Dear friends and colleagues,
as you may know my first involvement in the Italian Society of Cardiology - SIC goes back to the end of 80s, and since then I have had the privilege of serving in many positions. I feel strongly responsible as President of SIC to maintain and further define its identity.

The Previous Board must certainly be thanked for the many valuable innovations it has brought about at a crucial time in the history of our Society. The desire however to move forward has led to the proposed implementation of projects which do not necessarily meet the support of the Society as a whole. Such was the case of the much talked about SIC-ANMCO fusion, which would imply a radical transformation of the Italian cardiological scenario. I think, indeed, that the most important cardiological societies should maintain their specific identities.

The Italian Society of Cardiology, founded in 1935, represents the academic soul of cardiology and it has carried out a key-role in the process of defining cardiology as a distinct and autonomous science. In this perspective, one of the most important goals of SIC must be the educational process in our discipline: such target requires an educational annual program which will benefit from a network linking the headquarters of the Society in Rome, the Regional Chapters and the Schools of Cardiology across the country, with the aid and support of the new communication facilities. The preservation of the peculiarity of the different cardiological societies doesn’t affect the dignity of the Italian Cardiology but, indeed, it makes the cardiological community richer and comprehensive. Surely it will be necessary to promote synergic actions to carry out regional/national/international projects, taking advantages of tools such as the Italian Federation of Cardiology - FIC, which has an important role of co-ordination at national/international level. In the same line of thinking the convergence of SIC working groups with ANMCO areas and other cardiological societies can be accomplished in order to guarantee a stronger representation in Europe, but without sacrificing to such process the distinctive features of each actor. Coming to the national scene, where the cardiological science is at risk of fragmentation due to the expansion of subspecialties, it seems to me that the cultural identity of SIC is the real innovation, paradoxical as it may sound. I truly hope that also ANMCO, the other major Society in the Federation together with SIC, will share such vision and strategy.

In this brochure you will find the proposals the governing Board has devised in order to refreshen the educational activities as well as the quarterly-published SIC Journal, besides the preliminary program of the 68° SIC Congress to be held in Rome from December 15th to December 18th.

I hope that my comments will find ample support in the scientific community, and that suggestions and new ideas may be raised and proposed to SIC; they will be invaluable in helping SIC to realize a cultural growth as is required by the ever-changing and challenging scenarios of modern times.

Francesco Fedele
The official birth date of the Italian Society of Cardiology as such is March 20, 1956, when Prof. Luigi Condorelli as President and Prof. Vittorio Puddu as Secretary signed the official act in front of a public notary. However, an Italian Cardiological Group existed since 1935, thanks to a small group of pioneers in the field of cardiology that started regular meeting and publications.

The Italian Society of Cardiology is an organization, active in all fields related to cardiovascular diseases, characterized by:

**Close connection to Academic Cardiology**

The Italian Society of Cardiology has always been closely linked to Academic Cardiology. Most Professors of Cardiology of Italian Universities have identified the SIC as their representative scientific organization and have consistently and markedly contributed to the growth of the Society since its foundation.

**Strong commitment to Education and Research**

Possibly as a natural consequence of its ties with the academic world, the Italian Society of Cardiology has consistently paid attention to education and research in cardiovascular disease. Most Postgraduate Schools of Cardiology are directed by society members, and substantial resources have been invested by the Society in promoting basic and clinical research and in supporting young investigators.

**Home to all Cardiovascular Professionals**

The membership of the Italian Society of Cardiology includes Academic Cardiologists, Hospital Cardiologists, Practicing Cardiologists, and a number of other professionals active in the field of cardiovascular disease. The Italian Society of Cardiology is the widest Society present in Italy, where everyone active in the field of cardiovascular medicine, from the youngest trainees to established practitioners, from the office-based professional to the basic researcher have an opportunity to share their knowledge and contribute to the promotion of cardiovascular care.
The Board
SIC 2007-2008
President
Francesco Fedele
Vice President
Giuseppe Oreto
Secretary
Francesco Pizzuto
Treasurer
Giuseppe Mercuro
Councilors
Raffaele Bugiardini
Marco M. Ciccone
Cesare Fiorentini
Paolo Marino
Savina Nodari
Pasquale Perrone Filardi
Gaetano Thiene

