

# ∞ Italian Society of Cardiology

# 2007

SIC  
PATIENT CARE,  
EDUCATION  
AND RESEARCH

[ *Blending tradition  
with innovation* ]



SIC - SOCIETÀ ITALIANA DI CARDIOLOGIA



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## CONTRIBUTIONS OF SIC TO CARDIOLOGY

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## P

### resident address to European Cardiologists



“Dear friends and colleagues,  
As you may know, my first involvement in the Italian Society of Cardiology-SIC goes back to the end of the 80's, and since then I have had the privilege of serving in many positions. I feel strongly responsible as SIC President to maintain and further define its identity. The Italian Society of Cardiology, founded in 1935, represents the academic soul of cardiology and 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 the SIC must be education: such a 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 all over the Country, supported by the new communication facilities. Preserving the peculiarity of the various cardiological societies doesn't affect the dignity of Italian Cardiology, but makes the cardiological community richer and comprehensive. Surely it will be necessary to promote synergic actions to carry out regional/national/international projects, taking advantage of tools such as the Italian Federation of Cardiology-FIC, which develops an important national/international coordination role. 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 strong Italian representation in Europe, but without annihilating the distinctive features of each actor. Coming to the national scene, where the cardiologic science is at risk of fragmentation due to the expansion of subspecialties, my sense is that the “holistic” cultural SIC identity is a real innovation, even though it may sound paradoxical. The 69th SIC Congress aims to reinforce the solid basis of the Italian cardiologic tradition. Although there will be a lot of joint symposia with European and American Scientific Societies, that will represent an important moment of comparison and growth, SIC Congress wants to underline the importance of Italian cardiologic culture.

Medicine is going more and more toward super-specialization: in cardiology, the introduction of new and sophisticated imaging methods and new devices for treatment of cardiovascular disease could lead, as an adverse event, to fragmentation of cardiologic culture and to hyper-specialization of young cardiologists. During the congress, therefore, we will restate the importance of the global approach that cannot be anyway replaced with the new technologies which must represent a valid support to the reasoning and clinical-diagnostic wisdom without replacing them.

According to our purpose to join tradition and innovation, spaces dedicated to new technologies and their clinical, scientific and educational role will be expanded. In this brochure you will find the proposals aimed at refreshing the educational activities, as well as the preliminary program of the 69° SIC Congress to be held in Rome from December 13th to December 16th 2008.

I wish that the scientific community will widely agree with my comments and that new issues may be proposed to SIC: they will be an invaluable help in favouring cultural growth as the ever-changing and challenging scenarios of modern time require.”

Francesco Fedele  
President

“Happiness and peace  
of the heart come from  
doing what we consider  
right and dutiful,  
and not from doing  
what other people  
use to say or do.”

Mahatma Gandhi

2008

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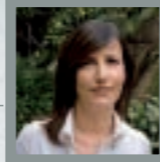
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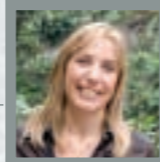
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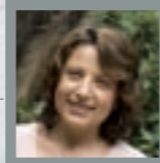
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## THE ITALIAN SOCIETY OF CARDIOLOGY AND THE ITALIAN FEDERATION OF CARDIOLOGY

The Italian Society of Cardiology adheres to the Italian Federation of Cardiology (FIC), whose role is: 1) to coordinate initiatives and projects in the cardiovascular field, 2) to present uniform position to regulatory authorities, and 3) to represent Italy in the international context. We wish FIC will become more and more an instrument to coordinate all Italian Cardiology groups.



SOCIETÀ ITALIANA DI CARDIOLOGIA

### THE ITALIAN SOCIETY OF CARDIOLOGY-SIC

#### A historical note

The Italian Society of cardiology was officially born on March 20, 1956, when Luigi Condorelli as president and Vittorio Puddu as secretary signed the official act in front of a public notary. An Italian Cardiological Group, however, was active since 1935, thanks to a small group of pioneers which started regular meetings and publications focused on Heart Disease.

*[If I can stop one  
Heart from  
breaking I shall  
not live invain.]*  
Emily Dickinson



### FINSIC srl a branch of SIC

Created years ago by SIC and recently updated (see article 14 of SIC statute). FINSIC is an operative financial branch aimed at supporting SIC in any institutional activity.

Once decisions have been taken by the SIC board, its financial branch will help organize the planned activities, and operates to promote communication and to spread information about the events. The FINSIC role, thus, is to implement congresses, meetings, seminars, and educational courses for continuing medical updating, and any other initiative useful to promote progress of Cardiology. In addition, FINSIC helps SIC with publishing journals, periodicals, books and audiovisual materials, promotes public relationships enhancement, and provides administrative and secretarial services.



**Francesco Romeo**  
President of FINSIC

# WORKING GROUPS

## INTRODUCTION TO WORKING GROUPS

The Italian Society of Cardiology has generated 27 working groups.

The functions of a working group are:

1. to promote and organize research in specific areas,
2. to favour information exchange,
3. to contribute to the organization of both the annual SIC congress and other meetings and symposia.

Each working group has a chairman, a nucleus and members selected for their competence in the field. The SIC website ([www.sicardiologia.it](http://www.sicardiologia.it)) provides information on each group.

All working groups submit an annual scientific report to the SIC board for approval.

