



The ACLS and PALS examinations

To the Editor: I read Dr Van der Merwe's letter¹ with interest. I do not wish to enter debate on the allegations he makes, but would like to clarify the comment that he attributes to me.

It is true that there is no requirement for recent, accredited advanced life support training for registration with the General Medical Council. It is also true that this is generally a requirement for resident medical officers in the UK acute independent health care sector.

The latter has been the case for at least the past 10 years and is considered an important component of quality assurance. It has moreover become a requirement in this country in accordance with the current regulatory framework that came into force last year.

I did not, however, initiate the 'enforcement', and it did not follow a previous disastrous event in one of our hospitals.

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1. Van der Merwe M. ACLS and PALS examinations 'sold' unnecessarily to doctors for work in the UK (Briewe). *S Afr Med J* 2003; **93**: 84-85.

Cancer Association of South Africa funding grants

To the Editor: The Cancer Association of South Africa has funding grants available for research projects into all aspects of cancer. These categories include basic science, clinical medicine, sociology, nursing and any other scientific endeavour related to cancer and its causation, management and treatment. Anyone interested in applying for a grant should contact Mrs R Botha at the national office on telephone (011) 616-7662, e-mail rbotha@cansa.org.za, or Professor B Bloch on (023) 614-2363, e-mail bbloch@lando.co.za. All applications will be considered strictly on scientific merit and awards made appropriately. The closing date for applications is the end of June 2003.

Basil Bloch

Cancer Association of South Africa

Erratum

Dr G Borok, author of the paper entitled 'Eczema and foods', which appeared on p. 118 of the February 2003 *SAMJ*, wishes to apologise to Professor Eugene Weinberg, of Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital, for having inadvertently omitted to acknowledge his thanks to Professor Weinberg for referring the patient to him for dietary counselling.