The Headquarters
The SIC headquarters is located in Rome, Via Po 24

Scientific secretariat:
Elena Caporale elena.caporale@sicardiologia.it
Laura Pelargonio laura.pelargonio@sicardiologia.it
Laura Stasi laura.stasi@sicardiologia.it
segreteriascientifica@sicardiologia.it
corsi@sicardiologia.it
Tel. 06/85355854 Fax 06/85356799 - 85356927

Administration:
Antonella Amiconi antonella.amiconi@sicardiologia.it
Marilena Forni marilena.forni@sicardiologia.it
amministrazione@sicardiologia.it
Tel. 06/85355854 Fax 06/84081665
Raffaele Cirillo
AD-HOC committees

EDUCATION and CME COMMITTEE
Prof. Giuseppe Oreto, Chairman

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE
Prof. Paolo Marino, Chairman

WORKING GROUPS COMMITTEE
Prof. Marco M. Ciccone, Chairman

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE
Prof.ssa Savina Nodari, Chairman

WEB SITE COMMITTEE
Prof. Paolo Marino, Chairman

Working Groups

Prof. Marco Matteo Ciccone
Officer in charge of the SIC WG

Arterial hypertension and the Heart
Prof. Cesare Fiorentini

Cardiac surgery
Prof. Antonio Barsotti

Cardiology in the Elderly
Prof. Antonio Strano

Cardiovascular anatomy and pathology
Dott.ssa Ornella Leone

Cardiovascular disease in women
Prof. Giuseppe Rosano

Cellular biology of the heart
Prof.ssa Cristina Basso

Clinical epidemiology and cardiovascular prevention
Prof. Salvatore Novo

Clinical pharmacology
Prof. Claudio Borghi

Congenital heart disease
Prof. Luciano Daliento

Echocardiography
Dott. Maurizio Galderisi

Electrophysiology, arrhythmias, and cardiac pacing
Prof. Luigi Padeletti

Emergency
Prof. Igino Genuini

Exercise, sport and rehabilitation cardiology
Prof. Marco Guazzi

Heart Valve Diseases
Prof. Carlo Gaudio

Interventional cardiology
Prof. Francesco Romeo

Metabolic abnormalities, vascular biology, atherosclerosis and thrombosis
Prof. Alberico L. Catapano

Microcirculation
Prof. Mario Marzilli

Myocardial function, cardiomyopathies and heart failure
Prof. Marco Metra

NMR and CT scans in cardiology
Prof. Federico Lombardi

Nuclear cardiology
Dott. Alfredo R. Galassi

Nursing in cardiology
Dott. Enrico Gianfranceschi

Peripheral circulation
Prof. Marco M. Ciccone

Pulmonary circulation and right ventricular function
Prof. Nazzareno Galìè

Informatics and telecardiology
Dott. Giuseppe Molinari

Introduction to Working Groups

The Italian Society of Cardiology has promoted 24 working groups. The function of a working group is to promote and organize research in specific areas; together and exchange information, contribute to the organization of the annual congress and autonomous meetings and symposia. Each working group has a chairman, a nucleus and members chosen for their competence in the field.

All working groups shall submit an annual scientific report to the SIC board for approval. The working groups can be contacted through the Scientific Secretariat. A complete list of SIC working groups is included:
Regional Chapters of the SIC
Years 2007-2008

Abruzzese Molisana Chapter
Chairman: Prof.ssa Sabina Gallina
e-mail: sgallina@unicib.it

Apulo-Lucana Chapter
Chairman: Prof. Marco Matteo Ciccone
e-mail: ciccone@tin.it

Calabrese Chapter
Chairman: Ciro Indolfi
e-mail: indolfi@unicz.it

Campana Chapter
Chairman: Prof. Sandro Betocchi
e-mail: sandro.betocchi@unina.it

Emiliano-Romagnolo-Marchigiana Chapter
Chairman: Prof. Fernando M. Picchio
e-mail: fernando.picchio@unibo.it

Laziale Chapter
Chairman: Prof. Francesco Romeo
e-mail: romeocerabino@tin.it

Ligure Chapter
Chairman: Dott. Giovanni Gnecco
e-mail: giovanni.gnecco@unige.it

Lombarda Chapter
Chairman: Prof. Marco Metra
e-mail: metramarco@libero.it

Piemontese-Valdostana Chapter
Chairman: Prof. Paolo Marino
e-mail: paolo.marino@maggioreosp.novara.it.it

