

## FACT SHEET

### The 7th USA PACIFIC MEDICAL & LEGAL CONFERENCE

#### NEW YORK, USA

**Monday 25 June 2012 to Monday 2 July 2012**

*This conference runs before **Lipari, Sicily** 7-14 July 2012 and **Prague, Czech Republic** 20-27 July 2012*

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So much of Australia's legal & medical tradition comes from the USA, so what better place to explore this than the cultural and commercial heart of that country, New York. What better place to learn about class actions, the onslaught of medical litigation and issues like product liability than the place where it all, if not began, then exploded.

The academic and professional program has always been the centre piece of our conferences, but an equally important part is the networking activities we organise outside of the formal program. Over the years many delegates have forged professional links with other practitioners arising out of meeting for the first time at the conferences. The synergy of medical and legal practitioners at these conferences has led to a greater understanding of each other's role and broken down many barriers. Delegates have also reported that the informal interaction with other delegates has led to an exchange of ideas and methodologies, and an enhancement of professional camaraderie among fellow practitioners including referrals from both fellow medical practitioners and lawyers. Many delegates are now coming to these conferences as individuals because of the camaraderie and networking events associated with the conferences.

## CONFERENCE EVENTS

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The conference will include a number of optional social events. The first event is welcome drinks at 7.00pm on Monday 25 June, followed by a conference dinner at 7.30pm at Becco's Italian Restaurant (cost of dinner not included in registration fee), which is co-owned by Lydia Mattichio Bastianich and her son Joseph. Lydia is one of Americans best loved Italian chefs and television celebrities (look out for her cooking program on The Lifestyle Channel). Other events will include a night at "the Met" (the Metropolitan Opera Company), a helicopter flight over New York's best attractions (where you almost touch the statue of Liberty), an evening of Jazz at the Village Vanguard or similar venue, a tour of the Metropolitan Museum of Modern Art and a NY Yankees baseball game.

## ACCOMMODATION

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### **BELVEDERE HOTEL - 4 Star hotels – Mid town (CONFERENCE HOTEL & VENUE)**

For a deluxe double/king room at the Belvedere Hotel the rates start at \$AUD310 per room, per night (*excluding breakfast, portorage and baggage handling costs*) Alternative room configurations and prices are available on request. All prices are subject to room availability and exchange rate variations.

## REGISTRATION

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Registration cost is \$AUD1100 for single registration or for multiple registrations, \$AUD850. Accompanying persons not needing formal registration are free and are welcome to attend all functions and sessions. Please note that rooms will be allocated strictly in accordance with the receipt of the registration fee. If for any reason you wish to cancel your registration (even at the last minute), we will refund your registration fee less an \$AUD100 administration charge. Accommodation once paid can only be refunded at the hotel's discretion.

## ACCREDITATION

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*We are now an endorsed provider of Continuing Medical Education for the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners. This conference attracts points at rate of 2 points per hour of participation (although not every session attracts points). And we are applying for accreditation with other Colleges.*

Conference Director: **Lorenzo Boccabella Barrister-at-Law**

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## TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS

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We highly recommend utilising the services of our preferred travel partner CPE Travel whom we work closely with to ensure your travel requirements are met. CPE Travel are an award winning travel agency specialising in premium travel experiences including cruising, touring, villa stays and bespoke travel. Be sure to enquire about the exclusive 2 for 1 packages they offer delegates. CPE Travel Professionals can be contacted on 07 3254 3331 or via email [travel@educationcpe.com](mailto:travel@educationcpe.com).

## THE PROFESSIONAL & ACADEMIC PROGRAM

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Conference sessions will run for a disciplined 4 hours each day, generally starting early to late afternoon depending on the evening event. This allows ample time to climb the Statue of Liberty, walk in Central Park or Times Square, visit 'Little Italy' or Chinatown, or the many museums, bookshops, cafés and art galleries of New York.

