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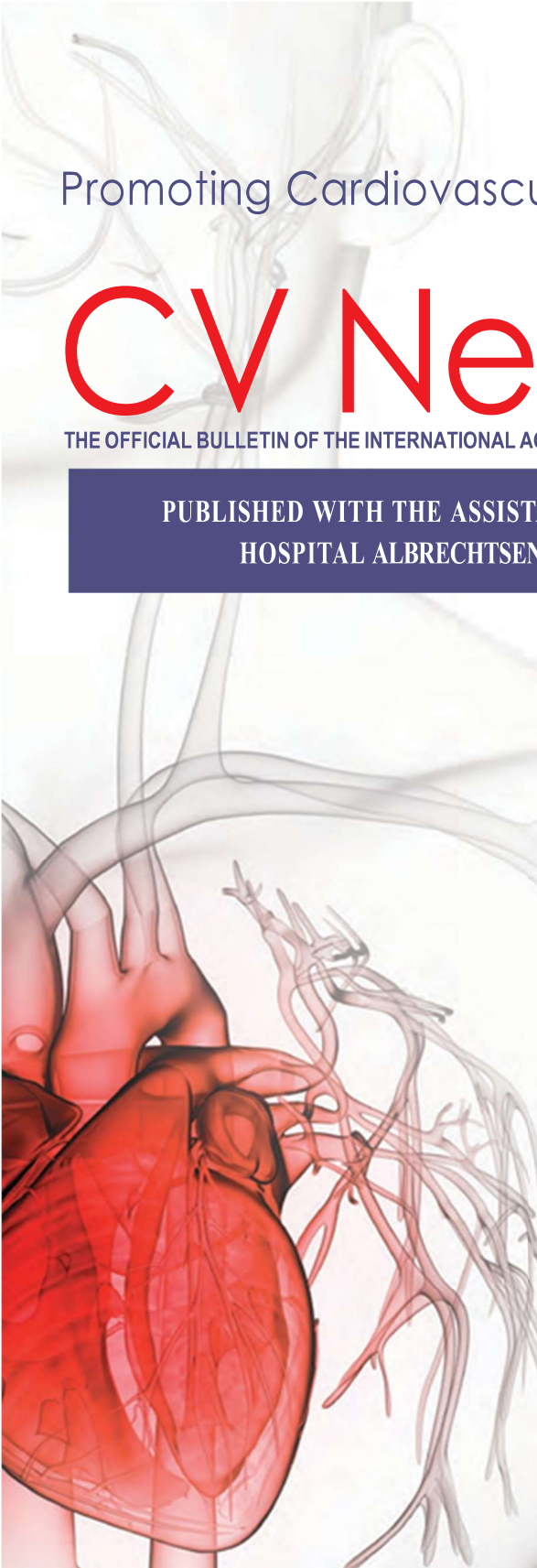

In this Issue

Cardiovascular Leadership Profiles of Distinguished and Visionary Scientists

In celebration of the 30th year Anniversary of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences, the Academy is highlighting the Profiles of several Leaders and Visionaries in Cardiovascular Research and Medicine.

Dr. Andras Varro, Szeged, Hungary

Dr. Andras Varro

Andras Varro was born in Szeged Hungary in 1954. He finished his high school studies in 1972 there. In this year Andras Varro won a national competition in history among high school student in Hungary.

He earned medical degree in the Medical University of Szeged in 1978. After graduation he started working in the Drug Research Institute in Budapest Hungary where his job was to participate in the development of antiarrhythmic and cardiotonic drugs by applying standard in vivo and in vitro experimental models. Between 1982 and 1984 he spent two years as PhD student in the Krannert Institute of Cardiology, University of Indiana, Indianapolis USA under the supervision of professor Borys Surawicz. During his visit in Indianapolis he studied the cellular mechanism of different antiarrhythmic drugs by the conventional microelectrode technique. In the Drug Research Institute Andras Varro defended his PhD thesis in 1987. Between 1988 and 1990 Andras Varro spent two years in the Childrens Hospital and the Department of Pharmacology and Cellular Biophysics University of Cincinnati, Ohio, USA working together with professors Arnold Schwartz and David Lathrop studying the cellular mechanisms of antiarrhythmic and cardiotonic drugs by applying the whole cell configuration of the patch-clamp technique. After returning to Hungary he joined to the Department of Pharmacology and Pharmacotherapy of the Albert Szent Györgyi Medical University, Szeged, Hungary as the leader of the Cellular Electrophysiological Laboratory working together with professor Julius Gy. Papp who served as chairman of the department.