Sarda Chapter
Chairman: Prof. Luigi Meloni
e-mail: luigimeloni@pacs.unica.it

Siciliana Chapter
Chairman: Prof. Salvatore Novo
e-mail: novosar@unipa.it

Tosco-Umbra Chapter
Chairman: Prof. Mario Mariani
e-mail: mmariani@med.unipi.it

Triveneta Chapter
Chairman: Prof. Gianfranco Sinagra
e-mail: gianfranco.sinagra@aots.sanita.fvg.it

Scientific Meetings of Regional Chapters

2007-11-16 Chieti
Update on Cardiomyopathies and Heart Failure

2007-09-07 Bari
Update and future perspectives in cardiac rehabilitation and sport cardiology

2007-10-13 Catanzaro
Update in cardiology

2007-10-26 Napoli
Arrhythmias, atherosclerosis and anticoagulant therapy

2007-11-03 Roma
Update in cardiology: Acute coronary syndromes

2007-11-17 Genova
Update on cardiovascular disorders

2007-11-07 Torino
Update in valve disease, CRT, and Coronary Disease

2007-11-10 Cagliari
Ischemic Heart Disease

2007-10-12 Messina
Sicilian Cardiological Day

2007-10-10 Pisa
Echocardiography and Hemodynamics today
The 68° National Congress is the annual most important scientific and educational event of the Italian Society of Cardiology. It is addressed to Italian and foreign cardiologists, general physicians, nurses and other specialists as well. The Congress Committee will be assisted in defining the program by a large number of experts included in the Congress Program Committee. Large space will be dedicated to new devices and new technologies and to innovative educational methods. We wish to create a new SIC with a congressual program more completed and articulated. We can obtain these results only with a great support: your participation and comments will tell us if this process was carried on successfully.

Annual Congress of the Italian Society of Cardiology:

**Congress Committee**

Francesco Fedele
Raffaele Bugiardini
Giuseppe Ambrosio
Matteo Di Biase
Pasquale Perrone Filardi
Giuseppe Specchia
Corrado Tamburino

President of the Congress
Scientific Coordinator
Advisor
Advisor
Advisor
Advisor

**Congress Program Committee**

Susanna Sciomer
Antonio Bartorelli
Luciano Daliento
Marisa Di Donato
Giuseppe Germanò
Eugenio Martuscelli
Marco Metra
Giuseppe Novelli
Luigi Padeletti
Gianfranco Parati
Silvio Romano
Gian Franco Sinagra
Paolo Voci

Vice-Coordinator
Topic: Ischemic Heart Disease
Topic: Congenital Heart Disease, Pulmonary Circulation, and Valve Disease
Topic: Vascular Disease and Stroke
Topic: Hypertension
Topic: Interventional cardiology
Topic: Heart Failure
Topic: Genetics and molecular biology
Topic: Arrhythmias
Topic: Education, Research, and Telecardiology
Topic: Population Science
Topic: Cardiomyopathies
Topic: Cardiovascular Imaging
**Ischemic Heart Disease**

**Meet the expert**
- Perspectives in coronary revascularization for ST-elevation Myocardial Infarction: “a look to the future”

**Symposia**
- Late Myocardial Infarction: revascularization or medical therapy?
- Coronary microcirculation: from bench to bedside

**Debates**
- Treating left ventricular remodelling
- Chronic ischemic heart disease
- CCU: a time for a change?
- Drugs for primary prevention of IHD: who should be treated, who should not be treated and which agent?
- Evaluating vulnerable plaques
- Sex differences in IHD
- IHD and renal failure: current concepts and clinical dilemma
- Transient severe left ventricular dysfunction
- Oxidative stress, reactive oxygen species, and vascular damage
- Inflammation and autoimmunity in ACS
- Chronic coronary occlusions: clinical advance or operator stubborness?

**Lectures**
- A. Dagianti lecture: Life after myocardial infarction, coronary artery bypass graft surgery and percutaneous coronary intervention: the power of exercise
- A. Reale Lecture: Oxidized LDL, a critical factor in atherogenesis
- The management of chronic stable angina in 2007
- Ibernating Myocardium: pathophysiological exercise or clinical opportunity?

