

Kari Korttila: Päiväkirurgisen potilaan anestesia

Introduction by Raafat Hannallah In May 2012

Dr Kari Korttila, MD, PhD, FRCA, was born in Turku and went to medical school in Helsinki Finland.

After graduating from medical school 1972 he studied pharmacology and did his PhD Thesis in Department of Pharmacology at University of Helsinki. The topic for his Doctoral Dissertation in 1975 was "Recovery and skills related to driving after minor outpatient anaesthesia". Those studies on driving after brief anesthesia published in Anesthesiology and other peer reviewed journals were well received and were accompanied by editorials in both Anesthesiology and The Lancet. Since then Dr Korttila has been a widely wanted speaker and visiting professor. He has lectured worldwide on outpatient anaesthesia in different anesthesia congresses such as ASA-Meetings, SAMBA meetings, PGA, European and Scandinavian Meetings and Universities in USA, Europe, Japan.

Dr Korttila worked as a visiting assistant professor in Department of Anesthesia at University of Iowa in 1979-81 and he was nominated to full professor of Anesthesia and Critical Care to The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL where he worked in 1986-88 and later in 1995-6. In 1999 Dr Korttila was nominated Professor of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care Medicine to University of Helsinki where he still functions today as Emeritus Professor from the beginning of this year 2012.

Dr Korttila has published 154 peer reviewed original articles and written 68 reviews or book chapters. He has published in 5 different decades from 1970's till 2010's. His H-index in 201 is 39, which means that each of his publications have been cited an average of 39 times, the best one over 300 times. Many of his publications, such as the IMPACT study on PONV published in NEJM in 2004 have helped as to manage patients undergoing ambulatory anaesthesia. Dr Korttila was in the editorial board of Acta Anaesthesiologica Scandinavica and he has worked as a reviewer for over 10 journals including Anesthesiology, Anesthesia and Analgesia, BJA and The Lancet. For his dedication to medicine and anesthesia Dr Korttila was nominated to Fellow of Royal College of Anaesthetist (FRCA) in London, U.K in 2001. He has also served as an Expert Consultant for Anesthesiology in EMEA (European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products).

Dr Korttila has been a SAMBA member since 1987. He was a member of our grant evaluation committee in 1992-2004 and he helped SAMBA committee of international relations in 1997-2009. Dr Korttila's role was important when ambulatory surgery expended from United States to Europe and to the rest of the world. When European Society of Anaesthesiology started Euroanaesthesia Meetings he was the first chairman of the committee of outpatient anaesthesia. Dr Korttila's role was very important in the steering committee with other SAMBA members, eg Bernard Wetchler, Burt Epstein, Jeff Apfelbaum, Surinder Kallar and myself (Raafat Hannallah) to get International Association of Ambulatory Anaesthesia and its semiannual meetings started.

Today - , The SAMBA Distinguished Service Award the AWARD 2012 will be given first time to a person outside The United States. It will be a great honor to forward this award to Professor Kari Korttila, from Helsinki Finland.

Examples of Dr Korttila's publications during 5 decades:

Korttila K, Tammisto T, Ertama P, Pfäffli P, Blomgren E, Häkkinen S: Recovery, psychomotor skills and simulated driving after brief inhalational anesthesia with halothane or enflurane in combination with nitrous oxide and oxygen. **Anesthesiology** **1977**;46:20-27

Korttila K, Ghoneim MM, Jacobs L, Lakes RS: Evaluation of instrumented force platform as a test to measure residual effects of anesthetics. **Anesthesiology** **1981**;55:625-630

Korttila K, Nuotto EJ, Lichtor JL, Östman PL, Apfelbaum J, Rupani G: Clinical recovery and psychomotor function after brief anesthesia with propofol and thiopental. **Anesthesiology**, **1992**;76:676-681

Apfel CC, **Korttila K**, Abdalla M, Kerger H, Turan A, Vedder I, Zernak C, Danner K, Jokela R, Pocock SJ, Tenkler S, Kredel M, Biedler A, Sessler DI, Roewer N on behalf of the IMPACT investigators: A factorial trial of six interventions for the prevention of postoperative nausea and vomiting. **N Engl J Med** **2004**;350:2441-51

Kainu P, Sarvela J, Halonen P, Puro H, Toivonen HJ, Halmesmäki E, **Korttila KT**. Failure of continuous wound infusion with local anaesthetic in management of pain after cesarean section, **Int J of Obst Anaesth**, **2012** (Feb 15, Epub ahead of print)