

9 Italian Society of Cardiology

2009

SIC PATIENT CARE,
EDUCATION
AND RESEARCH
[*Blending tradition
with innovation*]



SIC - SOCIETÀ ITALIANA DI CARDIOLOGIA

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CONTRIBUTIONS OF SIC TO CARDIOLOGY

P resident address to European Cardiologists

2009

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“Dear colleagues and friends,
It is with great pleasure that I have accepted the opportunity to address the International Cardiological Community as President in office of the Italian Society of Cardiology (SIC) through this brochure which SIC traditionally issues during the Congress of the European Society of Cardiology, this year in beautiful Barcelona.

As you probably already know SIC, which was founded in 1935, represents the academic soul of Cardiology in Italy. It is supported by more than 2800 associates spread around the country, not necessarily all working in academic Institutions but certainly linked to the University realm because of personal and/or professional connections, and it contributes, through the teaching work of the various Schools of Cardiology, to the education of specialists in the field.

In recent years SIC has been asked to be part of the Italian Federation of Cardiology (FIC) where the human resources from the academic community cooperate with those from the national hospital counterpart (ANMCO) in order to build an efficient interface for the international partners, particularly the European ones. Since then the process of cooperation has continued, with accelerations and slow downs but in the full conviction that Italian Cardiology as a whole represents an area of acknowledged excellence in the world. As such in fact the Italian cardiological community has consistently contributed to the success of the previous European Congresses of Cardiology and presently provides the President in office of the European Society, Prof. Roberto Ferrari, besides a meaningful percentage of the Chairmen of the Working Groups and Associations in which the European Society is structured.

Coming to the national scene, SIC is in the process of finalizing the program of its traditional annual Congress, the 70th this year, which will be held in Rome from December 12th to 15th with the contribution of national and international lecturers from the diverse cardiological fields, discussing topics such as ischemic heart disease, cardiovascular imaging, genetics, molecular biology, congenital diseases, rhythm disorders, congestive heart failure, diabetes and prevention. It will be a Congress of excellence as a result of the virtuous synergy among the many experts that have contributed to the program.

Only a strenuous, coordinated and sincere effort can in fact further push our national cardiological community to even greater success and fortune in the cardiological world at large and as President of SIC my wish is that such coordinated efforts will continue in order to make SIC stronger and more contributive to the challenges faced by the cardiological community in the near future to guarantee prosperity and success.”

Paolo Marino
President



President	PAOLO MARINO	
Vice President	GIUSEPPE MERCURO	
Past President	FRANCESCO FEDELE	
Secretary	FRANCESCO PIZZUTO	
Treasurer	CESARE FIORENTINI	
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	MARCO M. CICCONE	
	SAVINA NODARI	
	GIUSEPPE ORETO	
	PASQUALE PERRONE FILARDI	
	GAETANO THIENE	

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EDUCATION AND CME COMMITTEE Chairman	FRANCESCO FEDELE
FINANCIAL COMMITTEE Chairman	CESARE FIORENTINI
WORKING GROUPS COMMITTEE Chairman	PASQUALE PERRONE FILARDI
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F.I.C. RELATION COMMITTEE Chairman	PAOLO MARINO

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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.



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



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.



INTRODUCTION TO WORKING GROUPS

The Italian Society of Cardiology has generated 30 working groups. The mission of a working group is:

1. to promote and organize research in specific areas
2. to favour information exchange,
3. to contribute to the organization of 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) 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)

Pasquale Perrone Filaridi
Chairman of working groups

Atherosclerosis
ALBERICO L. CATAPANO
Cardiac Surgery
CLAUDIO MUNERETTO
Cardiology in the elderly
ANTONIO FERRARI
Cardiomyopathies and Pericardial Disease
GAETANO THIENE
Congenital Heart disease
MARCO BONVICINI
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
CESARE FIORENTINI
Genet and Cardiovascular Disease
GIUSEPPE MERCURO
Interventional Cardiology
GERMANO DI SCIASCIO
Magnetic Resonance Imaging
MASSIMO LOMBARDI
Management and quality
CORRADO VASSANELLI