Working groups can be contacted through the Scientific Secretariat ([laura.stasi@sicardiologia.it](mailto:laura.stasi@sicardiologia.it))

**Marco M. Ciccone**  
Chairman of working groups

*Keep love in your heart. A loveless life looks like a gloomy garden whose flowers are barren. The awareness of giving and receiving love contributes such a warmth and wealth to life as nothing else can do.*

Oscar Wilde



# Regional Chapters of the SIC

Working Groups Working Groups Working Groups Working Groups Working Groups Working Groups Working Groups Working Groups

*Atherosclerosis*  
**ALBERICO L. CATAPANO**  
*Cardiac Surgery*  
**CLAUDIO MUNERETTO**  
*Cardiology in the elderly*  
**ANTONIO FERRARI**  
*Cardiomyopathies and Pericardial Disease*  
**GAETANO THIENE**  
*Cardiovascular Pathology*  
**ANNALISA ANGELINI**  
*Cardiovascular Pharmacology*  
**CLAUDIO CECONI**  
*Cellular Biology and the Heart*  
**ISABELLA TRITTO**

*Clinical Epidemiology and Cardiovascular Prevention*  
**ROBERTO PEDRINELLI**  
*Coronary Physiology and Microcirculation*  
**LEONARDA GALIUTO**  
*Echocardiography*  
**SERGIO MONDILLO**  
*Electrophysiology, Arrhythmias and Cardiac Pacing*  
**GIUSEPPE BORIANI**  
*Emergency*  
**CORRADO CECCHETTI**  
*Exercise, Sport and Rehabilitation*  
**MASSIMO PIEPOLI**  
*Heart Failure*  
**MARCO METRA**

*Heart Valve Disease*  
**CARLO GAUDIO**  
*Hypertension and the Heart*  
**CÉSARE FIORENTINI**  
*Gender and Cardiovascular Disease*  
**GIUSEPPE MERCURO**  
*Interventional Cardiology*  
**GERMANO DI SCIASCIO**  
*Magnetic Resonance Imaging*  
**MASSIMO LOMBARDI**  
*Myocardial Function*  
**RENATO RAZZOLINI**  
*Nuclear Cardiology and CT scan in Cardiology*  
**PIERLUIGI PIERI**

*Nursing in Cardiology*  
**ANGELINA LIBERTAZZI**  
*Peripheral Circulation*  
**GREGORIO BREVETTI**  
*Phlebology*  
**ALDO GALEANDRO**  
*Pulmonary Circulation and Right Ventricular Function*  
**CARLO MARINI**  
*Telecardiology and Informatics*  
**MAURIZIO VOLTERRANI**  
*Thrombosis*  
**VITTORIO PENGO**

## Presentation

**T**he 69th National Congress of the Italian Society of Cardiology (SIC) represents the most important scientific and educational event of Cardiology Science in Italy. The meeting will be addressed to cardiologists, general physicians and other specialists. The specific aim of the meeting is to provide a forum where the basic and clinical sciences exchange their ideas with each other in order to carry on a relevant and timely translational research. In this meeting, the progress on the new devices and technologies, as well as the new educational methods, will be reviewed. Broad-based clinical and laboratory research presentations will guide researchers to the main clinical questions and will guide clinicians to set best practice standards for data collection and clinical care. Special attention will be paid to the involvement of young investigators, trainees, and scientists and clinicians from underrepresented communities. Most of you practice cardiology; and many of you do research or teach. Regardless, this is your Society of Cardiology. For more than half a century, the Italian Society of Cardiology has jointed academic and practitioner cardiologists with cardiac surgeons in sharing the commitment of helping cardiac patients. The founders of the Italian Society of Cardiology believed that continuing education was an indispensable ingredient of high-quality care. They knew that if you want to provide the very best care, there is much to know and always more to learn. That's still true today, and it will always be true. This year, however, we will not talk about the science of medicine, but we will underline another vital aspect of our professional lives: the art of medicine. For years, the art of medicine has focused on the precious and unique interaction between a patient and his or her physician. It reflects the value of caring, compassion, and communication. Although the art of medicine may not be as newsworthy as scientific breakthroughs or as exciting as bold new procedures, it is equally relevant. Finally, we would like to look forward. Some individuals, including some doctors, are pessimistic about the future of medicine in Italy. But they are wrong! The future of cardiology is especially promising for our new young doctors and for our patients. Italy's research has been re-energized, and our academic medical centers are producing a new generation of bright men and women willing to deliver high-quality care as cardiovascular specialists. We wish to thank the FINSIC president Professor Francesco Romeo, all the experts of the Congress Committee and Technical-Scientific Committee that have contributed to plan the meeting.

Francesco Fedele  
SIC President

Raffaele Bugiardini  
Congress Chairman

# ANNUAL CONGRESS OF THE ITALIAN SOCIETY OF CARDIOLOGY

Hotel Cavalieri Hilton  
and Villa Miani  
Rome, December 13/16 - 2008

## CONGRESS SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Raffaele Bugiardini *Chairman*  
Giuseppe Ambrosio  
Luigi Padeletti  
Pasquale Perrone Filardi  
Giuseppe Specchia  
Corrado Tamburino

## CONGRESS SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Antonio Bartorelli  
Cristina Basso  
Luciano Daliento  
Raffaele De Caterina  
Fiorenzo Gaita  
Giuseppe Germanò  
Eugenio Martuscelli  
Marco Metra  
Giuseppe Novelli  
Salvatore Novo  
Maria Penco  
Susanna Sciomer  
Gian Franco Sinagra  
Paolo Voci

*[ A heart is a non-marketable wealth: it can only be donated ]*

Gustave Flaubert

## Arrhythmias SYMPOSIA

Atrial fibrillation in acute coronary syndrome  
Sudden death in various pathological contexts: recognizing subjects at risk, selecting prevention strategies  
Electrical treatment of heart failure: any doubt?  
Radiofrequency ablation of cardiac arrhythmias: state of the art

### MEET THE EXPERTS

Non pharmacological treatment of atrial fibrillation  
ECG: from old and recent interpretation problems to heart disease treatment

### ITALIAN SPEAKER LECTURE

Wide QRS tachycardias

## Cardiomyopathies

### SYMPOSIA

"Secondary" cardiomyopathies: from diagnosis to treatment  
Clinical or molecular classification of cardiomyopathies?  
Peculiar aspects of cardiomyopathies

### FOREIGN SPEAKER LECTURE

Non-invasive risk stratification in hypertrophic cardiomyopathy

## Cardiovascular Imaging

### SYMPOSIA

Myth and reality of echocardiography  
The inducible ischemia. Which is the imaging test of choice?  
Integrated imaging of coronary artery disease: differences and synergies  
What is needed to start a clinical cardiac magnetic resonance imaging activity?

