



ITALIAN SOCIETY OF CARDIOLOGY

Società Italiana di Cardiologia

2007

SIC - Patient Care, Education and Research...



Presidential 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 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^o 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.

SIC and the Italian Federation of Cardiology

The Italian Society of Cardiology adheres to the Italian Federation of Cardiology, in order to coordinate initiatives and projects in the cardiovascular field, to present uniform position to regulatory authorities, and to represent Italy in international contexts.

SIC - Italian Society of Cardiology

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

SIC - historical notes

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.

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.



SIC - Constituent Bodies

The Board

SIC 2007-2008

President

Francesco Fedele

Vice President

Giuseppe Oreto

Secretary

Francesco Pizzuto

Treasurer

Giuseppe Mercurio

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



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Raffaele Cirillo

- The board
- The Headquarters
- Ad-hoc committees
- Working groups
- Regional chapters

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 WGs

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. Iginio 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 Galiè

Informatics and telecardiology

Dott. Giuseppe Molinari

Introduction to Working Groups

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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

Scientific Meetings of Regional Chapters

Abruzzese Molisana Chapter

Chairman: Prof.ssa Sabina Gallina
e-mail: sgallina@unich.it

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

Apulo-Lucana Chapter

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

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

Calabrese Chapter

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

2007-10-13 Catanzaro
Update in cardiology

Campana Chapter

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

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

Emiliano-Romagnolo-Marchigiana Chapter

Chairman: Prof. Fernando M. Picchio
e-mail: fernando.picchio@unibo.it

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

Laziale Chapter

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

Ligure Chapter

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

2007-11-17 Genova
Update on cardiovascular
disorders

Lombarda Chapter

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

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

Piemontese-Valdostana Chapter

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

2007-11-10 Cagliari
Ischemic Heart Disease

Sarda Chapter

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

2007-10-12 Messina
Sicilian Cardiological Day

Siciliana Chapter

Chairman: Prof. Salvatore Novo
e-mail: novosav@unipa.it

Tosco-Umbra Chapter

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

2007-10-10 Pisa
Echocardiography and
Hemodynamics today

Triveneta Chapter

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

Highlights 2007

Annual Congress of the Italian Society of Cardiology:

Presentation

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 congress 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.

Congress Committee

Francesco Fedele	President of the Congress
Raffaele Bugiardini	Scientific Coordinator
Giuseppe Ambrosio	Advisor
Matteo Di Biase	Advisor
Pasquale Perrone Filardi	Advisor
Giuseppe Specchia	Advisor
Corrado Tamburino	Advisor

Congress Program Committee

Susanna Sciomer	Vice-Coordinator
Antonio Bartorelli	Topic: Ischemic Heart Disease
Luciano Daliento	Topic: Congenital Heart Disease, Pulmonary Circulation, and Valve Disease
Marisa Di Donato	Topic: Vascular Disease and Stroke
Giuseppe Germanò	Topic: Hypertension
Eugenio Martuscelli	Topic: Interventional cardiology
Marco Metra	Topic: Heart Failure
Giuseppe Novelli	Topic: Genetics and molecular biology
Luigi Padeletti	Topic: Arrhythmias
Gianfranco Parati	Topic: Education, Research, and Telecardiology
Silvio Romano	Topic: Population Science
Gian Franco Sinagra	Topic: Cardiomyopathies
Paolo Voci	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 stubbornness?

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 recanalize 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”?
- Dispnea 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 of reaching and maintaining therapeutic targets in secondary prevention of IHD
- Cardiology in geriatric age
- Cardiologic 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. BLS 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.

- BLS 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 Liaison Committee on Resuscitation 2005.

The course duration is three days and includes training on group management, teaching material, and memorizing techniques for BLS protocol.

