

## 5. Sestri Levante 1990

For this meeting along the beautiful Ligurian coast Giulio Bevilacqua was again our host. There were 60 registered participants representing 17 countries. The 5<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on Surfactant Replacement was held in the Congress Hall of the Hotel Miramore over 3 days in early June. The scientific programme again contained a good balance between basic science and clinical trials. Ongoing studies were discussed and future trials were planned, particularly those assessing prophylaxis and high and low dose surfactant.



GUILIO BEVILACQUA AND STEFANO PARMIGIANI  
OUR HOSTS WITH TORE CURSTEDT NEARBY

In addition, there was a round table discussion on cerebral blood flow and oxygenation in surfactant-treated babies with a panel comprising: Frances Cowan, Gorm Greisen, David Edwards, Nils Svenningsen and Frank van Bel. Adolf Valls-i-Soler and Eric Shinwell gave preliminary communications on use of Curosurf in Spain and Israel respectively. Other aspects of surfactant research were discussed including renal, thyroid and pulmonary function after treatment and effects on phagocyte function.

Bo Sun from Shanghai spoke about surfactant replacement in experimental meconium aspiration and Roger Spragg from San Diego gave his experience of using Curosurf to treat ARDS in adult patients. On the final day Allen Merritt, also from San Diego, discussed surfactant preparations in current use in the USA and Henry Halliday and William Tarnow-Mordi introduced their ideas for a new European multicentre trial comparing Curosurf with Exosurf, a study that never started. Henrik Verder presented a Danish protocol for surfactant and CPAP and Ann Clercx one using high frequency ventilation which was popular in Belgium. The final paper was by Richard Tubman on the cost effectiveness of Curosurf treatment.

One memorable social event was a boat trip along the coast to Portofino to observe how those with money are able to survive with multimillion pound yachts and their large crews. The photograph shows how some members enjoyed the cruise back to Sestri Levante (Photo).