### MEET THE EXPERTS

The ultrasonic coronary flow reserve: up-to-date and perspective  
Imaging in cardiology: between established concepts and emerging news

## Congenital Heart Disease, Pulmonary Circulation, Heart Valve Disease

### SYMPOSIA

Psyche and the heart  
Current problems on aortic valve stenosis  
Pregnancy and heart disease  
Acute pulmonary thromboembolism

## Coronary Artery Disease and Rehabilitation SYMPOSIA

Coronary angio-tc for diagnosis and clinical management of CAD patients  
New invasive coronary imaging techniques: which choice?  
Strategies for STEMI treatment  
Mechanisms and mysteries of coronary artery disease in women  
"Resistance" to antiplatelet drugs and acute coronary syndrome  
Acute patient management in CCU: emergent problems  
New scenarios in antiplatelet and anticoagulant treatment  
Coronary syndromes: from research data to clinical application  
Cardiovascular rehabilitation  
Cardiovascular medicine and gender  
Myocardial ischemia beyond coronary atherosclerotic plaque

### MEET THE EXPERTS

Coronary artery disease

### ITALIAN SPEAKERS LECTURES

Magnetic resonance imaging in acute myocardial infarction: from pathophysiology to bedside  
Vascular inflammation in acute coronary syndrome and in autoimmune disease: a common substrate?  
How to manage acute myocardial infarction in the absence of pharmacological or mechanical reperfusion?

### FOREIGN SPEAKERS LECTURES

Occluded artery trial (oat) and beyond  
Hormones and heart disease: what do we know in 2008?  
In search of vulnerable plaque. Can it be localized, and will focal therapy ever be an option?  
New thoughts about anti-anginal and anti-ischemic therapy  
Pre-hospital fibrinolysis versus primary PCI in STEMI

## Education, Research, Telecardiology

### SYMPOSIA

Out-of-hospital electrical defibrillation  
"Emergent" and "urgent" medicine: is job description necessary?  
Medical information and mass media: a difficult balance between audience and scientific exactness  
Telecardiology: instruction for use

### ITALIAN SPEAKERS LECTURES

Evidence based medicine or educational based medicine  
The "cultural" revolution of cardiology in the last half century

### FOREIGN SPEAKER LECTURE

Using telemedicine for heart disease management

## Epidemiology, Cardiovascular Prevention, Pharmacology

### SYMPOSIA

Prevention of coronary events recurrence  
High risk patient management: a comparison among guidelines  
Physical exercise and cardiovascular risk  
Cardiovascular involvement in patients affected by collagen disease  
The future of cardiometabolic risk  
Cardiovascular toxic and malnutrition disease

### FOREIGN SPEAKERS LECTURES

Serum amyloid: a new link between inflammation and thrombosis in coronary artery disease  
Exercise and heart disease: why physical activity is essential?  
Coronary atherothrombotic disease: progress in antiplatelet therapy

## Genetics and Molecular Biology

### SYMPOSIA

From genomics to pathophysiology of cardiovascular disease  
Genetic polymorphism and cardiovascular disease  
Treatment of heart failure: are human stem cells effectors or mediators?  
Prognosis of diabetic patients with acute coronary syndrome: beyond coronary disease

### FOREIGN SPEAKERS LECTURES

Cell-based therapy of myocardial infarction  
Why do patients die prematurely from coronary artery disease? Latest genetic insights

## Heart Failure

### SYMPOSIA

Heart-lung interaction: clinical problems  
How to improve the prognosis of patients with heart failure?  
Role of co-morbidities in heart failure patients  
Drug treatment of heart failure: insights into the future  
Diastolic dysfunction in heart failure  
Asymptomatic left ventricular dysfunction  
Anticancer drugs and the heart

### MEET THE EXPERTS

Heart failure

### ITALIAN SPEAKERS LECTURES

Molecular mechanisms of cardiac remodelling

## Hypertension

### SYMPOSIA

Arterial (dis)function  
Treatment of high cardiovascular risk patient: what have we learned from the most recent trials?  
Hypertension and target organ damage  
New clinical aspects in some forms of resistant hypertension

## Interventional cardiology

### SYMPOSIA

Controversies in coronary interventional cardiology  
Drug eluting stents: are clinical indications still debated?  
PTCA in acute myocardial infarction: looking for the best results  
Stents: unconsidered aspects  
Current problems in interventional cardiology  
Risk of coronary stent thrombosis and antiplatelet treatment  
Endothelial cells precursors (ECP)  
Interventional cardiology: a suffering giant?  
Primary prevention of coronary artery disease  
PTCA or surgery?