After earning the DSc degree Andras Varro was appointed as full professor in 1999 and served as chairman of the department between 2001 and 2019. Between 1991 and 1992 as visiting scientist he worked in the Department of Physiology of Veterinary Preclinical Sciences at the University of Liverpool UK with professor David Eisner studying the cellular calcium handling in cardiac myocytes with the epifluorescens technics. Professor Andras Varro served as vice rector for science and innovation of the University of Szeged between 2011 and 2014. Between 2019 and 2024 Andras Varro worked as full professor as a leader of the Cardiac Cellular Electrophysiological Laboratory in the Department of Pharmacology and Pharmacotherapy University of Szeged, Hungary. Presently he is professor emeritus in the University of Szeged and works as full professor in the HUN-REN-SZTE Research Group of Cardiovascular Pharmacology.

His major research interest includes the cellular mechanisms of antiarrhythmic and proarrhythmic drug actions, particularly the physiology and pharmacology of cardiac potassium currents. Dr. Varro published 326 papers in English languages which earned 18 526 citations and 73 Hirsh index (Google Scholar database). Andras Varro had been awarded with several awards like the “Carmeliet-Coraboeuf-Weidmann Lecture Award” given by EWGCCE, the “Distinguished Leadership Award, the Lifetime Achievement Award and Naranjan Dhalla Award in Innovative Investigation in Cardiovascular Sciences” by IACS. He supervised the work of more than 15 PhD students. He served in the Editorial Board of several internationally well-respected journals. Andras Varro is member of several scientific organizations and between 2013 and 2022 he served as the president of the European Section of International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (IACS) and currently he is the president of the IACS. In 2024 he became “Doctor Honoris Causa” of the University of Buenos Aires. Andras Varro is the co-founder and currently president of the National Academy of Scientist Education in Hungary. He is successful in obtaining research grants in the national and European levels.

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Dr. Jawahar (Jay) L. Mehta, Little Rock, USA

Dr. Mehta was born in British India and had a very humble upbringing in India. He received his MD degree from Panjab University, Chandigarh, India (Summa cum laude) and PhD from the University of Uppsala, Uppsala, Sweden.

Dr. Jawahar (Jay) Mehta

He completed his post-graduate medical education at Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, NY, and research fellowship at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN. He then joined the faculty of the University of Florida College of Medicine, Gainesville, FL. where he quickly rose to be University Research Foundation Professor, partly based on his work on platelet biology. He moved to Little Rock, AR, in 2000 as the first *Stebbins Chair in Cardiology* and *Professor of Medicine and Physiology and Biophysics* to lead the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) and the affiliated Central Arkansas Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Dr. Mehta is known for his original work on platelet biology and thrombosis in myocardial ischemia in late 1970s and early 1980s. He showed that platelets aggregate when they encounter atherosclerotic plaques in coronary arteries and form clots resulting in myocardial ischemia. This seminal work led to the trials of aspirin and other anti-platelet drugs in cardiac patients. While working on the crucial role of platelets in inducing coronary thrombosis, he also identified a critical role of platelets in protecting the myocardium
His research work in the last 20 years at UAMS made him a global pioneer in the biology of LOX-1, a receptor for oxidized LDL. LOX-1 seems to be a key player in the development of vascular disease and myocardial ischemia.

LOX-1 is a promising therapeutic target now being explored by major pharmaceutical companies. His other research work has focused on the renin-angiotensin system in atherogenesis, and exosomes in cardioprotection. His work has been supported by the NIH, AHA and the Department

of Veterans Affairs, and several pharmaceutical companies- continuously for the last 36 years. He has trained over 100 clinical cardiologists, clinician-scientists, and basic scientists; many of whom occupy prominent positions around the world. Teaching, raising new generations of academicians and clinicians, and establishing collaborative programs are Prof. Mehta's passions.

He serves or has served on the editorial boards of several major cardiology, physiology and pharmacology journals, including *Circulation*, *Hypertension, American Journal of Cardiology, European Heart Journal, Journal of the American College of Cardiology, and the World Journal of Cardiology.* Dr. Mehta has published over 1500 papers, abstracts and book chapters. He has published 7 books and has 11 patents. His h-index as per Google scholar is 126, with 165179 citations. Stanford University has ranked him in the top 0.05% of all clinician-scientists worldwide. He is a member of many prestigious academic societies, including the *Association of American Physicians*, *American Society for Clinical Investigation* and *Association of University Cardiologists*.