Conference sessions always include a paper on medical litigation and a separate session on medical law. And we try to do such sessions in an interesting way – like when husband & wife team Dr Dan Peleg head of delivery ward in Rabin Medical Center & Attorney At Law, Israel, gave a joint presentation on Cesarean Delivery on Maternal Request – Medico-Legal Aspects (Yael Peleg being a plaintiff medical litigation lawyer!). Other fascinating medical speakers at these conferences have included Dr Karl-Heinz Kuenzel, Professor of Anatomy – University of Innsbruck who cut up the Ice Man & gave a discourse on forensic anatomy using the Ice Man as an example. Clinical papers have also been given on asbestos diseases, intellectual property & medicine, and a host of other areas.

### BELOW ARE THE PAPERS GIVEN AT THIS CONFERENCE IN 2010:

**Alan Rothschild**, Ph D (Monash), LLM (Melb), Barrister & solicitor: *“Is legalising physician assisted death just plain wrong”* (An analysis of the assisted death laws in Oregon and Washington State, plus an examination of when assisted death is a legitimate medical procedure of murder) [Dr Rothschild is internationally recognized in the field of the law at end-of-life.]

**Dr Paul Nisselle - Senior Medical Education Consultant - The Medical Protection Society, London** - *Hitting the High C's* (An analysis of how introducing systems changes can reduce medical negligence.) [Dr Nisselle has had over 30 years experience managing medical negligence claims for various medical defence insurers in Australia and the UK]

**Dr Robyn Hewland, Psychiatrist and Queensland Mental Health Tribunal member** - *Balance & Human rights between individual and society at different ages, using recent research from genetic and behavioural research*. (This is a paper on sentencing and rehabilitation principles). [Dr Hewland is a highly experienced clinical psychiatrist in private practice which over the years has ranged from the UK, NZ & Australia. She was a consultant psychiatrist in the prisons for 17 years.]

**John Hoey, Solicitor and Principal, Hoey Lawyers, Victoria** will present a paper – *“Whether Mens Rea is a necessary element in the prosecution of summary offences”*. [Mr Hoey main area of practice is prosecutions and advising for local authorities.]

**Mr Don Fraser QC, Barrister-at Law, Queensland, will present a paper entitled, Large Estates and Disappointed Children, (Dad Was Mad, Bad, Misled Or Mean. (An analysis of the leading decisions involving trusts, equity and testators family maintenance.)**

**Dr Jo Duflou, Chief Forensic Pathologist, Clinical Professor, University of Sydney, Conjoint Associate Professor, University of NSW** - *“Recent advances in medical death investigation”*

**Arlene MacDonald, Barrister-at-Law, specialising in Tax, Trusts & Administrative Law** - *“The strengths and weaknesses of the methods used to protect family assets from an ex spouse or a child's ex spouse on relationship breakdown”*. The session will include discussion of the High Court decision of *Kennon v Spry* and its implications, protecting one spouse where the other has huge personal debts, and the usefulness of Binding Financial Agreements.

**Dr Leo Richard Rawson OAM: Consultant Ophthalmologist will present a paper entitled:**  
*“Assessing Visually impaired athletes for National and International competition. Potential Legal minefields”*.

**Lorenzo Boccabella, Barrister-at-Law** – *“Some big decisions of the US Supreme Court – Brown v Board of Education, Roe etc – with an occasional Australian perspectives.”* (The paper also examines the flag burning cases and the recent decisions of *MCDONALD v. CITY OF CHICAGO* ruling that banning hand gun possession in Chicago was unconstitutional, *SEARS v. STEPHEN UPTON* on the US constitutional right to Counsel and how the failure of Counsel to present proper mitigation submissions lead to the imposition of the death penalty and resultant denial of constitutional rights & *SKILLING v. UNITED STATES* holding that the Enron CEO could not be charged with fraudulent deprivations of “the intangible right of honest services” unless there was evidence of bribery or kickbacks as otherwise it would infringe the constitutional prohibition on a criminal statute being vague)

**Thomas R. Newman**, expert on medical litigation & legal counsel to Duane Morris LLP, New York, one of the 100 largest law firms in the USA – will present a paper entitled, *“International insurance law, arbitrations and some medical issues”*

### CONFERENCE MOTTO: CARPE DIEM (SEIZE THE DAY!)

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