**Congenital Heart Disease, Pulmonary Circulation, and Valve Disease**

**Meet the expert**
- Aortic disease and peripheral vascular disease
- Appropriate diagnosis and update treatment of pulmonary hypertension

**Symposia**
- The fate of the right ventricle in grown-up congenital heart diseases.
- Pulmonary embolism: a new scenario?
- Gas exchanges and regulation of pulmonary fluids in physiology and pathology
- New perspectives in mitral valve disease
- Infective endocarditis: the need for an integrated management
- New perspectives in aortic valve disease

**Debates**
- Mitral regurgitation in heart failure: how and when to treat
- Cardiovascular effects of altitude
- The adult patient with congenital heart disease

**Vascular disease and stroke**

**Symposia**
- Early markers of atherosclerosis

**Lecture**
- New therapies for atherothrombosis

**Hypertension**

**Symposia**
- Hypertension and organ damage
- Arterial dysfunction

**Lectures**
- ESC/ESH guidelines for hypertension

**Interventional cardiology**

**Meet the expert**
- Interventional cardiology

**Symposia**
- Hot Topics in Interventional Cardiology
- Left main angioplasty: forget it or not?
- DES
- When and why recenterize chronic occlusions

**Lectures**
- Pediatric interventional cardiology
- Solved and created problems in coronary interventions

**Heart Failure**

**Meet the expert**
- Clinical assessment of cardiac insufficiency

**Symposia**
- Treatment of severe heart failure: an open question
- Cardio-renal syndrome
- Atrial fibrillation and heart failure: a “liason dangerous”?
- Dyspnea and heart failure: are you sure you know everything about causes and remedies?
- Update on chronic heart failure: beyond hemodynamic and neurohumoral effects
- Acute heart failure

Genetics and molecular biology

Symposia
- Open questions in cardiovascular genetics
- Cardiogenomics and prevention: from susceptibility tests to pharmacogenomics

Lectures
- Molecular autopsy: from the pathology theater to the double elix
- Biological and genetic basis of atherosclerosis
- How many models of cell death? New classification of apoptosis

Arrhythmias

Symposia
- Update on sudden death prevention: educational and logistic aspects
- Arrhythmic risk stratification in dilated cardiomyopathy

Debates
- Prognostic impact of ICD and CRT
- Prognosis in AF
- Open questions in arrhythmias

Lecture
- Electrocardiography: the role of the EKG in the third millennium

Education, research and telecardiology

Symposia
- Cardiology and the heart failure network
- Quality, education, and training in Post-graduate Schools of Cardiology
- Heart failure: diagnostic protocols and managed care
- Telecardiology: are we ready to apply to patient care?
- Nanotechnologies in cardiology

Round Table
- Thirty years of Academic cardiology
- Health, Education, Economy, and Ethics: scientific societies meet regulatory authorities
- The “biological will” between euthanasia and obstinate treatment

Lecture
- The idea of the heart in the psychological approach to the cardiac patient
- Cardiology between myth and reality: yesterday, today and tomorrow

Population Science

Symposia
- The cardiologist and the family physician: a key interplay for primary prevention
- Cardiology and professional sport
- Diabetes as a cardiovascular disease
- Assessment of cardiac risk in non-cardiac surgery
- Cardiovascular diseases and sleep disorders
- Clinical relevance of additive effects of cardiovascular drugs
- Contraceptives and HRT. The need for cooperation between cardiology and gynecology
- The relevance or reaching and maintaining therapeutic targets in secondary prevention of IHD
- Cardiology in geriatric age
- Cardiological implications of migratory fluxes
- Obesity and cardiovascular risk: from the adipocyte to the clinical event
- Outcome studies as an independent resource of cardiovascular research and clinical appropriateness: possible applications
- Cardiovascular risk stratification: emerging factors, imaging and biochimics

Lectures
- A. Brusca Lecture: Women and Heart Disease
- S. Caponnetto Lecture: Targeting clinical trials
- The metabolic syndrome: why?
- The culture of emergency in Cardiology

Cardiomyopathies

Symposia
- When to perform and how to evaluate endomyocardial biopsies
- Pericarditis, myocarditis, and inflammatory cardiomyopathies: what’s new?
- Controversial aspects in cardiomyopathies
- Cardiomyopathies and systemic disorders: when the Cardiologist turns in Internist
Cardiovascular Imaging

Meet the expert
- Non invasive imaging in the assessment of chest pain syndromes

Symposia
- Echocardiography in the commonest diseases of the western world: balancing information needs with limited resources
- Myocardial viability. Comparing techniques to see what’s better: the old or the new?
- Integrated imaging in the assessment of IHD
- Echocardiography in the assessment of cardiac abnormalities in systemic disorders
- Guidelines for quantitative assessment of cardiac chambers
- Interatrial septum aneurism