Grateful patients have established *Mehta Chair in Cardiovascular Research at UAMS* in his honor. *Jay and Paulette Mehta Lectureship in Internal Medicine* was established in their honor in 2021. He and his wife have established *Drs Paulette and Jay Mehta Parkinson's Chair* at UAMS. The Little Rock, AR, main library has named their theater and the Little Rock, AR, Unitarian Universalist Church has established their hospitality wing after them. A *Paulette and Jay Creative Writing Contest* is held annually at UAMS. Prof. Mehta has lectured in over 30 countries. He is an honorary professor in the University of Rome Tor Vergata, an adjunct Professor in the Clinton School of Public School in Little Rock, AR, and serves as consultant to the University of Arkansas in nanotechnology and biomedical engineering.

His major awards include, the *Pericle d'Oro International Prize* from the Magna Graecia University, Catanzaro, Italy in 2014; the UAMS *Dean's Distinguished Faculty Scholar Award* in 2015, Albert Nelson Marquis *Lifetime Achievement Award* in 2018. He was named *Distinguished Professor* by UAMS in 2018, and *Distinguished Professor* by the Anhui University, China in 2018. He was awarded *Lifetime Achievement Award* by the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (IACS) in 2019. The Department of Veterans Affairs named him *Senior Clinician-Scientist* in 2020. The IACS and ISHR awarded him *Medal of Merit* in 2022. He was elected President of IACS in 2025.

He is listed in Marquis *Who's Who in America, Who's Who in the World, Who's Who in Medicine and Healthcare*, and *Leading Physicians of the World*. As a testament to his clinical skills, Forbes magazine named Prof. Mehta among the *top 27 cardiologists in the United States* https://www.forbes.com/sites/matthewherper/2017/12/05/27-top-cardiologists-picked-by-big-data/# 6b2b4d2b6a7e. He has been named among the Top Doctors in America several times. He is included in *Jewels of India* 2026. He published a book reflecting his passion for community interest in heart disease- *Heart Disease: It Is All in Your Head, and what to do about it,* an Amazon best-seller.

Prof. Mehta feels this world gave him opportunities, purpose, and success. It also gave him his wife, Dr. Paulette Mehta, an esteemed hematologist and oncologist. Paulette was a friend and research partner, who later became his life partner. They reside in Little Rock, AR, having raised two brilliant children, Asha, a Stanford and Wharton graduate, lives in Boston, MA, and Jason, a Harvard law graduate, lives in Tampa, FL. The grandchildren – Jasper, Griffen, Maia, Jack, and Zara. Though not as active as before, Prof. Mehta continues to consult with care of complex patients and with scientific projects and participates im community affairs.

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Dr. Ricardo Gelpi, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Dr. Ricarddo J. Gelpi

Ricardo J. Gelpi, MD, PhD. is currently Rector, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina and Professor of the Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina. Professor Gelpi was born in La Plata, Argentina.

He obtained a Bachelor's degree from Normal School No. 3, Almafuerte, graduated as a physician from the Faculty of Medicine of the National University of La Plata (UNLP) in 1975, and as Doctor in Medicine in the year 1981 at the same university. His Doctoral Thesis director was Professor Horacio Cingolani, who was also his director for doctoral scholarships for four years working at the Cardiovascular Research Center (CIC), financed by National Scientific and Technological Research Council (CONICET). After the doctoral scholarships, Professor Gelpi began his scientific research career at CONICET and continued working under Professor Cingolani for approximately five more years. Parallel to his research work, Professor Gelpi started teaching at the Department of Physiology with Biophysics of the UNLP Faculty of Medicine. He initially worked as Instructor and then won the competitive evaluation for Head of Instructors. We can conclude that in his career, Professor Gelpi, being a Physician and Doctor in Medicine, never practiced as a clinical physician, but he was always exclusively dedicated to research and teaching at the University since his graduation. In 1985, he obtained an external scholarship from CONICET to work as postdoctoral fellow for two years at the New England Regional Primate Research Center (NERPRC), belonging to Harvard University, USA, under the supervision of Professor Steve Vatner. During those two years he worked on a project on myocardial hypertrophy secondary to pressure overload by aortic stenosis and arterial hypertension. Those were very productive years which were reflected in six publications in high-impact journals about the topic. Once the scholarship in Harvard concluded, Professor Gelpi continued working for several more years with Professor Vatner. In addition to their mutual scientific interest, they developed an ongoing friendship. Upon returning to Argentina, he resumed his work at the CIC again under the supervision of Professor Cingolani during approximately four more years. In 1992, he received an offer to work in the Pathology Department of the University of Buenos Aires faculty of Medicine, a position that he accepted. A short time later he creates the Institute of Cardiovascular Physiopathology (INFICA), obtaining the position of director after competitive evaluation.