Myocardial Electrophysiology
ALESSANDRO MUGELLI
Myocardial Function
RENATO RAZZOLINI
Nuclear Cardiology and CT scan in Cardiology
PIERLUIGI PIERI
Nursing in Cardiology
ANGELINA LIBERTAZZI
Peripheral Circulation
GREGORIO BREVETTI
Phlebology
ALDO I. GALEANDRO
Pulmonary Circulation and Right Ventricular Function
ALESSANDRA MANES
Telecardiology and Informatics
MAURIZIO VOLTERRANI
Thrombosis
VITTORIO PENGO

REGIONAL SIC CHAPTERS



ANNUAL CONGRESS OF THE ITALIAN SOCIETY OF CARDIOLOGY

Rome Cavalieri
Rome, December 12/15 - 2009

CONGRESS SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Raffaele BUGIARDINI *Chairman*

Paolo GOLINO

Giuseppe ORETO

Francesco ROMEO

Giuseppe SPECCHIA

Basic Science Promotion

Gaetano THIENE

CONGRESS SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Antonio BARTORELLI

Cristina BASSO

Claudio BRUNELLI

Marco M. CICCONE

Luciano DALIENTO

Raffaele DE CATERINA

Fiorenzo GAITA

Antonello GANAU

Massimo LOMBARDI

Marco METRA

Giuseppe NOVELLI

Corrado VASSANELLI

HIGHLIGHTS 2009

Francesco COSENTINO

Salvatore NOVO

Presentation

Also this year the Italian Society of Cardiology organizes its annual Congress in Rome in the traditional venue of the Rome Cavalieri. As everybody knows, the National Congress is the culmination of the scientific, educational activity of the Society. Our will is to go on improving scientific sessions, so that the Congress can remain a reference point for the Italian Cardiology. Our ambition and goal is that all the participants will be able to learn new diagnostic and therapeutic approaches that can be reflected in a better quality of care. We have received a lot of proposals for scientific events, as evidence of the vivacity of our society base. Moreover there are the ones coming from the Regional Sections and the Study Groups. Particularly from the latter we expect the most significant and qualifying contributions, as they represent the most advanced points of the Society in the wide field of cardiovascular research. We must accelerate the process of cultural sharing through more and more articulated scientific initiatives among the different professional realities.

With this hope, joint sessions about scientific and organizing problems will be proposed in the perspective of a dialogue in which our Society can deal with other cardiological societies to develop research and care oriented toward Cardiology growth, associated with a fair comparison with institutions.

This year we want to pay particular attention to the sessions of original communications, both oral presentations and posters sessions.

The original communications convey the enthusiasm and the most vital energy of the SIC, as they generally represent the contribution of young people who crowd university departments as fellows, assistants or research workers.

Their contribution is certainly precious to the program formation, since the original communications represent the most innovative spirit of research in our country. On young people we must and we want to build our future.

The program will focus on several multidisciplinary subjects:

Ischaemic heart disease

An important question is if and how much a medical intervention, even temporally limited, could modify the disease trajectory in the following years. In fact, despite the development of guidelines and therapeutic protocols in the acute phase, we don't know much about the long-term efficacy of the same treatments. The contributions of the congress will try to examine mortality causes, survival quality, hospitalization rate and management costs of patients who survived after the acute phase.

Cardiovascular imaging

The meeting will present new developments in the field of imaging. The topical subjects are several, and among them, the detection of coronary flow by echography, stress-echography, ecography in resynchronization therapy, magnetic resonance imaging in ischaemic heart disease, the possible clinical utility of computerized tomography, and new technical advances in perfusion imaging through SPECT and PET.

Genetic, molecular biology and congenital heart diseases

The “decoding” of the human genome sequence has led to a new era of science and medical assistance. The speed new discoveries are proceeding with, requires the Congress to propose themes related to the most recent acquisitions, including what has been achieved through the “Multi-National Genetics Research Networks”, the epigenetic control of cardiovascular disease, and the genetic reprogramming of cardiovascular diseases in humans.