Lecture
- Non invasive imaging of atherosclerosis

Special sessions for nurses and cardiovascular technicians

Grants and Awards of the Italian Society of Cardiology - SIC:
Research grants for PhD students in Cardiovascular science or related topics. Awards for PhD graduates in Cardiovascular Science and for Cardiology Fellows; Research grants “SIC-Fondazione Aventis - Gruppo Sanofi Aventis”; Career Award “Mauro Villani”; Research Award SIC-Bristol Myers Squibb “Diastolic Heart Failure”; Award and Grants of the Italian Federation of Cardiology “FIC-Fondazione Aventis - Gruppo Sanofi Aventis”.
Informations available on: www.sicardiologia.it

Scholar in Cardiology:
The Italian Society of Cardiology (SIC) has established the title of “Scholar in Cardiology”. This is an honorary title the Society confers to Members with outstanding scientific achievements and an international reputation. Details on: www.sicardiologia.it

➤ Congress Venue:
Hotel Cavalieri Hilton
Rome
December 15-18, 2007
SIC Congress Web site:
www.sicardiologia.it
The Teaching Mission of Italian Society of Cardiology: an old and new issue

The Board of the Italian Society of Cardiology (SIC) is going to fulfil several new projects, most of which involving the Society Educational Mission. The first project is a “Textbook of Cardiovascular Disease” for medical students. Although several textbooks of cardiology are available, not all of them are correctly sized: some are too simplistic, some are too complex, and more suitable to fellows than to students in the 3rd or 4th year of the medical school. Furthermore, a problem currently affecting all books of Medicine is the extremely outdated.

To overcome these problems, the SIC board has planned a textbook that is: 1) specifically aimed to facilitate learning of Cardiovascular Medicine, and 2) updatable yearly or even every 6 months. This textbook will be available free to all students, and will contain, in a concise format, all the bulk of knowledge in Cardiology.

The book is currently being written by Italian Professors of Cardiology, and will be available soon as an e-book that students can download from the SIC web site.

A second project for medical students concerns a specific Course on the diagnosis and treatment of cardiac arrest. Students should follow a one-day course twice in their study career, to become expert in diagnosing and treating sudden death. BLSD courses widely offered in Italy are addressed to non-medical personnel; it is, therefore, mandatory that medical students to become doctors require a specific and knowledge of this very important topic.

A more ambitious project concerns the Cardiology Fellows. This is named “Scuola Italiana di Cardiologia” (Italian School of Cardiology). All the University Schools of Cardiology have been invited to contribute to this project, aimed at a common educational program. Teachers will lecture in Rome at the SIC headquarters, and fellows will follow the class through an Internet link. Fellows will be enabled not only to see and listen to the teacher, but also to interact with questions and answers.

The Board of the Italian Society of Cardiology wish to reinforce the educational mission of the Society, already highly considered in the past, and plans to give a new push to this area taking advantage of modern communication technologies.

Giuseppe Oreto

The Education Committee of the Italian Society of Cardiology has launched several projects including

- E-Book of cardiovascular medicine for medical students
All Italian Professors of cardiology have been invited to contribute to this textbook. Free downloading of the e-book will be offered to all medical students as a base of their cardiological culture.

- BLSD course for medical students
The Italian Society of Cardiology SIC will train experts to disseminate this capacity in all interested peripheral sites. The Course will include a formal lesson, that will be recorded on CD and made available to all instructors. Direct training and final test will be later administered at the Headquarters. The Course is directed to Cardiology Fellows and will comply with the Guide Lines for First Aid of the American Heart Association and International Lyason Committee on Resuscitation 2005.
The course duration is three days and includes training on group management, teaching material, and memorizing techniques for BLSD protocol.
- **Italian School of Cardiology (SIC)**
  The Society is planning a Course of Advanced Cardiology for Fellows and alike to be delivered on-line from the Headquarters to all Postgraduate Schools of Cardiology. “Scientific meetings of regional Chapters”. The society encourages annual scientific meetings of the regional chapters to be focused on topic of special interest and to be open to young investigators.

**Teleconference Courses**

**SIC Masters**

II Level Master in Information and Communication Technology in Cardiology
La Sapienza University of Rome
www.uniroma1.it

*Aim of the Master:* to fill the gap between new technologies and their clinical and diagnostic applications. *Topics of the Master:* Anatomy, Physiology, Cardiovascular Pathology and Pathophysiology, Cardiovascular Physics, Informatics, Statistics, Sociology, Communication and Information technology, new imaging techniques, simulation techniques. *Admission criteria:* University Degree in Medicine, Physics, Engineering, Informatics.