Several years later, in 2000, and by the initiative of several well recognized Latin American basic and clinical researchers, such as for example Professors Horacio Cingolani from Argentina, Raul Domenech from Chile, Otoni Moreira Gomes and Paulo Tucci from Brazil, Luis Folle from Uruguay, and others, he became involved with the International Academy of Cardiovascular Science (IACS). This was a very important milestone that allowed him to actively engage not only with the cardiovascular research projects in Latin America but also in the rest of the world. By collaborating with IACS, a period of very intense activity began which allowed him to annually co-organize the IACS's scientific meetings in several different countries of Latin America, mainly Brazil, under the direction of Professor Otoni Moreira Gomes. In these meetings, a very important issue was that undergraduate and postgraduate teaching were promoted along with research.

Professor Gelpi was elected as a Fellow of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (FIACS) in 2002. In 2004, Professor Gelpi had the privilege and honor of being appointed the first president of the Latin American section of IACS, and from that designation his participation in science and teaching in Latin America increased, always motivated by IACS. Years later, he has been awarded with Distinguished Leadership Award in Cardiovascular Sciences, by the IACS (2014). He also received the Argentine Society of Cardiology Award, the Young investigator Argentine Society of Cardiology Award, and the Argentine Society of Clinical Investigation Award. That intense period of activity in Latin America concurs with his designation as Adjunct Professor, and in two years as Full Professor and Director of the Pathology Department of the University of Buenos Aires Faculty of Medicine. Therefore, his academic position is consolidated for both cardiovascular research and undergraduate and postgraduate teaching. As a proof of his permanent interest in stimulating scientific research in Argentina, he founded the Basic Research Council of the Argentine Society of Cardiology in 1998, and the Undergraduate Student Association for Scientific Research of the University of Buenos Aires (AECUBA) in 2002.

In 2003 he was elected Vice Dean, and in 2017 Dean of the University of Buenos Aires Faculty of Medicine. In this manner, he obtained an important role not only in academics

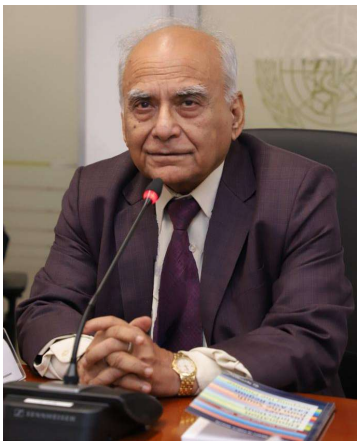
but also in the government of the Faculty of Medicine. Finally, several years later, in 2022, Professor Gelpi was appointed Rector of the University of Buenos Aires. This important appointment was the result of a unanimous vote by all the faculties that make up the University of Buenos Aires.

Despite being heavily involved in the governance of the University, Professor Gelpi continued his cardiovascular research work and teaching. In the past few years, he worked in different projects related to heart protection during myocardial ischemia, particularly the role of thioredoxin and remote ischemic preconditioning and postconditioning. Regarding myocardial ischemia, he began Neurocardiology projects and specifically studied the role of vagal stimulation in myocardial protection.

His teaching vocation also allowed him to approach diverse humanistic and bioethical topics, introducing himself in the study of different medical oaths. This was reflected in several published articles and doctoral thesis on the subject matter.

Professor Gelpi always had a very important academic, scientific and educational commitment to IACS. He was an active participant in all IACS activities, practically from the early years of its creation, primarily in the Latin American section, where he served as President, as mentioned in previous paragraphs. He also participated in scientific conferences of other IACS sections, such as the North American and European ones. Professor Gelpi's academic and scientific life has been closely linked to IACS for many years. As a natural consequence of this long-standing relationship, very friendly and lasting personal relationships have also developed over the years, not only from Latin America but also from Canada and other parts of the world. For all the reasons mentioned, Ricardo's gratitude to IACS is truly significant and ongoing.

Dr. Nirmal K. Ganguly, Chandigarh, India



Dr. Nirmal K. Ganguly

Prof. Nirmal Kumar Ganguly, a pioneering microbiologist and immunologist, has made enduring contributions to cardiovascular research through an interdisciplinary lens that connects infectious diseases, immunology, and public health. Prof. Nirmal Kumar Ganguly is a globally recognized leader in cardiovascular sciences, with over five decades of contributions focusing on inflammatory mechanisms, genetic bases, and preventive strategies for conditions like rheumatic heart disease (RHD), coronary artery disease (CAD), and hypertension.

