

NCSS report of the Cardiotoxicity Biomarker EWG -November 13, 2001-

Progress since last report to the NCSS July, 2001:

- The EWG met in Rockville, MD on Oct 12, 2001 to discuss evidence regarding the troponins and to plan objectives and logistics for the American College of Toxicology symposium.
- The EWG met all day November 6 at the Renaissance Hotel, Washington, DC
 - Morning EWG meeting to finalize criteria of an "ideal" biomarker of drug-induced cardiotoxicity and to establish objectives and plans for the symposium.
 - Afternoon symposium with open discussion and solicitation of input from audience regarding troponins as biomarkers of drug-induced cardiotoxicity.
 - Evening EWG meeting to agree on conclusions from symposium and decide next steps.

Near future plans:

- The EWG is currently drafting a position paper regarding the use of cardiac troponins T and/or I as biomarkers of drug-induced cardiac injury, wherein a treatment-associated increase in circulating troponin should be considered and indication of treatment-related myocardial cell injury.
- The EWG is currently drafting the design of a definitive experiment determine whether a quantitative correlation exists between the magnitude of increase in circulating troponin and the extent of cardiac histopathology.
- The EWG is currently gathering and evaluating evidence regarding other small molecules and proteins that have been suggested to reflect drug-induced or ischemia-related cardiac injury.