*The Master lasts* 1 year. *It will start on* March-April 2008. *Fee:* 4500 euro. *The deadline for application:* December 2007. *Informations* on www.uniroma1.it or contact Prof. F. Fedele francesco.fedele@uniroma1.it

**Master in Cardiovascular Pathology**

University of Padua

*Aim of the Master:* to increase the knowledge in the field of anatomy and pathology of cardiovascular diseases, from congenital to acquired conditions and from physiopathology to basic sciences. In particular, it permits a vocational training to master the most important methods which are utilized...
in cardiovascular pathology (autopsy protocol and techniques, gross examination of heart specimens, histology, immunohistochemistry, confocal microscopy, histomorphometry, study of conduction system, transmission and scanning electron microscopy, molecular pathology).

**Topics of the Master:** Pathomorphology and molecular pathology, clinical pathology, surgical pathology

**Admission criteria:** MD degree, Post-graduate training in Pathological Anatomy, or Cardiology, or Forensic Medicine, or Cardiac Surgery

**Start:** January 2008

**Fee:** 2.025,31 euro

**Deadline for application form is** August 2007

**Informations on** www.unipd.it/master/index.htm or contact Prof. C. Basso cristina.basso@unipd.it

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**II Level Master in Vascular Disease - Coordinated by Prof. Salvatore Novo University of Palermo**

**Aim of the Master:** is to create figures of high qualification profile in the field of vascular disease. In this field there is not actually in Italy any specialty school with European qualification topics to acquire knowledge in the field of vascular disease including arterial disease of atherosclerotic origin, vasculitis, venous and linfatic disease acquire notions concerning non invasive diagnostic tools (ultrasound, MRI, CT scan...) and therapy.

**Admission criteria:** graduation in Medicine. The master is suggested to doctors working in the field of Cardiology or in attaining areas (Internal Medicine, Geriatrics, General and Vascular Surgery, Neurology).

**The Master lasts** 2 years.

**It will start on** November 1st 2007

**Fee** 2000,00 euro for year

**Deadline for application form is:** October 1st 2007.

The master won’t be activated if the minimum number of participants is not reached.

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**II Level Master in Non-invasive cardiovascular diagnosis - Coordinated by Prof. Salvatore Novo University of Palermo**

**Aim of the Master:** is to create figures of high qualification profile in performing and interpreting non invasive tests in Cardiology using the most recent scientific and technological knowledge.

**Topics of the Master** will be: how to correctly and reproducibly perform ECG, bicycle or treadmill stress testing, echocardiography, stress echo, transesophageal echo, SPECT myocardial scintigraphy after physical or pharmacological stress, MNR, multidetector Computed 64 slice tomography) according to the European standard.

**Admission criteria:** graduation in Medicine. The Master is suggested to doctors working in the field of Cardiology or in attaining areas (Internal Medicine, Geriatrics, Sport medicine, and Emergency).

**The Master lasts** 2 years. The program include 1500 hours of activity: 300 hours of lectures and workshops, 400 hours of practical activity and 800 hours of self learning. It will confer 60 credits.

**The Fee is** 2500,00 euro

**Deadline for application form is** October 1st 2007.

The master won’t be activated if the minimum number of five participants is not reached.

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**II Level Master in Pediatric Cardiology Bologna University**

**Aim of the Master:** professional training in pediatric cardiology: how to make a correct clinical and non-invasive diagnosis; how to define a treatment plan for cardiopathies in children and adolescents.

**Topics of the Master** Cardiovascular Physiopathology, Cardiovascular Instrumental Features, Neonatology, Clinical Pediatrics, Cardiovascular Medical Therapy, Cardiac Surgery Therapy, Cardiovascular Pathology, Cardiovascular Radiology Imaging

**Admission criteria:** MD degree and specialization in Cardiology or Pediatrics or equivalent.

**The Master lasts** 1 year.

**It will start on** February 18th, 2008.

**Fee:** First Instalment: euro 2000,00; Second Instalment: euro 2000,00.

**Deadline for application form:** December 31, 2007.
II Level Master in Sport Cardiology
University of L’Aquila

Aim of the Master: to prepare professional experts in sport cardiology.
Topics of the Master are cardiovascular adaptations to exercise in the normal subject and in the athletes and in extreme conditions; eligibility to agonistic activity and cardiovascular diseases: cardiac arrhythmias, valvular heart diseases, systemic hypertension, coronary artery disease, congenital heart diseases, heart failure; clinical emergencies during sports activities
Admission criteria: MD degree and Specialty in Sport Medicine or Cardiology.
The Master lasts 1 year.
It will start on January 2008.
Fee: 2000 euro.
Deadline for application form is: September 2007
Informations on www.univaq.it