His research emphasizes the immunological and microbial triggers of cardiovascular pathologies, particularly in low- and middle-income settings, where infections exacerbate heart disease burdens. As a Fellow of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences since 2001, he has bridged immunology and cardiology, advocating for integrated approaches that could reduce global cardiovascular mortality. While evidence strongly supports his advancements in biomarker discovery and vaccine development for RHD prevention, ongoing debates highlight challenges in translating these to widespread clinical use in resource-limited regions. Research suggests that his work on animal models and community interventions has informed policy, though implementation varies by socioeconomic factors.

Prof. Nirmal Kumar Ganguly, Padma Bhushan (2008), is a distinguished microbiologist, immunologist, and global health leader whose career spans over five decades. His work has profoundly influenced infectious disease research, vaccine development, and the intersection of immunology with cardiovascular sciences. As a Fellow of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (FIACS, Canada) since 2001 and visiting faculty at the Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences, St. Boniface Hospital Research Centre, University of Manitoba, Canada, Prof. Ganguly has bridged infectious and cardiovascular pathologies, emphasizing inflammatory mechanisms in heart disease. His leadership has shaped national and international health policies, including India's National Vaccine Policy, and fostered collaborations in cardiovascular research amid global challenges like pandemics.

Born in 1941, Ganguly's career began with foundational training in microbiology and immunology, evolving into leadership roles such as Director General of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) from 1998 to 2007, where he spearheaded initiatives integrating cardiovascular studies with tropical and diarrheal diseases. His research

portfolio, encompassing over 800 peer-reviewed publications and supervision of 158 PhD theses, emphasizes the immunological and molecular underpinnings of cardiovascular disorders, particularly in resource-limited settings like India. This survey synthesizes his key achievements, drawing from primary sources including his publications, institutional bios, and collaborative works, to provide a thorough overview of his impact.

Ganguly's early work at the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh, where he served as Professor and Head of Experimental Medicine & Biotechnology from 1986 to 1998, laid the groundwork for exploring how infections exacerbate cardiovascular risks. A seminal area is rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease (RHD), where he investigated public health aspects, pathogenesis, and preventive strategies. Studies under his guidance linked group A streptococcal infections to autoimmune cardiac damage, advocating for national vaccine policies to curb RHD prevalence in India. This aligns with his broader interest in immunology, where he examined host-pathogen interactions leading to vascular inflammation. His contributions extend to the immunological roots of coronary artery disease (CAD) and Takayasu's arteritis, a vasculitis affecting large vessels. Research highlighted genetic polymorphisms and environmental triggers in Indian cohorts, revealing how immune dysregulation contributes to arterial narrowing and aneurysms. For instance, collaborations identified oxidative stress pathways in infected models, linking free radicals to endothelial dysfunction—a precursor to atherosclerosis.

Ganguly's prolific output includes high-impact papers on cardiovascular epidemiology and molecular mechanisms. A notable 2005 review, "Premature Coronary Artery Disease in Indians and its Associated Risk Factors," published in Vascular Health and Risk Management, analyzed rising CAD trends in young Indians, attributing them to metabolic syndrome, genetic factors, and lifestyle changes. This work, co-authored with Meenakshi Sharma, emphasized inflammatory biomarkers like C-reactive protein (CRP) and interleukin-6 (IL-6), influencing risk assessment tools adapted for South Asian populations. In recent years, transcriptome studies have marked a shift toward genomics. The 2024 paper "Unraveling the Genetic Landscape of Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension in Indian Patients: A Transcriptome Study," in Respiratory Medicine, identified 97 upregulated and 6 downregulated genes in PAH patients, associating them with pathways like vascular remodeling and inflammation. Validated markers such as HLA-DQB2 suggest novel diagnostics, building on Ganguly's supervision of PhD theses exploring gene expression in cardiovascular stress.

Pandemic-related research, such as the 2020 article "COVID-19 Infection and Vascular Rearrangement/Controlled Angiogenesis" in Apollo Medicine, proposed angiogenesis as a therapeutic target for ischemic patients, linking SARS-CoV-2-induced endothelial injury to thrombosis and myocardial damage. This integrates his expertise in virology with cardiovascular pathology, highlighting cytokine storms (e.g., TNF-α, IL-1β) as drivers of acute events. Other influential works include the 2017 editorial "India's March to Halt the Emerging Cardiovascular Epidemic" in Circulation Research, co-authored with Naranjan S. Dhalla, which surveyed publication trends showing a rise in Indian cardiovascular research from 1985-2015, with over 50% focusing on hypertension, CAD, and myocardial infarction. Books like Modulation of Oxidative Stress in Heart Disease (2019) and Deadly RNA Viruses (2026) further elucidate oxidative and viral mechanisms in cardiac diseases.

