2011 Italian Society of Cardiology

SIC PATIENT CARE, EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

[Blending tradition with innovation]
Ad-hoc committees

**CONGRESS COMMITTEE**
- Chairman: CORRADO VASSANELLI

**EDUCATION AND CME COMMITTEE**
- Chairman: MARIA PENCO

**FINANCIAL COMMITTEE**
- Chairman: CLAUDIO BRUNELLI

**WORKING GROUPS COMMITTEE**
- Chairman: GIUSEPPE GERMANO

**REGIONAL SECTIONS COMMITTEE**
- Chairman: SCIPIONE CARERJ

**WEB SITE COMMITTEE**
- Chairman: MARCO METRA

**SCIENTIFIC CENTER AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE**
- Chairman: GIUSEPPE MERCURO

**F.I.C. RELATION COMMITTEE**
- Chairman: SALVATORE NOVO

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Dear colleagues and friends,

As President of the Italian Society of Cardiology it is my great pleasure to address, through this brochure that summarize the history and the activities of the Italian Society of Cardiology (SIC), the European and international Cardiologists participating in the Congress of the European Society of Cardiology, this year held in Paris (August 27th-31st, 2011).

The Italian Society of Cardiology is the most ancient cardiological Society in Italy; it was founded in 1936 from academic Cardiologists and has more than 3,000 associates prevalently working in the University but also in other Institutions linked to the University. Together with the National Association of Cardiologists working in Hospitals (ANMCO) founded in 1998 the Italian Federation of Cardiology; including also several Societies of cardiological subspecialties that represent the interface of all the Italian Cardiologists, more than 10,000, with the European Society of Cardiology and the International Societies.

The Italian Cardiology represent today in Europe and in the World an area of excellence and certainly contributes consistently to the success of the Congress of the European Society of Cardiology both in terms of scientific contribution as well as of number of Cardiologists participating. The Congress of the Italian Society of Cardiology this year will be held in Rome, at Rome Cavalieri, from Saturday December 10th to Monday December 12nd, 2011 and the program is just finalized and available at the website of the Society: www.sicardiologia.it. This program contain national and international Lectures, Symposia also in cooperation with the ESC, ACC, AHA and the main Italian scientific Societies and SIC Working Groups, Debates, Controversial, Hot Lines, Sessions and Highlights with recent international papers, entirely organized by young researcher under 40 years, Sessions devoted to Award Prize for young Investigators, as well as about 1,000 free communication and posters. Topics that will be discussed are: molecular biology and genetics, risk factors and cardiovascular prevention, ischemic heart diseases, heart failure, cardiovascular imaging, rhythm disorders, electrophysiology and stimulation, valvular heart disease, interventional cardiology, congenital heart disease, learning courses with simulators and so on. The organization of a too big Congress of scientific excellence has been possible through the cooperation of an ad “hoc Commission” working with a techno-scientific Committee and we hope it will be successful and appreciated by the community of Cardiologists. (See appendix below). An actual effort of the SIC consists in developing a Center for Studies and Research to perform multicenter studies and in organizing both intramoenia and e-learning Courses of continuous cardiological education as well as encouraging the organization of local scientific events by the Regional Sections of the Society. As President of the Italian Society of Cardiology my hope is that the scientific level of our Society will become always too higher as well as the cooperation with other cardiological Societies stronger and more proficuous.

Salvatore Novo
President
THE ITALIAN FEDERATION OF CARDIOLOGY

The Italian Federation of Cardiology is an organization that represents a unified Italian Cardiology in Europe and worldwide. It was born as a federation of the major national societies, SIC (Italian Society of Cardiology) and ANMCO (National Association of Hospital Cardiologists). The board is composed of three members of SIC and three members of ANMCO. The President is alternately an expression of one of the two Societies and is being in office for three years.

The aims of IFC are:

1) to represent the Italian cardiological community in the ESC and in the interactions with International Cardiological Community;

2) to plan and conduct a common policy of development of educational and scientific programs, finalized to promote:
   - optimal care, prevention of cardiovascular diseases;
   - professional educational and continuing formation;
   - standards and diagnostic/therapeutic guidelines;
   - Relationship with Health, National and local Authorities.