Disorders of cardiac rhythm

The Congress will present the news about arrhythmias and pacing including the role of ICD in patients with non ischaemic dilated cardiomyopathy and in those with ischaemic disease, the adjunctive pharmacological therapy for patient with ICD, the presence or the absence of T-wave alternans (TWA) in the prediction of the death risk for arrhythmias, the optimal techniques for the suppression of atrial fibrillation, the beta-blockers for the prevention of vagal syncope and the cardiac resynchronization in heart failure.

Myocardial function and heart failure

We will discuss about the effects of nitric oxide in cardiovascular disease in general and in heart failure in particular, conditions where nitric oxide is dysregulated. There will be other presentations about other new researches, such as the increase in the rate of hospitalization in association with the pollution level, clinical trial results about the administration of DITPA, a thyroid hormone analogue, the use of extracorporeal devices in myocardial failure that is refractory to medical therapy, and the results of other recent trials about issues often neglected by a medical point of view, such as the effects of depression treatment in patients with myocardial failure.

Diabetes

Recent studies have documented that many patients and, unfortunately, many doctors underestimate the amount of cardiovascular risk associated with diabetes and how the primary prevention is poorly applied to this population. The therapeutic strategies and the “targets” for risk identification in diabetes remain valid arguments to debate in the scientific world.

The Congress program considers this theme extremely topical and will try to highlight the latest advances in the prevention of cardiovascular complications in diabetes

Scholar in Cardiology

Since 2002, a fellowship named “Scholar in Cardiology” has been awarded 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 Galie - 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 - “Federico II” 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
Francesco Cosentino - “Sapienza” University of Rome

YEAR 2005:

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

YEAR 2006:

Felicità Andreotti - Catholic University “SacroCuore” of Rome,
Giovanni Esposito - “Federico II” University of Naples,
Eduardo Bossone - Institute of Clinical Physiology “CNR” of Lecce

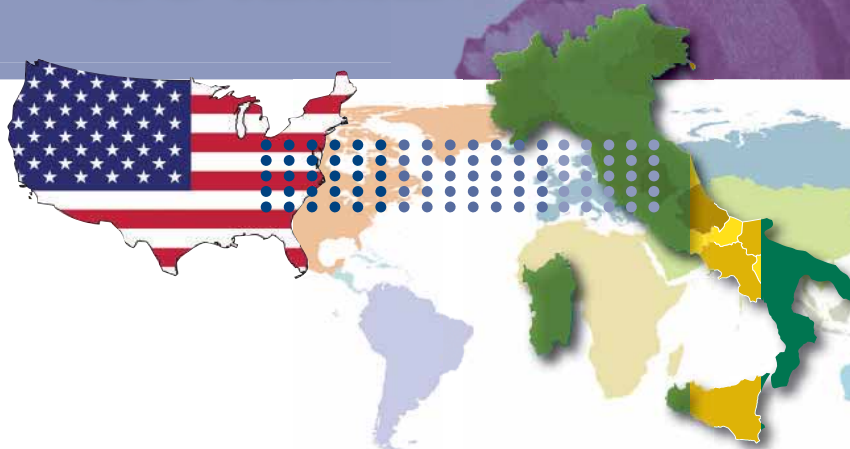
YEAR 2007:

Plinio Grillo - “Federico II” University of Naples,
Massimo Piepoli - Cardiac Center of Piacenza Hospital “Guglielmo da Saliceto”

YEAR 2008:

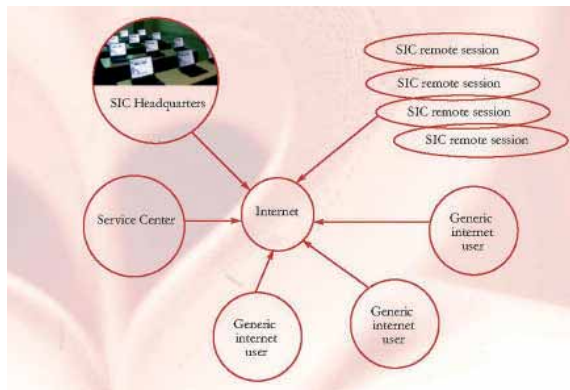
Giuseppe De Luca - University of Novara,
Antonio Rapaccivolo - “Federico II” University of Naples

EDUCATIONAL AND TEACHING MISSION



Making use of videoconference, a learning system present and tested at the SIC centre, Federico Gentile takes care of didactic lessons in collaboration with the American College of Cardiology.

The aim of this project is to perform a series of strictly didactic lessons dedicated to cardiologists and fellows.



EDUCATION AND CME COMMITTEE

Francesco FEDELE *Chairman*
 Federico GENTILE
 Anna Vittoria MATTIOLI
 Luigi PADELETTI
 Giancarlo ROSCIO

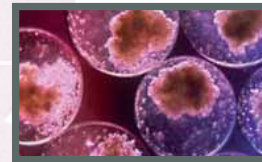


COURSES OF EMERGENCY-URGENCY INCLUDING BLS-D AND ACLS IN COLLABORATION WITH SIC STUDY GROUPS

Organized by Giancarlo Roscio.

The courses are divided in residential and online. The course of Basic Life Support is designed for victims of all ages (adult and pediatric CPR), use of automated external defibrillator and relief of choking (FBAO).

Many courses will be online and provide training on the assessment, diagnosis, treatment, and management of emergency-urgency.



COURSES ON STEM CELLS

Organized by Anna Vittoria Mattioli.

This is an innovative and interesting topic in the field of the basic science.

FELLOWSHIP IN ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY FOR DOCTORS SPECIALIZING IN CARDIOLOGY

Organized by Luigi Padeletti.

SECOND EDITION

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 at the above purpose, and is addressed to doctors attending the last 2 years of Cardiology school.



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.



TEXTBOOK OF CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

The Board of the Italian Society of Cardiology is proud in presenting the updated "Manuale di Malattie Cardiovascolari" (Textbook of Cardiovascular Disease) that is online at the web site 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.

SIC
MASTERS

University of L'Aquila	Maria Penco
University of Padua	Gaetano Thiene - Cristina Basso
University Sapienza of Rome	Francesco Fedele
University Tor Vergata of Rome	Francesco Romeo
University of Palermo	Salvatore Novo



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:* 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.
- *Starting:* will last 1 year and will start on January 2010.
- *Application deadline:* september 2009.
- *Information:* on 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:* 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.
- *Starting:* will last 1 year and will start on January 2010
- *Application deadline:* is September 2009.
- *Information:* on www.univaq.it

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:* pathomorphology and molecular pathology, clinical pathology, surgical pathology in cardiovascular pathology.
- *Admission requirement:* graduation in medicine or in veterinary medicine is requested. Post-graduation in pathological anatomy or cardiology or forensic medicine or cardiac surgery are recommended. The Master will start on January 2010 and will last until December 2010. At the completion of the course, a diploma is issued.
- *Application deadline:* is approximately at the end of September 2009 (the announcement will be on the website <http://www.unipd.it/master/index.htm> at the end of July 2009).
- *The total fee:* euro 2.146,88.
- *Information:* contact Prof. Cristina Basso (cristina.basso@unipd.it)

II LEVEL MASTER IN INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY IN CARDIOLOGY

University Sapienza of Rome

- *Aim of the Master:* iso fill the gap between the new technologies and their clinical and diagnostic applications.
- *Topics:* 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.
- *Starting:* will last 1 year and will start on March 2010.
- *Fee:* euro 4.500,00.
- *Application deadline:* december 2009.
- *Information:* on www.uniroma1.it or contact Prof. F. Fedele francesco.fedele@uniroma1.it - 06/49979009.