Ganguly has supervised over 158 PhD theses, many intersecting cardiovascular themes. Examples include studies on oxidative injury in Plasmodium-infected erythrocytes (relevant to malaria-induced cardiac complications), polyamine metabolism in malarial parasites affecting host cardiovascular responses, and immunological pressures leading to drug resistance in Plasmodium falciparum, with implications for vascular health. Theses like "T Lymphocyte Subsets and Cytokine Profile in Experimental Murine Cerebral Malaria" explored infection-cardiac links, while others on biomarkers in heart failure used proteomics to differentiate phenotypes. His mentorship extends to emerging fields like biomarker profiling in STEMI patients, identifying age-related inflammatory markers (e.g., NGAL, cystatin C) for predicting no-reflow and left ventricular dysfunction. In oncology-cardiology overlaps, research on Granzyme B as a predictor in immune checkpoint inhibitor-treated lung cancer patients draws parallels to cardiovascular immunotherapy.

Ganguly's cardiovascular contributions are recognized through fellowships like the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (FIACS, Canada, 2001) and editorial roles on Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry. Awards include the Padma Bhushan (2008) for Medicine, Helmholtz International Fellow (2015) for infectious diseases with cardiovascular ties, and Lifetime Achievement from ASCODD (2022). Internationally, he served on WHO committees and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Grand Challenges, influencing vaccine policies that indirectly mitigate infection-related cardiac risks.

Policy-wise, as ICMR Director General, he drafted India's National Vaccine Policy, emphasizing vaccines for streptococcal diseases to prevent RHD. His advisory roles

in global bodies like the CDC's Global Health Group and SEARO's Advisory Committee on Health Research have shaped strategies for non-communicable diseases, including cardiovascular epidemics.

Selected Publications

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Report on the IACS-India Section Meeting New Delhi, India, February 5-7, 2026

Ramesh K. Goyal* and Md. Iqbal Alam
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The 22nd International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences conference was organized jointly with the Society for Nitric Oxide and Allied Radicals (SNOAR) held at one of the most reputed Medical institutes of India, Hamdard Institute of Medical Sciences & Research (HIMSR), New Delhi from 5th to 7th February, 2026. The focal theme of the three - day conference was "Application and Integration of Advancements in Basic and Clinical Sciences (AI- ABCs). The conference was inaugurated on 5th February, 2026 at Conference Hall of HIMSR. It was presided over by Dr. G. N. Qazi, CEO, HIMSR & HAHC Hospital. The ceremony began with the recitation of the Holy Quran followed by Lamp Lighting Ceremony. The dignitaries were welcomed and felicitated by the Organizing Secretary, Prof. Md. Iqbal Alam and the Dean HIMSR, Prof. Musharraf Husain. Prof. Kavita Gulati gave the information and report on behalf President Prof. Arunabha Ray about the SNOAR. Prof. Ramesh. Goyal, as the President presented the history and report of current year of the India section of IACS. Prof. Andras Varro, President International (IACS) and, Prof. Vladimir Jakovijevic, President of Euopean Section of IACS highlighted the significance and role of IACS in the promotion of heart health. (Dr.) Niranjan S Dhalla, Executive director, IACS addressed the gathering giving a brief history of IACS and a memoir of the founder of the Hamdard Foundation A great Visionary Abdul Hakim. The Presidential remarks were delivered by Dr. G.N. Qazi, CEO HIMSR & HAHC Hospital, wherein he emphasized on the

contributions jAbdul Hakim and and importance of research and new discoveries Chief Guest, Dr. Devkanta Pahad, Director, DIPAS, DRDO, in his address appreciated the organization of this international conference hoping that it will led to enhanced scientific exchange. The vote of thanks was given by Prof. (Dr.) Md. Iqbal Alam, Organising Secretary and Head, Department of Physiology, HIMSR.

Lamp Lighting by Dignitaries

Prof. G.N. Qazi During the Inaugural Session

Chief Guest, Dr. Devkanta Pahad,
Director, DIPAS, DRDO, New Delhi

In this three – day conference, 306 delegates participated from all over India and abroad. There was a total of 65 Invited Lectures, 82 poster presentations and 32 oral presentation held during the conference. There was one Plenary Lecture, 9 Orations, 8 Keynote addresses and 5 named Symposia. Parallel sessions were held including poster and oral presentations by young researchers.