Francesco Romeo
President of Italian Federation of Cardiology

FINSIC srl
a branch of SIC

FINSIC was founded years ago and recently updated (see article 14 of SIC statute). FINSIC is the operative, financial branch aimed at supporting SIC in any institutional activity, according to the Italian law.

Once decisions have been taken by the SIC board, FINSIC, its financial branch, will help organize the planned activities, and will operate to promote communications and spread information about the events. The FINSIC role is therefore to implement congresses, meetings, seminars, and educational courses for continuing medical updating, and any other initiative useful to promote progress in knowledge in Cardiological fields. In addition, FINSIC edits journals, books and audiovisual supports, promotes public relationships enhancement, and provides administrative and secretarial services.

Matteo di Biase
President of FINSIC
The Italian Society of Cardiology (SIC) organizes its annual Congress in Rome in the traditional venue of the Rome Cavalieri. The Congress is the top event of the scientific and educational activities of the Society and represents the landmark for the Italian Cardiology.

Our ambition and goal is that all the participants can learn new diagnostic and therapeutic approaches that can lead to improvement of clinical care. We have received a large amount of proposals for scientific events, as evidence of the vibrancy of our scientific society. The most significant and qualifying contributions from the Regional Sections and from the Working Groups are expected, as they represent, the most advanced parts of the Society in the wide field of cardiovascular research.

It's crucial to speed up the process of cultural sharing through increasingly articulated scientific initiatives from the different cardiological professional realities. With this hope, joint sessions focusing scientific and organizational problems will be proposed in the perspective of a dialogue with other national and international Societies to develop research and care oriented to the growth in the important cardiological field.

A fellowship named “Scholar in Cardiology” has been implemented to award members of the Society, younger than 50, who have made 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 for 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.

Since 2002, 30 young cardiologists have been awarded. Further information can be found on the web site www.sicardiologia.it
The Italian Heart and Circulation Foundation 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 main Foundation commitment is to promote cardiovascular health through fund-raising in order to:

- Fund research projects of young researchers;
- Sponsor fellowships of young cardiologists for periods of training in Italy or in Europe;
- Implement educational campaigns on primary cardiovascular prevention promoting life-style changes, the Mediterranean diet as well as smoking cessation. This aim will be achieved also through interaction with the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education to promote educational programs in Schools;
- Promote educational campaigns focused on the right intake of drugs by patients with cardiovascular disease in order to implement secondary prevention. This target will be more easily achieved also by implementing guidelines diffusion;
- Favor sudden death prevention programs by increasing the number of BLS-D executors also in secondary Schools, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education;
- Take part in the organization of the World Heart Day promoted yearly by the World Heart Federation and focused on cardiovascular prevention;
- Elaborate multicenter national or international studies;
- Promote national registries on cardiovascular disease.

Activities in 2010/2011:

- Organization of additional courses BLS-D involving professors and high school students with the active involvement of cardiologists from University;
- Promotion of First Aid Courses (BLS) without AEDs by Professors and Students who have already played the course BLS-D, which can interact “cascade” with their colleagues working with dummies made of rubber;
- Teleconference (by Internet) so that each “Heart Lesson” performed by an academic Cardiologist is sent to more schools joined together in large multimedia classrooms. After the “Heart Lesson” an academic Cardiologist can open an interactive discussion with Professors and Students;
- Development of a "Pilot Project" of Telemedicine to carry out an ECG screening for high school students. The ECG tracing could be performed by cardiologist and transmitted to a remote reading center;
- Participation in the organization of the “Heart World Day” in cooperation with the Italian Society of Cardiology;
- Among the Foundation’s projects for young people, in December 2010 a campaign to challenge sudden cardiac death through the execution of electrocardiograms to more than 1000 children of secondary school was started in Rome and province. In order to extend this screening activities throughout the national territory, in the early months of 2011 a fundraising campaign was started. It had its debut on 7/13 March 2011 in television and/or radio RAI program. This campaign could be repeated in September 2011 on the occasion of the World Heart Day.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

Francesco Fedele President
Salvatore Novo Past President
Mario Marzilli Vice-President
Francesco Arrigo Secretary