### MEET THE EXPERTS

Aortic stenosis: diagnostic and therapeutic item  
Current problems in coronary interventional cardiology

### FOREIGN SPEAKERS LECTURES

Drug-eluting stent and coronary thrombosis: biological mechanisms and clinical implications

## Peripheral Vessel Disease and Stroke

### SYMPOSIA

The evaluation of preclinical atherosclerosis  
The patient with both coronary artery disease and lower limb artery disease: diagnostic and therapeutic strategies  
The aneurysms of thoracic aorta  
Interventional hemodynamic phlebology

## Highlight 2008: Cardiovascular Disease in the Elderly

### SYMPOSIA

Heart failure in the elderly: an emerging pandemic  
Drug treatment in the elderly  
Interventional cardiology in the elderly

## Highlight 2008: Sudden Death During Sport Activity

### SYMPOSIA

Prevention of sudden death during sport activity  
Sport and cardiovascular risk  
Topics shared by cardiologists and neurologists  
SIC prevention foundation

[*Winter is on my head, but eternal spring is in my heart*]

Victor Hugo

## SCHOLAR IN CARDIOLOGY:

Since 2002, a fellowship named "Scholar in Cardiology" is granted to members of the Society, younger than 50, who have given outstanding contributions in clinical and/or basic cardiovascular research. Only scientific merits, value and originality of publications are considered. The aim is to select excellent people, still in the ascending curve of their scientific and academic career, highlighting the Italian Cardiology in the international scenario. PhD Diploma is considered of particular value and an overall impact factor of 150 is the threshold. Nominations, no more than five per year, are announced during a special ceremony at the Annual Congress of the Society. A Committee of the Board of the Society is appointed to evaluate the applications.

## The following Scholars have been nominated so far:

### YEAR 2002:

**Cristina Basso** - University of Padua,  
**Alfredo Ruggero Galassi** - University of Catania,  
**Nazzareno Galiè** - University of Bologna,  
**Silvia G. Priori** - University of Pavia

### YEAR 2003:

**Giuseppe Boriani** - University of Bologna,  
**Alida Linda P. Caforio** - University of Padua,  
**Paolo Golino** - University of Naples,  
**Marco Metra** - University of Brescia

### YEAR 2004:

**Piergiuseppe Agostoni** - University of Milan,  
**Cristina Chimenti** - "Sapienza" University of Rome,  
**Paolo Voci** - "Sapienza" University of Rome,  
**Raffaele De Caterina** - University of Chieti,  
**Pasquale Perrone Filardi** - "Federico II" University of Naples

### YEAR 2005:

**Gaetano Lanza** - Catholic University of Rome "Sacro Cuore",  
**Giuseppe Rosano** - Buxton University of London,  
**Speranza Rubattu** - "Sapienza" University of Rome

### YEAR 2006:

**Felicita Andreotti** - Catholic University "SacroCuore" of Rome,  
**Giovanni Esposito** - "Federico II" University of Naples,  
**Eduardo Bossone** - Institute of Clinical Physiology "CNR" of Lecce

### YEAR 2007:

**Plinio Cirillo** - "Federico II" University of Naples,  
**Massimo Piepoli** - Cardiac Center of Piacenza Hospital "Guglielmo da Saliceto"

# EDUCATIONAL AND TEACHING MISSION



## TEXTBOOK OF CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

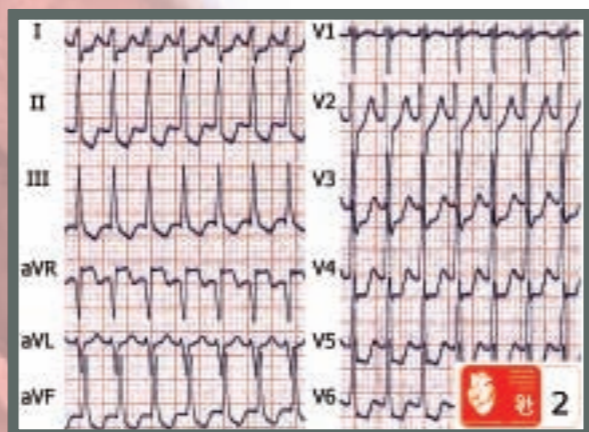
The Board of the Italian Society of Cardiology is proud in presenting the new "Manuale di Malattie Cardiovascolari" (Textbook of Cardiovascular Disease) that is online at the web site [www.sicardiologia.it](http://www.sicardiologia.it). This e-book is free for Doctors and for medical students, and is made of 68 chapters, 3 atlases and more than 500 figures.

The book has been written by almost all Italian Professors of Cardiology, and is approached by hundredths of students every day; it is specifically aimed at facilitating learning Cardiovascular Medicine. We have defined this e-book as an endless "work in progress" since it is continuously updated as far as new concepts arise, or the Authors decide to modify the text and/or the illustrations.

This task is also facilitated by the readers, which are solicited to express their opinion on any chapter they are going through.

The Educational Committee of the Italian Society of Cardiology has made an effort in making the style of the various chapters as homogeneous as possible, so that the reader has the impression that the whole book has been written by a single Author.

The Italian Society of Cardiology wishes that other Medical Societies join the project of providing a free e-book specifically dedicated to medical students.



## ECG DIAGNOSIS OF TACHYCARDIAS

A further educational project concerns a series of e-learning Courses for cardiologists available at the web site [www.sicardiologia.it](http://www.sicardiologia.it); the first of these interactive Courses, dedicated to the ECG diagnosis of tachycardias, is online, and is based on the study of 56 12-lead Electrocardiograms showing tachycardias, divided in 2 groups:

- 1) narrow QRS complex tachycardias;
- 2) wide QRS complex tachycardias.

The reader is firstly requested to provide a diagnosis for a series of 14 tracings, and is then enabled to read a detailed explanation of all cases.

Thereafter, a further group of 14 tracings based on the same topic is presented, and again the diagnosis is solicited, and so on.



## HEART MURMURS AND SOUNDS

The Educational Committee of the Italian Society of Cardiology wishes to point out that the stethoscope is still alive even in an era of advanced technology. We are planning to organize an e-learning program entitled "Heart murmurs and sounds" to reinforce the concept that auscultation of the heart is an irreplaceable clinical tool.



## THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL COURSES ON HEMODINAMIC PHEBOLOGY"

May 20th, June 10th and 24th 2008

The course has been performed at SIC headquarters in Rome by videoconference with the Regional Divisions. Theoretical lessons and practical exercises with the assistance of Doppler and echocolor-Doppler equipment were aimed at making participants to:

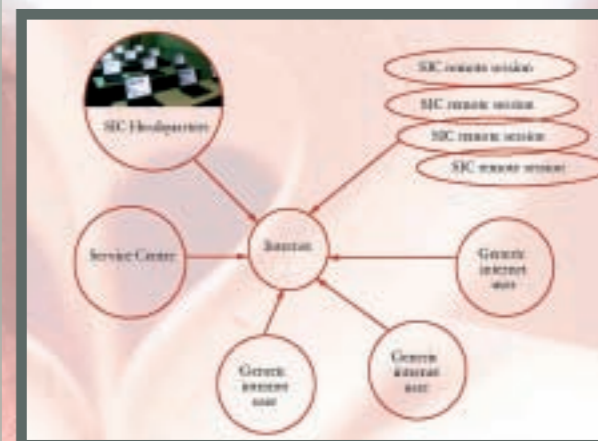
- Perform an instrumental examination of phlebopathic patients.
- Identify the most important vein diseases.
- Create a hemodynamic venous map to select the correct therapeutic strategy in a computerized system.

## FELLOWSHIP IN ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY FOR DOCTORS SPECIALIZING IN CARDIOLOGY

September 16th, October 14th, November 18th 2008

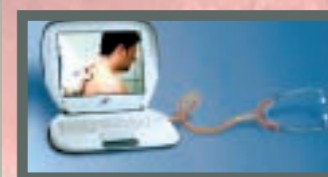
In modern Cardiology, particularly in the field of interventional Cardiology and Arrhythmias, the education provided by Specialization Schools should be completed, especially in translating into clinical practice the guidelines concerning interventional electrophysiology and cardiac pacing.

The Fellowship in Electrophysiology is aimed to the above purpose, and is addressed to doctors attending the last 2 years of Cardiology school.



## COURSE ON TELECARDIOLOGY

June 30th 2008



Telecardiology is an emergent topic. The equipment for transmission in digital format of

either the electrocardiographic signal or images obtained from invasive and non invasive diagnostic tools, have reached optimal quality standards. Nevertheless, the use of informatics is still today extremely limited.

This course, held at SIC headquarters in Rome, was aimed to facilitating the correct use of new technologies making possible online transmission of clinical and imaging data.



## REGIONAL SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

The Italian Society of Cardiology usually organizes local meetings through the Regional Sections, in cooperation with other Societies and Study Groups.

In these meetings, several topics on Cardiovascular Disease are discussed. Data and registration form are available on the website [www.sicardiologia.it](http://www.sicardiologia.it).

## SIC MASTERS

**MASTER IN CARDIOVASCULAR PATHOLOGY**  
University of Padua

- *Aim of the Master* is to increase the knowledge in the field of anatomy and pathology of cardiovascular disease, from congenital to acquired conditions and from pathophysiology to basic sciences. In particular, it allows a trainee to learn the most important diagnostic methods in cardiovascular pathology (autopsy protocol and techniques, gross examination of heart specimens, histology, immunohistochemistry, confocal microscopy, histomorphometry, study of the conduction system, transmission and scanning electron microscopy, molecular pathology). Thanks to the close relationship between pathologists and clinicians, the teaching approach of this Master highlights anatomo-clinical correlations, leading to a correct interpretation of surgical pathology and autopsy findings.
- *Topics of the master are:* pathomorphology and molecular pathology, clinical pathology, surgical pathology.
- *Admission requirement are:* graduation in medicine or in veterinary medicine Post-graduation in pathological anatomy or cardiology or forensic medicine or cardiac surgery are considered as priors.
- *The Master will start on January 2009 and will last until December 2009.*
- *Application deadline* is end of July 2008.
- *The total fee will* is Euro 2.076,88
- *Website:* [www.unipd.it/master/index.htm](http://www.unipd.it/master/index.htm).
- *For more information,* please contact Prof. Cristina Basso ([cristina.basso@unipd.it](mailto:cristina.basso@unipd.it))

**II LEVEL MASTER IN SPORT CARDIOLOGY**

## University of L'Aquila

- *Aim of the Master* is providing a deep qualification in this field, both for Cardiologists and Sport Physicians.
- *Topics of the Master* are cardiovascular adaptation to exercise in normal subjects, in athletes, and in extreme conditions; eligibility to sport activity and cardiovascular disease: cardiac arrhythmias, heart valve disease, hypertension, coronary artery disease, congenital heart disease, heart failure; clinical emergencies during sport activities.
- *Admission requirement* is to be Specialist in Sport Medicine or Cardiology.
- *The Master will last* 1 year and will start on January 2009.
- *Application deadline* is September 2008
- *Information* on [www.univaq.it](http://www.univaq.it)

**I LEVEL MASTER ON NURSING**  
IN CARDIAC CRITICAL AREA

## University of L'Aquila

- *Aim of the Master* is providing specific abilities concerning the Cardiac Critical Area, i.e. Coronary Care Unit, Post-Cardiac Surgery Intensive Care Unit, Cardiac catheterization laboratories.
- *Topics of the Master* are Scientific evidence and nursing research in cardiac critical area; Clinical Nursing in Intensive Cardiac Care Unit; Cardiovascular diagnostic tools; Cardiac nursing in out-of-hospital setting.
- *Admission requirement* is three year Nursing Degree or an equivalent qualification.
- *The Master will last* 1 year and will start on January 2009.
- *Application deadline* is September 2008
- *Information* on [www.univaq.it](http://www.univaq.it)