Dr. Naranjan S. Dhalla at the Inaugural Session

All the sessions were chaired by 49 eminent academicians from India and abroad. The conference marked the presence of Three Presidents (Drs Andra Varro,Vladimir and Ramesh Goyal) of IACS along with the Executive Director Dr Dhalla of IACS and 2 Secretaries Generals (Dr Mukesh, Dr Istvan and Dr Milos) IACS Canada honoured Dr. G. N. Qazi with the Lifetime Achievement Award. Prof. (Dr.) Md.Iqbal Alam was bestowed with the Distinguished Service Award. IACS India Section presented the Exemplary Service award to Prof. (Dr.) Suresh Tyagi, Dr. Surya Ramachandran and Dr. Harlokesh Yadav. Dr. Mukesh Nandave was conferred the Distinguished service award.

Conference Igniting Scientific Temperament for New Drug Discovery and Development

One of the important features of the conference was deliberations on new drug discovery for the treatment of cardiovascular diseases. In the first plenary lecture by Prof. Naranjan Dhalla it was presented that propyl-L-carnitine can developed for treatment of diabetic cardiomyopathy. It was pointed out that originally work was initiated by Garry Lopaschuk and John McNeill in 1980s. The molecule may be revised for developing new drug. Later Prof. Dr Rajiv Narang in his K. G. Nair Oration lecture deliberated on Colchicine as a drug that can be taken as repurposed drug for the treatment of ischemic heart disease and atherosclerosis. Incidentally most Oration Awardees ignited the delegates including those from industry to consider newer strategies of drug development. Prof. Dr. Kushal K Das, the Devendra Agrawal Oration awardee informed about bioactive compounds of use of Mucuna prurience in

pulmonary hypertension. It was reported that Mucuna pruriens modulates Wnt/β- catenin signaling in hypoxia induced pulmonary artery smooth muscle cells and also possibility of involvement of even dopamine receptors in pulmonary hypertension.

Dr. Md. Iqbal Alam (3rd Right) Receiving the IACS Distinguished Service Award

Dr. G.N. Qazi (2nd Left) Receiving the IACS Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr. Mukesh Nandave (3rd Right) Receiving the IACS Exemplary Service Award

The trend continued with other Oration Awardees. Prof. Dr. Andras Varro delivered Ramesh Goyal Oration on effect of new anti-arrhythmic drug to be comparable with amiodarone with different mechanism of action. Prof. Dr Istvan Baczko presented data pro-arrhythmic effects in large animal model. Prof. Dr Milos P. Stojilkovic from Banza Luka in his Rakesh Kukreja Oration described significance of pyridostgmine as a drug to be repurposed for heart failure. Suresh Gupta Oration was delivered by Prof. Kavita Gulati. She deliberated on redox modulation and Nitric Oxide signaling in abating Theophylline induced Cardiotoxicity. The K. K. Talwar Oration was delivered by Prof. (Dr.) Abid Geelani, VMMC, New Delhi delivered who presented a very engaging lecture on techniques, outcomes and patient selection for Coronary artery bypass grafting. Dr. Amitabh Yaduvanshi, Interventional Cardiologist, New Delhi in his keynote address described the new advancement in management of hypertension with the renal denervation therapy.

Suresh Tyagi Oration was delivered by Prof. (Dr.) Vladimir Jakovljevic, University of Kragujevac, Serbia, who gave his speech on the effects of Imiquimod induced psoriasis like pathology on cardiovascular function, redox balance and cardioprotective potential of Galium verum. There were many other keynote invited lectures on the development of herbal formulations for the treatment of cardiovascular diseases. Prof. (Dr.) Ramesh K. Goyal, gave data of over 20 years of research on on Swertiamarin Derivatives for treatment of Diabetic Cardiomyopathy.

Dr. Suresh Tyagi (2nd Right) Receiving IACS Exemplary Service Award

In the C. R. Soman Symposium on Preventive cardiology Prof. (Dr.) Harlokesh Yadav, AIIMS, New Delhi, the Exemplary Service awardee discussed the impact of vitamin D in RIPC mediated cardio - protective and anti-inflammatory effects in Indian acute coronary syndrome patients. This was followed by presentation by the Fellow of IACS Prof. (Dr.) Sridhar Dwivedi, Senior Cardiologist, New Delhi and Former Dean, HIMSR wherein he discussed

his observations on effects of Termanalia Arjuna in management of cardiovascular disorders. Finance Secretary Dr. Ruchi Tandon, BRIC-THST, Faridabad gave a wonderful talk on targeting G Protein Coupled Receptors for the management of chronic heart failure.