II Level Master in Peri-operative Transesophageal Echocardiography
University of L’Aquila

Aim of the Master is to prepare professionals for evaluation and monitoring of cardiovascular diseases in the peri-operative phase and in post-operative Intensive Care Unit.
Topics of the Master are basic principles of M-Mode, 2D and Doppler echocardiography; Applications of trans-toracic (TTE) and transesophageal echocardiography (TEE) in the evaluation of patients with ischemic heart disease, valvular heart diseases, heart failure; Applications of TTE and TEE and of others imaging techniques in the evaluation of the aorta; Applications of TTE and TEE in cardiovascular emergencies; Applications of TTE and TEE in post-operative Intensive Care Unit.
Admission criteria: MD degree and Speciality in Anaesthesiology or Cardiology.
The Master lasts 2 years.
It will start on January 2008
Fee: 2000 euro
Deadline for application form is: September 2007.
Informations on www.univaq.it

I Level Master in Nursing in Cardiologic Critical Area - University of L’Aquila

Aim of the Master is to prepare professionals in Cardiologic Critical Areas, including Coronary Care Unit, Post- Cardiac Surgery Intensive Care Unit, Catheterization and Electrophysiology Laboratories.

Topics of the Master are Scientific evidence and nursing research in cardiologic critical area; Clinical Nursing in Intensive Cardiac Care Unit; Cardiovascular diagnostic tools; Cardiac nursing in out-of-hospital setting.
Admission criteria: Nursing Degree or an equivalent qualification.
The Master lasts 1 year.
It will start on January 2008.
Fee: 2000 euro.
Deadline for application form is: September 2007.
Informations on www.univaq.it

II Level Master in Hemodynamics and Interventional cardiology - University of Naples

Aim of the Master: to prepare Cardiologists expert in interventional procedures with emphasis on invasive treatment of acute coronary syndromes.
Topics of the Master: Myocardial ischemia (acute and chronic coronary syndromes), Peripheral artery disease, Congenital cardiovascular diseases.
Admission criteria: MD degree, License to medical practice in the European Community.
The Master lasts 2 years.
Start: to be established.
Fee: 6000 Euro/year.
Deadline for application form is: to be established.
Informations on www.unina.it or e-mail to Dr. A. Rapacciuolo: rapacciu@unina.it

II Level Master in Cardiac rehabilitation
University of Naples

Aim of the Master: acquisition of the fundamental physiopathologic and clinical concepts, methodologic approach, core contents, standard protocols and results of comprehensive Cardiac Rehabilitation.
Topics of the Master: Cardiovascular epidemiology, Primary and secondary cardiovascular prevention, exercise physiology, exercise training protocols and guidelines after AMI, cardiac surgery, heart failure and other cardiovascular conditions.
Admission criteria: Magistral Graduation in Medicine and Surgery.
The Master lasts: 12 months.
It started: May 7, 2007.
Fee: 2500 euro.
Deadline for application form was: January 8, 2007
Informations : Prof. C. Vigorito Tel: 081-7462639, vigorito@unina.it
Pubblications:

SIC Newspaper SIC ET SIMPLICITER

Nobody wants to forget the glorious SIC et Simpliciter, but we felt it was time to innovate the SIC newspaper: the aim of the new paper is to start an interactive dialogue between SIC and the “remaining of the world”. In particular, we want to expand to a broader audience that is often is not adequately informed about SIC activities. We feel that it’s time to identify new partners in the national and international community, including Government, Medical Institutions, Media, and the general population. Spreading out our ideas and comparing them with others we bring better results.

Journal of Cardiovascular Medicine

Together with ANMCO, SIC is strongly involved in the Giornale Italiano di Cardiologia and in the Journal of Cardiovascular Medicine, peer-review publications of the Italian Federation of Cardiology, that are published in Italian and English respectively.