**II LEVEL MASTER ON PEDIATRIC CARDIOLOGY**  
University of Bologna

- *Aim of the master:* professional training in pediatric cardiology; how to define a treatment plan for heart disease in children and adolescents.
- *Topics of the master:* cardiovascular pathophysiology, cardiovascular instrumental features, neonatology, clinical pediatrics, cardiovascular medical therapy, cardiac surgery, cardiovascular pathology, cardiovascular imaging.
- *Admission requirement:* MD degree and specialization in Cardiology or Pediatrics.
- *The master will last* 1 year and will start on February 16th 2009.
- *Fee:* 2.000,00 euro
- *Application deadline:* December 31, 2008

**II LEVEL MASTER IN INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY IN CARDIOLOGY**  
"Sapienza" University of Rome

- *Aim of the master* is to fill the gap between the new technologies and their clinical and diagnostic applications..
- *Topics of the Master:* Anatomy, Physiology, Cardiovascular Physics, Informatics, Statistics, Sociology, communication and information technology, new imaging techniques, simulation techniques.
- *Admission requirement:* Degree in Medicine, or Physics, Engineering, Informatics.
- *The Master will last* 1 year and will start on March 2009.
- *Fee:* 4.500,00 euro
- *Application deadline:* december 2008
- *Information* on [www.uniroma1.it](http://www.uniroma1.it) or contact Prof. F. Fedele [francesco.fedele@uniroma1.it](mailto:francesco.fedele@uniroma1.it)

**II LEVEL MASTER IN INTERVENTIONAL CARDIOLOGY**  
"Tor Vergata" University of Rome

- *Aim of the master* training in interventional Cardiology, a modern approach to treat cardiac disease, requiring postspecialist expertise
- *Topics:* this II Level master introduces to all the aspects of Coronary, Valvular and Electrical percutaneous interventional therapies, with adequate training. Other techniques (Echo, Multislice CAT scanning, MR Imaging) as well as Molecular Biology will be covered. The program is structured in two 6-month sessions, being the first one focused on:
  - Coronary Interventions: Materials, Methods, Results, Clinical trials;
  - Valvular interventions: Mitral, Aortic, Pulmonic Valvuloplasty and Replacement: Methods, Results, Clinical trials;
  - Closing Devices: Atrial Septal Defect/PFO, VSD, PDA: Methods, Results, Clinical trials;
- The second session is focused on:
  - Percutaneous Interventions for arrhythmias and Pacing: Materials, Methods, Results and Clinical trials.
- *Admission requirement:* the master is addressed to Specialists in Cardiology, and will vary from 4 to 6 with some extra places reserved to people already working in the Healthcare system.
- *Duration:* the master will last 1 year. The program includes 1650 activity hours, formal lessons, seminars, practical activities, and it will confer 66 credits.
- *Starting:* the master will start on November 2008.
- *Registration fee:* 3.000,00 euro.
- *Application deadline:* September 2008. The master will not be activated if the minimum number of participant is not attained.
- *Information:* Secretariat of the Division of Cardiology, Chair of the Division, Tel. 06/20904009

**II LEVEL MASTER IN VASCULAR DISEASE**

## University of Palermo

- *Aim of the master* is to create highly qualified expertise in the field of vascular disease, provided that no post-graduate School with European qualification is nowadays available in Italy on this topic.
- *Topics:* a) arterial disease of atherosclerotic origin, vasculitis, venous and lymphatic disease; b) diagnostic tools: ABI, ecocolorDoppler duplex scanning, laserdoppler, capillaroscopy, strain gauge plethysmography, MNR, CT scan, arteriography and phlebography; c) treatment of vascular disease.
- *Admission requirement* is graduation in medicine. Doctors working in the field of Cardiology or in internal medicine, geriatrics, vascular surgery, neurology are encouraged to join the master.
- *Duration:* the master lasts 2 year. The program includes 1500 hours of activity for year and will confer 120 credits.
- *Starting:* the master will start on June 1st, 2008
- *Registration fee:* 2.000,00 euro for each year.
- *Application deadline:* May 31st, 2008. The master will not be activated if the minimum number of participants is not attained.
- *Information:* secretariat of the Department of Internal Medicine, Cardiovascular and Nephrourological Diseases, Chair of Cardiovascular Disease, Tel. & Fax 091-655.43.01 091-655.444.43 Website: [www.unipa.it](http://www.unipa.it), e-mail: [novosav@unipa.it](mailto:novosav@unipa.it)

**II LEVEL MASTER IN ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY**  
University of Palermo

- *Aim of the master* is to provide a specific skill in performing and interpreting the echocardiogram, based on the most recent scientific and technological advance.
- *Topics of the Master:* indications to the echocardiographic examination, how to correctly perform a standard echocardiographic study according to european guidelines, how to interpret and report the echocardiogram, how to perform transesophageal and stress echocardiography.
- *Admission requirement:* is graduation in Medicine. Doctors working in the field of Cardiology or in internal medicine, geriatrics, Sport medicine, and Emergency Care are encouraged to join the master.
- *Duration:* the Master lasts 1 year. 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.
- *Starting:* the Master will start on June 1st, 2008
- *Registration fee:* 2.000,00 euro
- *Application deadline:* May 31st, 2008. The master will not be activated if the minimum number of five participants is not attained.

[If you want to be happy, listen to your heart as it encloses all the answers you are looking for.]

