



## ANNUAL REPORT 2013 – 2014

It is with admiration to our key individuals that I bring this report to you. There have been many initiatives and duties completed quietly behind the scenes over the past financial year.

Here's a short list of some of our achievements –

- Set up Pituitary Awareness Displays during Pituitary Awareness Week in July 2013.
- Ventured into our first larger scale fund-raiser – Charity Golf Day in Sydney.
- Hosted educational seminars in Victoria and New South Wales.
- Continued involvement in advocacy to have Human Growth Hormone for deficient adults and adolescents listed for subsidy with the PBS.
- Launched a Growth Hormone Advocacy website.
- Advocated for the development of a specialized medication device – this is now undergoing a feasibility study.
- Hosted a number of face to face support activities in most states of Australia.
- Conducted a small number of teleconferencing support evenings for members.
- Attended various industry meetings such as Endocrine Nurses Society of Australia, Global Pituitary Patient Advocacy Summit, Health Consumer Advocacy Workshop.
- Presented to various groups such as Leo's Club and Rotary.
- Completed our new database, thus facilitating on-line membership for patients/carers/interested health care providers.
- Commenced a new member's area within the website with various resources, such as videos of APF seminars. This is to be expanded progressively.
- Engaged a medical writer to commence fact sheets for the external resources portal.
- With the help of a dedicated member volunteer, wrote various fact sheets concerning psychological issues and tips on managing a chronic condition such as pituitary illness.
- Developed a new edition to the "Is It" series - Craniopharyngioma (in adults)
- Distributed our "Is it" - "Acromegaly", "Cushing's Disease", "Prolactinoma", "Non-Functioning Adenoma", "Hypopituitarism", "Craniopharyngioma" booklets and our Understanding Your Pituitary Problems booklet to Endocrine Nurses through the Endocrine Nurses of Australia.
- With assistance of one of our sponsors, distributed to health care providers (doctors and nurses with an interest in pituitary), our "Understanding Your Pituitary Problems" book and the "Is It Acromegaly" booklet along with purple brochures to hand to patients.
- Distributed the ENSA Acromegaly Hand-Held HealthCare Record Book to members with Acromegaly.
- Collaborated with a small number of researchers to find participants in research studies.
- Released 4 editions of the Pituitary Connection newsletter.

I wish to say a very sincere thank you to the committee, state coordinators and various volunteers.

I also must take this opportunity to say farewell and thank you to Kellie Dines, who resigned from a Director and state co-ordinator position in June.

Thank you to our sponsors Novartis, Ipsen, Pfizer, Novo Nordisk, SciGen & Ferring.

A special thank you to our corporate philanthropic volunteers such as Baker McKenzie, Lawyers and BondyBest Consulting, whose expertise we have had to call on this year.

Noel Hickey, Chairperson.