WEB Site:

www.sicardiologia.it

SIC Scientific Center

Although there is little doubt that observational databases can characterize trends in management and patient outcome and identify prognostic factors, it remains controversial whether they can be used to evaluate therapy. Our opinion is that observational data bases can and should play an important role in the evaluation of therapy. By design, a data base is relatively nonselective, so that the entire spectrum of patients with disease is represented. Many patients included in a clinical data base would not be included in a randomized trial. In the Coronary Artery Surgery Study, for instance, only 13% of patients met all eligibility criteria for randomization, and only 4.2% of patients in the Duke Cardiovascular Disease Databank met these same eligibility criteria. The broad spectrum of patients in a clinical data base permits analysis of subgroups excluded from or poorly represented in randomized studies. A number of observational studies have been published from registries that have considerably enhanced the value of the overall investigation, including examinations of the efficacy of coronary bypass surgery in the elderly, those with poor left ventricular function and those with acute coronary syndrome. An observational data base is also helpful in providing corroborative evidence when randomized trial data are relatively sparse. In addition, observational data bases can provide key contextual data for identifying patients with poor outcomes likely to benefit from therapy, as well as providing initial estimates of the efficacy of therapy. We are proud to announce that the Italian Society of Cardiology have produced a Center logo for the Study of arrhythmias, heart failure, and ischemic heart disease.

Raffaele Bugiardini
Project: Developing Countries

The Italian Society of Cardiology supports four months visits of Italian Cardiology Fellows to Mozambique and Uganda. They visit the Cardiology Department of the Eduardo Mondlane University of Maputo (Mozambique) and of the St Mary’s Lacor Hospital in Gulu (Uganda) which is one of the sites where Gulu University Medical School is located. The Italian Society of Cardiology cover the travel and insurance costs, while lodging and meals are offered free (Gulu) or at low cost (Maputo) by the guest hospitals.

This is turnig out as a great experience for our Fellows who get exposed to tropical cardiovascular diseases and in general to the practice of medicine in emerging countries.

Both locations offer reasonably good cardiological facilities with non-invasive laboratories. Fellows are supervised by local and international medical staff. So far, nine fellows have visited Gulu (Uganda) e six Maputo. All reported an enthusiastic experience both in personal and professional terms.

FINSIC: a branch of SIC

Created years ago by SIC and recently updated (see art.14 of the statute of SIC), Finsic srl is an operative financial branch meant to support SIC.

Once decisions have been taken by the board of SIC, its financial branch will help to organize the planned activities, and will promote communication and diffuse the information on the events in the Italian cardiological community. Therefore, Finsic srl does organise congresses, meetings, seminars, educational courses for continuous medical updating and initiatives to diffuse knowledge and promote the progress of Cardiology. In addition, Finsic srl supports SIC in publishing journals, periodicals, books and audiovisual programs, Publicity and public relationships enhancement, within available media and administrative and secretarial services.

Current President of Finsic is Prof. Francesco Romeo
The Italian Heart and circulation foundation is a non profit organization, promoted by the Italian Society of Cardiology, in order to increase awareness and improve prevention of cardiovascular diseases.

The Foundation supports research and education and collects funds to be invested in direct or indirect promotion and diffusion of knowledge of cardiovascular diseases.

The Foundation has an Administrative Committee chaired by Professor SalvatoreNovo and formed by Professors Mario Marzilli, Francesco Arrigo, Roberto Ferrari, Maria Penco and a Scientific Council chaired by Professor Sabino Iliceto and formed by Professors Raffaele Calabrò, Filippo Crea, Germano Di Sciascio, Francesco Romeo and Gaetano Thiene.

The main activity of the Foundation is to raise found to be invested in cardiovascular research as:

a. research grants for young investigators;
b. fellowship for young cardiologists;
c. scientific network between PhD in Pathophysiology and Cardiovascular Science in Italy;
d. educational campaigns on primary prevention promoting life style changes, in interaction with the Ministry of Health and with the Ministry of Education and with RAI educational for a larger diffusion;
e. educational campaigns on the therapeutic target to be reached and maintained in secondary prevention of cardiovascular disease, in cooperation with pharmaceutical companies;
f. prevention of sudden death by increasing the number of BLSD instructors and by diffusing the use of semiautomatic defibrillators in stadium, airports, and in general well attended, in cooperation with regional and national authorities and with companies producing devices;
g. organization of the World Day for the Heart promoted each year by the World Heart Federation;
h. propose multicenter national or international studies;
i. promote national registers on cardiovascular diseases.

Salvatore Novo