



The Assembly on
Pulmonary Circulation

American Thoracic Society
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American Thoracic Society

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Get Involved!

You can now register to become more involved in the ATS Assemblies, ATS Committees or both.

There are many ways to grow within ATS and the Assemblies and Committees are a great starting point.

The Assembly on
Pulmonary Circulation



Welcome

We would like to personally introduce you to the ATS Assembly on Pulmonary Circulation (PC).

We are an assembly focused on advancing knowledge of pulmonary vascular biology, pathobiology, and clinical care of pulmonary vascular disease through basic science, clinical and translational research. Our assembly membership includes basic scientists and clinicians interested in the vascular basis of lung disease with a large scope of interests that span from basic science to translational biology and clinical medicine. We would encourage those not currently members to join our community by participating in PC-sponsored programmatic events at the ATS International Conference.

Mission Statement

This assembly has been founded in order to advance our knowledge of the pulmonary circulation as well as establish its role in the comprehensive lung microenvironment. Basic science, translational and clinical research is focused on identifying the biology and pathobiology of the pulmonary circulation, pulmonary vascular disease and right heart dysfunction while promoting advancements in clinical care and management of these diseases.

Pulmonary Hypertension

Pulmonary hypertension is the cornerstone of pulmonary vascular disease and represents a chronic, progressive condition characterized by elevated blood pressure in the circulation of the lung. Patients often experience tiredness, shortness of breath, chest pain, fainting, and swelling of the legs and abdomen. This condition often complicates many common diseases such as congestive heart failure, autoimmune diseases, sickle cell anemia, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease or chronic thromboembolism in the pulmonary circulation. The presence of pulmonary hypertension dramatically increases the risk of death in these conditions. Our improved understanding and recognition of pulmonary hypertension has uncovered the impressive burden of this disease on our healthcare system. The most recent estimates from the Centers for Disease Control indicate that pulmonary hypertension is responsible for 260,000 hospital visits and over 15,000 deaths per year. The pulmonary circulation assembly is dedicated to reducing this burden through advancing therapeutics and clinical care, employing a bench to bedside approach that values collaboration and communication at all stages of drug development.

Health Equality

The pulmonary circulation assembly defines health equality as the endeavor to provide access of high-quality health care for all people. Enhancing our awareness and understanding of health disparities, inequalities, and inequities present in diseases of the pulmonary circulation

will create the foundation to begin correcting these wrongs. Many racial and ethnic minorities are shown to be disproportionately affected by diseases of the pulmonary circulation, which is illustrated by Pulmonary Hypertension associated with sickle cell disease, HIV, liver disease or sarcoidosis. Particularly women in these groups bear an undue burden of morbidity and mortality that needs focused dedication in the coming years. Our focus on health equality will ensure that recognition of disparate access to care, timely diagnosis, and health outcomes of racial/ethnic, socioeconomic and gender minorities can be addressed and improved through patient care, research, education, health policy, and advocacy.

Become Involved!

There are numerous ways in which you can become involved in the Pulmonary Circulation Assembly. The annual membership meeting occurs during the ATS international conference which is held each year in May. This meeting provides a forum to discuss important issues and updates from the preceding year. This meeting is also a great opportunity to meet with other clinicians, researchers, young investigators as well as the assembly leadership.

In addition to the annual membership meeting:

- Participate in PC Journal Club, occurring monthly as either a webinar or text summary of new and exciting research in the field.
- Join us at the biennial Grover Conference, the only international conference focused solely on lung vascular biology and medicine.
- Submit proposals for symposia, sunrise seminars, and post-graduate courses for the International Conference.
- Submit proposals for projects that will create or update ATS Official Documents
- Submit your manuscripts to one of our many journals
- Please visit the PC web page under the ATS website for updates.