Sergio Bambarén



**Centro Studi Sic**

● Registrazione ● Articoli e Newsletter ● Obiettivi del Registro ● Faq ● Contatti

I registri osservazionali possono essere estremamente utili per definire i trends nell'impiego delle risorse e per l'identificazione dei fattori prognostici. Un registro osservazionale è, per definizione, non selettivo, e cioè permette di esplorare l'intero spettro dei pazienti con la patologia in indagine. Questa peculiarità è estremamente importante in quanto è noto che i trial randomizzati sono, all'opposto, fortemente selettivi e, spesso, non includono un adeguato numero di soggetti rappresentativi di minoranze, quali anziani e donne. Il largo spettro di pazienti rappresentati in un registro clinico permette invece l'analisi di quei sottogruppi poco rappresentati nei trial randomizzati. In altri termini, un database osservazionale cardiovascolare può fornire dati di grande importanza per l'identificazione dei pazienti cardiovascolari con prognosi severa e può fornire stime iniziali sulla efficacia della terapia. La Società Italiana di Cardiologia è felice di poter annunciare la nascita del Centro Studi SIC. Questo registro epidemiologico on line nasce con la collaborazione del CINECA allo scopo di favorire la ricerca cardiologia in Italia e migliorare i percorsi assistenziali di pazienti affetti da patologie cardiovascolari.

**Accesso al registro**  
(Riservato agli utenti abilitati)

## SIC SCIENTIFIC CENTER:

Although there is little doubt that observational databases can characterize trends in management and patient outcome as well as identify prognostic factors, it remains controversial whether they can be used to evaluate therapy. Our view is that observational data bases should play an important role in therapy evaluation. 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 published from registries have considerably enhanced the value of the overall investigation, including the evaluation of coronary bypass surgery efficacy in the elderly, in patients with poor left ventricular function and in those with acute coronary syndrome.

An observational database is also helpful in providing corroborative evidence when randomized trial data are relatively sparse. In addition, observational databases can provide key contextual data for identifying patients

with poor outcomes likely to benefit from therapy, as well as providing initial estimates of the therapy efficacy.

The Italian Society of Cardiology have produced a Center logo (CS-SIC) for the Study of arrhythmias, heart failure, and ischemic heart disease

Preliminary data of the CS-SIC will be presented at the ESC Annual meeting 2008. The CS-SIC have evaluated the pharmaceutical prescriptions at 1 year follow-up of 4073 consecutive survivors from AMI discharged from 5 Italian hospitals between January 1st 2005 and December 31st, 2006. Use of lifesaving therapies for patients who survived AMI in Italy has been found much lower than expected in Europe, particularly in elderly patients and women. The CS-SIC warns that in Italy there is urgent need for development of procedures that would ensure adherence to a level of appropriate medical therapy for all survivors from AMI.

The Italian Society of Cardiology is proud to announce that they will provide new tools to enhance professional development and multidisciplinary training at a local community hospital. A Joint Commission (SIC/ Health Care Government Department) Accreditation will operate as an independent, not-for-profit organization. Standards will be focused on patient assessment and care, patients' rights, clinical ethics, organizational leadership, human resources management, and information management.

**Società Italiana di Cardiologia**

65° Congresso Nazionale SIC

Manuale di Malattie Cardiovascolari

Congresso on-line 2007

## WEB SITE [www.sicardiologia.it](http://www.sicardiologia.it)

A constantly updated WEB site focused on the needs of academic and practising cardiologists is a must for a Scientific Society such as SIC. This is required to face both the challenge of rapidly evolving medical research and the ongoing needs inherent to the practice and teaching of Cardiology.

**SIC**

La SIC scrive al Governo: si a qualità e appropriatezza nei tagli burocratici

Il Congresso di Firenze: le conclusioni

## SIC et Simpliciter

### Direct line with associates - SIC press

Nobody wants to forget the glorious "SIC et Simpliciter"; anyway some innovation in SIC newspaper was considered necessary. Aim of the new paper has been to start an interactive dialogue between SIC and "rest of the world", including not only the scientific world, but a larger context. It's time to recognize new interlocutors among national and international communities, as the Italian population, the Government, the Medical Institutions, the Media. Spreading out our ideas and comparing them with the others could achieve great results.

The WEBSITE does indeed represent a short-cut to the intellectual resources that merge in SIC. It assures a direct link with the activities and the scientific production of the various working groups and the neonate "Centro Studi SIC". It also allows graduates to apply for grants offered by SIC in order to improve scientific and clinical skills. Furthermore, it provides the cardiological community with a link to the Scholar, Condorelli and Harvey Awards meant to acknowledge deserving mature or senior members for their remarkable medical and scientific career. The website is the obvious link for on-line approach to editorial activity supported by SIC: journals, publications and textbooks for medical students. The Website is also the place for permanent consultation of scientific statements from the annual congress and for abstract submission to the incoming congress.

Finally, the contents in term of art, literature and humanities are not to be forgotten. They make the SIC WEBSITE as rich as the Society it represents.

*Paolo Marino*

*Chairman of web site committee*

## VIII SIC Monograph



For eight years SIC has published a monograph that is distributed free during the Annual Congress.

The monograph of the last year was entitled "Cardiovascular disease in women" (see the cover), edited by Prof. Giuseppe Mercurio. The monograph "Preclinical atherosclerosis and

global cardiovascular risk", by Prof. Salvatore Novo is in progress, and will be given during the next SIC National Congress. Moreover a new book entitled "Opportunity to act and motivation of being - Medicine and University in a changing society", edited by Prof. Odoardo Visioli, will be available.

# ITALIAN FOUNDATION HEART AND CIRCULATION - Onlus

## Presentation

The Italian Foundation heart and circulation is a non-profit organization, promoted by the Italian Society of Cardiology in order to increase awareness and to improve prevention of cardiovascular disease.

In order to support research and education, the Foundation collects funds to be invested in promotion and diffusion of cardiovascular disease awareness.

The Foundation Administrative Committee is chaired by Professor Salvatore Novo and includes Professors Mario Marzilli, Francesco Arrigo, Roberto Ferrari, Maria Penco.