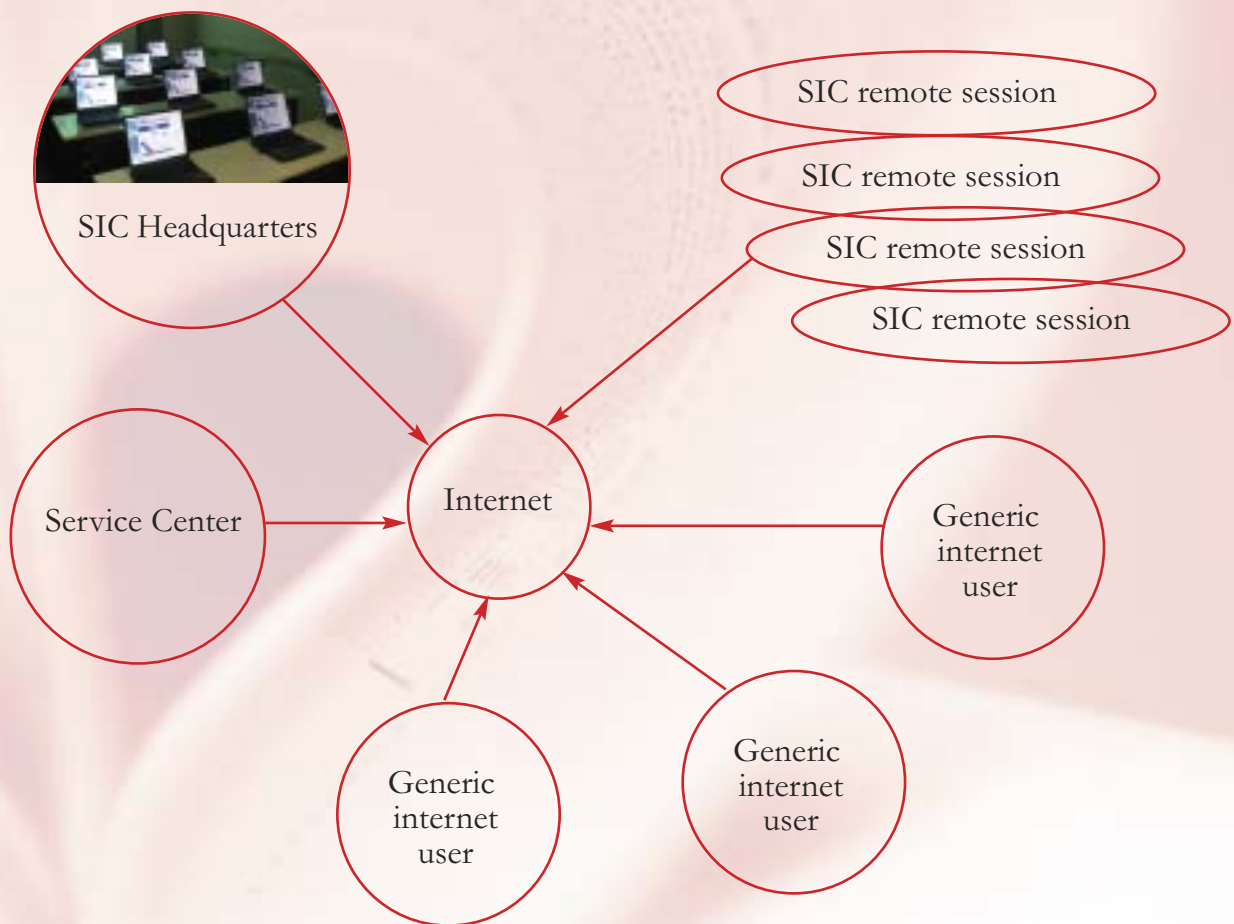


- Italian School of Cardiology (SIC)

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 is 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

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 speciality school with european qualification topics to acquire knowledge in the field of vascular disease including arterial disease of atherosclerotic origin, vasculitis, venous and lymphatic disease acquire notions concerning non invasive diagnostic tools (ultrasound, RMI, ct scan..) and therapy.

Admission criteria: graduation in medicine. the master is suggested to doctors working in the field of cardiology or in the 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

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 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.

The Master will start on November 1st 2007

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.

II Level Master in Echocardiography - Coordinated by Prof. Salvatore Novo University of Palermo

Aim of the Master is to create figures of high qualification in performing and interpreting echocardiography using the most advanced scientific and technological knowledge.

Topics of the Master will be: how to correctly and reproducibly perform a standard echocardiographic study according to European standard, how to correctly interpret and report the study, to learn the indication to the study, to learn rudiments on transesophageal and stress echocardiography.

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)

Duration of the master: 1 year.

It will start on November 1st 2007.

Fee: 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.

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.

Informations on www.unibo.it/Portale/Offerta+formativa/Master/2006-2007/Cardiologia-Pediatria-e-dell%E2%80%99Et%C3%A0-Evolutiva.htm

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 Trans-esophageal 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 Cardiac Critical Area - University of L'Aquila

Aim of the Master is to prepare professionals in Cardiac 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: rapacciuo@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



Publications:

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.

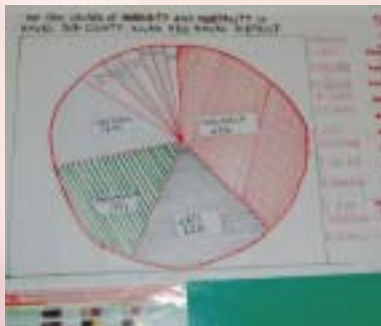
Raffaele Bugiardini

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



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 turning 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.



Italian Heart and Circulation Foundation

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 Salvatore Novo 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 BLS/D 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





Società Italiana di Cardiologia