this certainly enhances the core goal of the Foundation.

We continue our association with ESA, ENSA & APEG including attendance at these conferences during the year, as well as membership of the Commonwealth Consumer's Health Forum together with connections to pituitary groups in the UK and America.

I wish to advise that Maryann Patterson will retire as a Director at the 2009/2010 AGM, and sincerely thank her for her contribution over the past year.

Last, but certainly not least, I give my own personal thanks to all Directors, State Coordinators and Volunteers who continued to devote precious time and expertise to the running of the Foundation in the midst of very busy and demanding personal family lives. I am sure it is obvious to you all that the APF would not exist without this assistance and I challenge each of you to seriously consider whatever contribution you could make to assist us to fulfill our Mission to provide support and promote awareness of pituitary conditions.

Thanking you all, Noel Hickey