The Scientific Council is chaired by Professor Sabino Iliceto and includes Professors Raffaele Calabrò, Filippo Crea, Germano Di Sciascio, Francesco Romeo and Gaetano Thiene.



Salvatore Novo  
President  
of Italian Foundation  
Heart and Circulation-Onlus

## DONATION TO THE FOUNDATION

Instructions for economic support to the foundation can be found on the institutional site [www.sicardiologia.it](http://www.sicardiologia.it).

## MISSION

The main Foundation commitment is to promote cardiovascular research through fund raising meant to:

- Awarding research projects of young researchers;
- Awarding fellowship of young cardiologists for periods of training in Italy or in Europe;
- Implementing educational campaigns on primary cardiovascular prevention promoting life style changes, mediterranean diet as well as smoking cessation. This will be achieved also through interaction with the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Instruction to promote educational programs in Schools;
- Promoting educational campaigns focused on the right amount of drugs to be administered to cardiac patients in order to achieve secondary disease prevention. This target will be more easily got by implementing guidelines diffusion;
- Favouring sudden death prevention programs by increasing the number of BLS-D executors also in secondary Schools, in cooperation with the Ministry of Instruction;
- Participating in the organization of the World Day for the Heart promoted yearly by the World Heart Federation;
- Elaborating multicenter national or international studies;
- Promoting national registers on cardiovascular disease.

## ACTIVITIES IN 2007/2008

### AWARDS

Award of 20.000,00 Euro to Dr. Diego Colonna (Naples) for a project aimed at creating of the first Italian Register on "Congenital Heart Disease in Adults";  
Award of 12.500,00 Euro to Dr. Francesco Borgia (Naples) to develop a research on "Power of foetal stem cells on myocardial regeneration".

### EDUCATIONAL PROJECT FOR PREVENTION IN THE SCHOOL

A convention has been signed with the Ministry of Instruction aimed at: 1) diffusing the culture and practice of cardiovascular disease Primary Prevention in schools, and 2) creating a group of instructors for the diffusion of cardiopulmonary resuscitation skill (BLS-D). This target is likely to be achieved through cooperation with the Regional Officer of the Ministry of Instruction and the Regional Sections of the Italian Society of Cardiology.

### EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS FOR CARDIOLOGISTS AND GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

1. National Educational Campaign on the "Importance of maintaining the therapeutic target in the secondary prevention of ischemic heart disease".
2. National Educational Campaign on Secondary Prevention of Ischemic Heart Disease named "Heart: between reason and emotion", aimed at stressing not only the importance of drug therapy but also the role of diet and life style to maintain welfare.
3. National Educational Campaign named "From symptoms to treatment: a correct approach to the patients with heart disease".

### PARTICIPATION IN THE ORGANIZATION OF THE "HEART WORLD DAY", IN COOPERATION WITH THE ITALIAN SOCIETY OF CARDIOLOGY

This is accomplished with 3 different items:

1. The University Cardiology Departments are open to the population for a charge-free cardiovascular examination.
2. Elderly people are examined free of charge by cardiologists at home.
3. State Men (Policemen, Carabinieri, Guardia di Finanza), undergo free clinical cardiovascular examination.

During the above examinations, further information on cardiovascular prevention, risk factors, diet, life style, physical activity, and how to perform a cardiopulmonary resuscitation while waiting for ambulance were provided by a DVD projection.

### COURSE ON CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION - BLS-D

In cooperation with the chair of Cardiovascular Disease, University of Palermo, and the Palermo Rotary Club, that donated 3 automatic defibrillators, a Course was organized aimed at teaching people non professionally involved in Medicine to perform BLS-D.



## CARABINIERI PROJECT

An agreement between the Italian Society of Cardiology and the "Support and prevention Fund" of Carabinieri Arma has led to a prevention of cardiovascular disease campaign, Cardiologists belonging to the Italian Society of Cardiology, have carried on a free screening aimed at early cardiovascular risk identification in this particular group of people frequently exposed to stress.



## AFRICA PROJECT

Since a few years the Italian Society of Cardiology sponsors a 4-month stay for Italian fellows in cardiology in two developing countries, Mozambique and Uganda. The program is held at the Cardiology Department of the Eduardo Mondlane University of Maputo in Mozambique and at 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 provides air tickets and personal insurance; lodging and meals are offered free of charge (Gulu) or at low cost (Maputo) by the local hospitals. This is a great 4-month experience for cardiology fellows who are involved in tropical cardiovascular disease and developing countries cardiovascular medicine. Both locations have reasonably good cardiological facilities with all non-invasive laboratories. Fellows are supervised by local and international medical staff. Up to now 11 fellows have been in Gulu (Uganda) e 6 in Maputo. All of them reported an enthusiastic experience both in human and professional terms. In Gulu the local new Medical Faculty is at its fourth year so that Italian fellows can share their experience with local students. In conclusion, the Italian

## HEART WOMAN PROJECT

The "Italian Society of Cardiology" and "ACAYA Formation and Health" Society have organized a cardiovascular risk assessment campaign for women aged between 40 and 60 ; a lot of IPER COOP centers in the whole country have become the gathering site for thousands of women to undergo a free cardiovascular screening consisting in a medical examination and a series of diagnostic investigations aimed to cardiovascular assessment and risk profile evaluation. The campaign started in September, 2007 and it is going on in 2008.



Society of Cardiology offers young cardiology fellows this unique experience to be shared, when back home, with the rest of the medical community.  
For information contact **Piergiuseppe Agostoni**  
[piergiuseppe.agostoni@cfcf.it](mailto:piergiuseppe.agostoni@cfcf.it)



SIC - SOCIETÀ ITALIANA DI CARDIOLOGIA