II LEVEL MASTER IN INTERVENTIONAL CARDIOLOGY

University Tor Vergata 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 lasts 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 2009.
- *Registration fee:* euro 3.000,00.
- *Application deadline:* September 2009. 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 experts in the field of vascular disease, because 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, ecocolor Doppler duplex scanning, laserdoppler, capillaroscopy, strain gauge plethysmography, MNR, CT scan, autobiography and phlebography; c) medical and interventional (angioplasty or vascular surgery) 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 years. The program includes 1500 hours of activity for year, 600 hours of lectures and workshops, 800 hours of practical activity and 1600 hours of self learning. and will confer 120 credits.
- *Starting:* the next course will start on June 1st, 2010.
- *Registration fee:* euro 2.000,00 euro for each year, euro 4.000,00 in total.
- *Application deadline:* May 31st, 2010. The master will not be activated if the minimum number of ten participants is not reached.
- *Information:* secretariat of the Chair of Cardiovascular Disease, Tel. & Fax 091-655.43.01 – 349-5785396 - Website: www.unipa.it - e-mail: 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:* 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 September 1st, 2009.
- *Registration fee:* is 2.500,00 euros.
- *Application deadline:* July 31st, 2009. The master will not activated if the minimum number of ten participants is not attained.
- *Information:* secretariat of the Chair of Cardiovascular Disease, Tel. & Fax 091-655.43.01 – 349-5785396 - Website: www.unipa.it - e-mail: novosav@unipa.it

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 prevention of cardiovascular disease and to support research and education.

The Foundation collects funds to be invested in promotion and diffusion of cardiovascular disease awareness, prevention and research.

The Foundation is member of the European Heart Network.



Salvatore Novo
President
of Italian Foundation
Heart and Circulation-Onlus

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

- Salvatore Novo *President*
- Mario Marzilli *Vice-President*
- Maria Penco *Secretary*
- Francesco Arrigo
- Livio Dei Cas
- Roberto Ferrari
- Mario Mariani

SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL

- Sabino Iliceto *Chairman*
- Giuseppe Ambrosio
- Filippo Crea
- Germano Di Scascio
- Francesco Romeo
- Gaetano Thiene
- GianPaolo Trevis

Mission

The main Foundation commitment is to promote cardiovascular health through fund-raising for:

- 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 intake of drugs by patients with cardiovascular pathology in order to implement secondary prevention. This target will be more easily got also 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 Heart Day, promoted yearly by the World Heart Federation and focused on cardiovascular prevention;
- Elaborating multicenter national or international study;
- Promoting national registers on cardiovascular disease.

ACTIVITIES IN 2007/2009

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 the 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", with participation of about 400 Cardiologists and General practitioners (2007-2008);
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, with the participation of about 3.000 Cardiologist and General practitioners (2007-2008);
3. National Educational Campaign named "From symptoms to treatment: a correct approach to the patients with heart disease", with the participation of about 2000, Cardiologists and General practitioners (2008);

PARTICIPATION IN THE ORGANIZATION OF THE "HEART WORLD DAY", IN COOPERATION WITH THE ITALIAN SOCIETY OF CARDIOLOGY (2007, 2008, 2009)

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.

Before 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

were organized:

- a) in cooperation with the Chair of Cardiovascular Disease of the Palermo's University and the Palermo Rotary Club, that donated 3 automatic defibrillators (to the Cathedral, Justice Building and Theater "Massimo"), for people working in these three sites;
- b) in cooperation with the chair of Cardiovascular Disease, for 60 "Carabinieri", participating in the 8th Meeting of L'Aquila from July 8th, 2009.
- d) In cooperation with the Ministry of Instruction, University and Research, with the Regional Officer of the this Ministry, and the Regional Sections of the Italian Society of Cardiology After a pilot course in Roma, on February 10th, 2009, thirteen meetings have been promoted in different Italian Regions with the participation of three hundred teachers and three hundred student.

