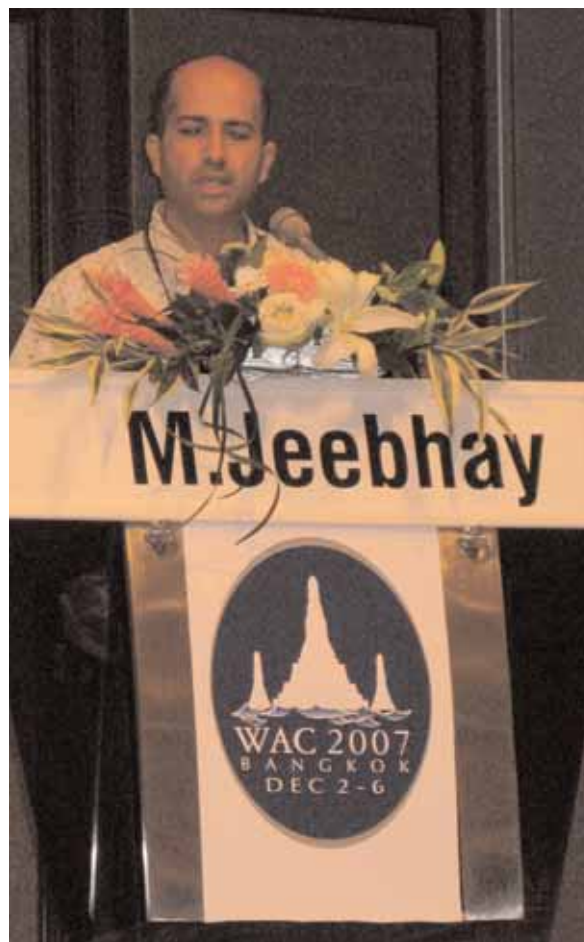


## NEWS

### ALLSA hosts a symposium at the World Allergy Congress in Bangkok

The XX World Allergy Organisation Congress was held from 2-6 December 2007 in Bangkok, Thailand. The Allergy Society of South Africa (ALLSA) hosted a symposium on 'Allergy and asthma to seafood: a paradigm model for developing countries'. The symposium was co-chaired by Prof. Mohamed Jeebhay from the School of Occupational and Environmental Medicine at the University of Cape Town and Dr Andreas Lopata from the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology in Australia. Seminars in the session presented aspects of ongoing research on seafood allergy at the University of Cape Town, which covered 'Epidemiological studies of allergy and asthma among seafood processing workers in South Africa' and 'Molecular characterisation of fish and crustaceans allergens causing allergy', presented by Prof. Jeebhay and Dr Lopata, respectively. Dr Natalie Nieuwenhuizen, a postdoctoral fellow in the Division of Immunology at the University of Cape Town, sponsored by MSD South Africa to attend the conference, delivered a paper on 'Immunological mechanisms of seafood allergy'. The final presentation, 'Allergen microarray technology for diagnosis and surveillance of seafood allergy' described the results of allergen microarray studies performed in collaboration with the Centre for Proteomics and Genomics Research, directed by Dr Reinhard Hiller. The symposium highlighted the issue that seafood allergens are important in causing allergies and asthma in the occupational setting. The major difference between consumer-related seafood allergy and occupational seafood allergy is that sensitisation primarily occurs through inhalation of allergens present in aerosols produced during processing of seafood. The symposium highlighted the need for characterisation of these airborne seafood allergens for further application in diagnosis, workplace environmental control and immunotherapy in domestic and occupational settings.



*Prof Jeebhay addressing the symposium.*



*Left to right:  
Drs Andreas  
Lopata and Natalie  
Nieuwenhuizen with  
Prof Mohamed  
Jeebhay enjoying  
the marvellous  
cultural heritage of  
Thailand at the  
Grand Palace.*

## PATIENT INFORMATION SHEETS – ANOTHER ALLSA MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT

Did you know that membership of ALLSA entitles you to receive copies of our Patient Information Sheets which provide information on various aspects of allergy in an easy-to-understand format for your patients?

Topics covered include:

Allergen Immunotherapy

Allergic Reactions to Honey Bee and Wasp Stings

Allergic Rhinitis

Bedding Protectors and Allergy Control

Cockroach Allergy

Coeliac Disease

Contact Dermatitis

Drug Allergy

Egg Allergy

Fish Allergy

Food Additives and Preservatives

Food Allergy

House-Dust Mite Allergy

Latex Allergy

Milk Allergy/Intolerance

Mould Allergy

Peanut Allergy

Pet Allergy

Seafood Allergy

Soya Allergy

Treatment of Allergic Eczema

Urticaria and Angioedema

Vacuuming and Allergy Control

Wheat Allergy

Patient information sheets can be ordered in batches of 50 from the ALLSA office, tel 021-447-9019, email [mail@allergysa.org](mailto:mail@allergysa.org)

There is no charge for the leaflets, but we do charge for postage.