COUNCILLORS
Cesare Fiorentini
Mario Mariani
Gianfranco Zanda

SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL
Giuseppe Ambrosio
Livio Dei Cas
Giacomo Frati
Sabino Iliceto
Giuseppe Novelli
Luigi Padeletti
Gaetano Thiene
In order to fully carry out its scientific mission, the Italian Society of Cardiology (SIC) must have a dynamic and well organized Research Center. Since February 2010, the strengthening of the Research Center has been the objective of the Commission for Research, coordinated by Prof. Giuseppe Mercurio, with the position of Director assigned to Dr. Roberto Marchioli and the establishment of new headquarters in Rome. The objective of SIC is to invest more in research, involving all the available expertise in cultural initiatives and scientific projects, starting from its Working Groups.

Further information can be found on the home page web site www.sicardiologia.it

During this year the Italian Society of Cardiology has organized educational courses residential and e-learning in the institutional location of the Society in Rome. Topics have been: ECG, Echocardiography, Pulmonary hypertension, Atrial fibrillation in the child, Arrhythmology fellowship for Medical Doctors specializing in cardiology, Emergency-urgency in cardiology. The Italian Society of Cardiology has become provider for Continuous Medical Education for the National Ministry of Health for the years 2011-2012.

Further information will be present on the web site www.sicardiologia.it (page list of institutional initiatives)

The Italian Society of Cardiology has generated 28 working groups. The mission of a working group is to promote and organize research in specific areas, to favour information exchange and 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.

The Regional Section is governed by a Board of Directors, elected by secret ballot by members of the Chamber, which remains in office for two years. The Regional Board consists of a Chairman who shall hold office for two years, a Vice President, a Secretary-Treasurer and at least three directors and it consists of a minimum of seven to a maximum of eleven members. The Regional Board is responsible for promoting and organizing the scientific and educational training for your region.

Further information will be present on the web site www.sicardiologia.it
The main goal of the Italian Society of Cardiology (SIC) is to promote basic research and good clinical practice in cardiology throughout the community of Italian cardiologists and working groups.

SIC official WEB-SITE (www.sicardiologia.it) is an important tool for this objective not only as it represents a short-cut to the intellectual resources merging in SIC, but also as it provides a rapid link to several areas of interests to Italian scientists and practicing cardiologists. The number of accesses to the web site is rapidly and constantly increasing with a further peak during the annual meeting abstract submission. In the last two years SIC has been sending to all members a bi-monthly newsletter about the activities of the Society and the most visited sections of the portal. This newsletter is now sent on a monthly basis. SIC is also developing a database of videos already available on the portal within the section called SIC multimedia. This includes the videos of events recorded during the last year and is free to all members of SIC.

For a Scientific Society such as SIC, playing, as it does, 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.

**Congress Committee**

- **Chairman**: Corrado Vassanelli
- **Members**: Fiorenzo Gaita, Paolo Galino, Francesco Romeo, Gaetano Thieme

**Scientific technical Committee**

- **Alberto Balbarini**: PERIPHERAL CIRCULATION/STROKE
- **Francesco Cosentino**: DIABETES AND CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES
- **Raffaele De Caterino**: CARDIOVASCULAR CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY
- **Gianluca Di Bella**: AND ANTITHROMBOTIC DRUGS
- **Antonello Gennari**: CARDIOVASCULAR PREVENTION AND REHABILITATION
- **Igino Genuini**: TRAINING, RESEARCH AND TELECARDIOLOGY
- **Giuseppe Germanò**: HYPERTENSION
- **Ciro Indolfi**: INTERVENTIONAL CARDIOLOGY
- **Paolo Marino**: CARDIOVASCULAR IMAGING
- **Marco Metra**: HEART FAILURE
- **Giuseppe Novelli**: GENETICS AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY
- **Giuseppe Oreto**: ARRHYTHMIAS
- **Pasquale Perrone Filiardi**: OBSERVATIONAL STUDIES AND TRIAL
- **Fernando Picchio**: CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE, PULMONARY CIRCULATION AND VALVULAR DISEASE
- **Gianfranco Sinagra**: MYOCARDIAL AND PERICARDIAL DISEASE
- **Giuseppe Specchia**: CORONARY HEART DISEASE