MEETING ON RARE DISEASES

Organized on July 16th, 2009 with the participation of Italian experts in the field and aiming to better defining and classifying these disease

MEETING OF THE COORDINATORS OF PhD AND PhD'S STUDENTS OF CARDIOVASCULAR SCIENCES

Organized on July 16/17, 2009 and aiming to:

- a) discussing for possible common programmes, between the different Italian Schools of PhDs;
- b) presenting research projects or research theses of Young PhDs students of Cardiovascular Sciences and creating possible networks for multicenter researches

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 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)

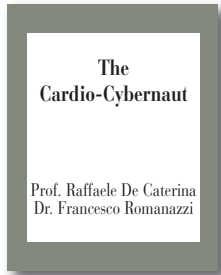
will operate as an independent, not-for-profit organization. Standards will be focused on patient assessment and care, patients' rights, clinical ethics, organizational leadership, human resources management, and information management

AIM OF STUDY CENTER

- To conduct excellent basic research in the cardiovascular area
- To promote the translation of knowledge from basic research to patients' care
- To design clinical trial or planning to participate in others investigations proposed by international or national scientific society
- To participate in the training of new researchers in the cardiovascular area
- To collaborate with the National Health Service and with scientific societies to promote cardiovascular research and health in Italy
- To advise healthcare authorities on the aspects of cardiovascular diseases that they consider appropriate

SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT OF STUDY CENTER

- Epidemiology of Primary Prevention
- Epidemiology of Arrhythmias
- Epidemiology of Heart Failure
- Epidemiology of Coronary Syndromes
- Atherothrombosis and Cardiovascular Imaging
- Cardiovascular Biology
- Cardiovascular Genetic, Genomic and Proteomics



X SIC Monograph

For ten years SIC has published a monograph that is distributed free of charge during the Annual Congress. The monograph of this year (2009) will be entitled “The Cardio-Cybernaut” (see the cover) , written by Prof. Raffaele De Caterina and Dr. Francesco Romanazzi, and will be given during the next SIC National Congress. The book will give a broad overview on the mysteries of computer science to Cardiologists, usually blinded users of informatic tools, and will include a guide on the most important web sites where to gather scientific and practical information relevant for the profession.

SIC et Simpliciter
Direct line with associates - SIC press

As you know the aim of the newspaper has been to start an interactive dialogue between SIC and the “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.



Tradition and innovation

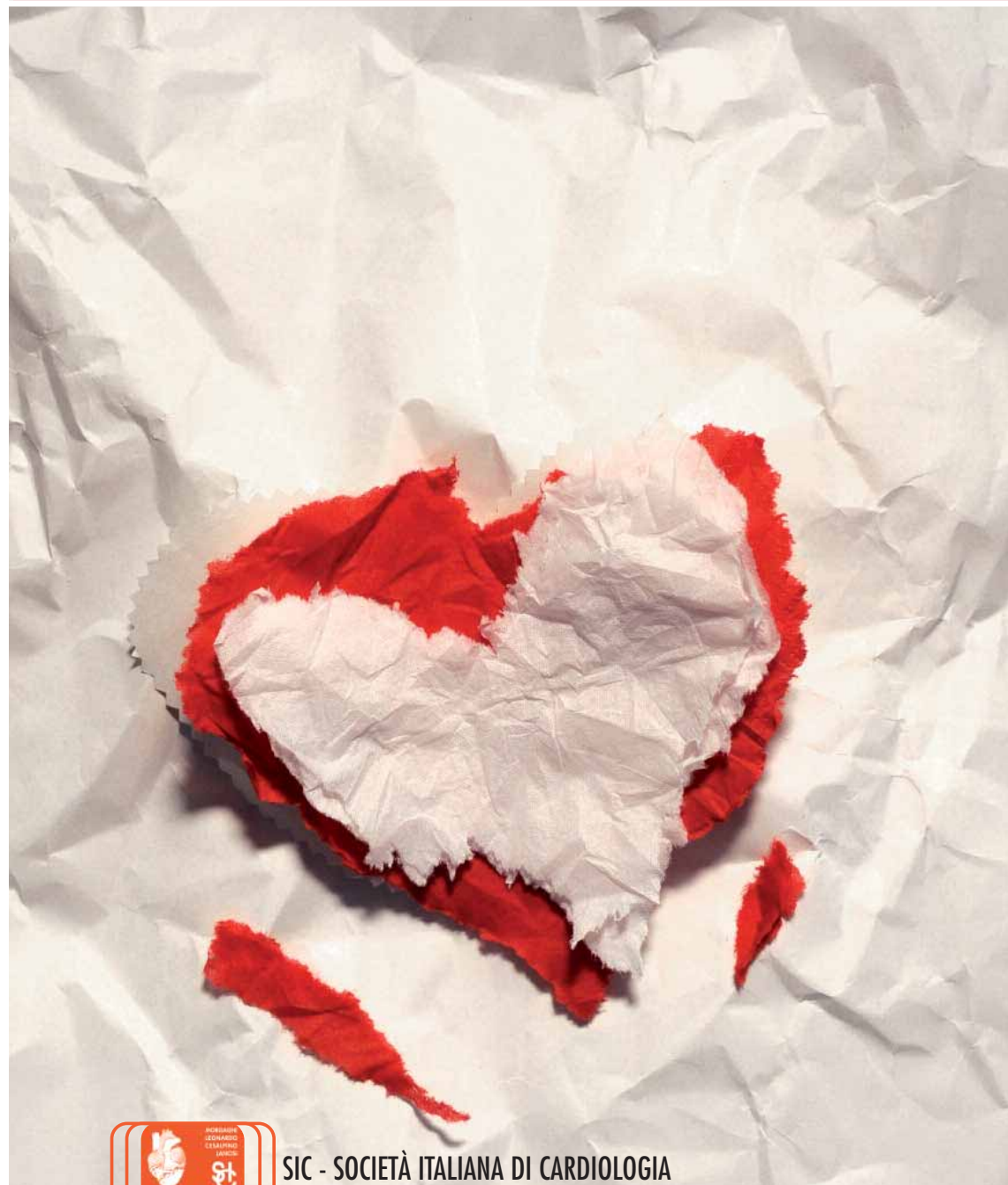
History and actuality by the Presidents of the Italian Society of Cardiology
With this work we wish to go over the history of the Italian Society of Cardiology, through Presidents conducts that followed each other from Society birth to nowadays. This work is also well integrated in the life motive of the Italian Society of Cardiology and it aims to conjugate innovation and tradition.

WEB SITE www.sicardiologia.it

The main goal of the Italian Society of Cardiology (SIC) is to promote basic research and good practicing in cardiology throughout the Italian cardiologist community coordinating the activity of several working groups.
SIC official WEB-SITE (www.sicardiologia.it) is becoming an important tool to accomplish this important role not only representing a short-cut to the intellectual resources merging in SIC, but also providing Italian scientists and practicing cardiologists with a rapid link to several areas of interests.
The number of accesses to the web site is rapidly and constantly increasing with a significant access peak during the annual meeting abstract submission.
More recently a bi-monthly newsletter has been added to let the community informed on the Society activities and most up-to-date sections of the portal. A new download area has also been included to provide the cardiologist with useful and free software that in part has been developed by SIC members.



The Italian Society of Cardiology is also developing a video database that will be available soon on the portal: free videos, can be downloaded for educational purposes either by residents in Cardiology or the Cardiologist community for CME purpose, one of the most important commitments of the Society.
Finally, for a Scientific Society such as SIC, playing a leading role in the fight against heart and circulatory disease, the website is the obvious link between health care professionals and patients. Moreover, it represents a fundamental tool to promote research and funding for young investigators.
WEB SITE COMMITTEE
Paolo Marino *Chairman*
Giovanni Esposito
Maurizio Galderisi
Filippo Mastropasqua



SIC - SOCIETÀ ITALIANA DI CARDIOLOGIA