Dr. Surya Ramchandran (Centre)
Receiving IACS Exemplary Service Award

In continuation to strategies for new drug discovery Distinguished service Awardee Prof. (Dr.) Md. Iqbal Alam, HIMSR gave lecture on the Protective effect of Metformin on cardiovascular dysfunction and HMGB1 Mediated Angiogenic imbalance in Preeclampsia. Dr. Mukesh Nandave, DIPSRU, New Delhi, the Exemplary Service Awardee deliberated on targeting G Protein Coupled Receptors in diabetes associated Non- Alcoholic fatty liver disease. Prof. (Dr.) Harmanjeet Singh, GMCH, Chandigarh delivered an interesting lecture on emerging adverse events with GLP 1 and dual GIP/GLP – 1 agonists.

Dr. Harlokesh Yadav (2nd Left) Receiving
IACS Exemplary Service Award

Harpal Buttar Oration was delivered by Prof. (Dr.) Jeemon Panniyammakal, SCTIMST, Thiruvanthapuram on the very important topic "Building a heart - healthy Viksit Bharat: translating science into prevention". The Exemplary Award recipient Prof. (Dr.) Suresh Tyagi, University of Louisville School of Medicine, USA presented insights into the epigenetics of morning heart attacks. Prof. (Dr.) Rita Khadka, BP Koirala Institute of Health Sciences, Nepal delivered the last keynote address of the day where she spoke on cardiovascular, autonomic and respiratory adjustments in high altitude dwellers.

Diabetes, Metabolic Disorders and Genomics

Genomics and Epigenetics are hot topic for current time. The Riya and Paul Ganguly Symposium not only included Advances in Diabetes but also the genomics and epigenetics. Prof. (Dr.) Abhinav Jain, HIMSR, New Delhi delivered his presentation on the topic "Quantifying liver fat in 2026: Imaging the cardio metabolic continuum of metabolic liver disease". Prof. (Dr.) Ipseeta Ray, MGM Medical college, Navi Mumbai gave a very interesting talk on development and validation of a Glycemic Prediction tool in type 2 Diabetes Mellitus incorporating pharmacogenetic and clinical determinants. The Exemplary Service awardee Dr. Surya Ramachandran, Gujarat Biotechnology University, Gandhinagar delivered an engaging lecture on Placental epigenetic signatures of maternal hypercholesterolemia.

Dr. Rajiv Narang, AIIMS, New Delhi
Delivering K.G. Nair Oration

There was an interesting session on Incretin based therapy in obesity and type 2 Diabetes Mellitus. The session was moderated by Prof. (Dr.) Sunil Kohli, HIMSR, New Delhi; and included as speakers Dr. Shaon Ghosh Dastidar, from Department of Physiology, Prof. (Dr.) Vineet Jain and Dr. Dharmander Singh from Department of Medicine, HIMSR, New Delhi. The next invited talk was delivered by Dr. Sundeep Dugar, from California, USA, Blue Oak Nutraceuticals, who discussed the role of mitochonria in cardiovascular health.

Dr. Kavita Gulati, VPCI, New Delhi Delivering Suresh Gupta Oration

Dr. Milos Stojiljković, Banja Luka, Bosnia & Herzegovina Delivering Rakesh Kukreja Oration

Cardiovascular and other Disease link with Nitric Oxide through SNOAR

The Arunabha Ray Oration was delivered by Prof. (Dr.) Suvro Chatterjee, University of Budwan, West Bengal who spoke on the topic "Endothelium – derived relaxing factor to Nitric Oxide, what's next". In addition, M. Fahim Symposium was focused on young faculty with invited talks from India and abroad got a chance to present their work. Prof. (Dr.) Snehasish Bhunia, UPUMS, Etawah presented the topic smooth muscle and its role in maintaining arterial stiffness. Prof. (Dr.) Manpreet Kaur, VMMC, New Delhi deliberated on the vascular function assessment using arterial stiffness. Dr. Neha Dhyani, UNMC, Nebraska, USA delivered talk on "Endothelial – mediated changes in antioxidant activity modulates blood pressure and vascular reactivity: a role of Nrf2". Last event of day in parallel session was invited talks by eminent scientists. N Radhakrishnan Symposium on Interventional Cardiology, included talk by Dr. Vineet Bhatia, Medanta, Noida where he discussed in detail the current management and future directions in the management of heart failure. Dr. Mayank Yadav, AIIMS, New Delhi in his presentation discussed the basics of cardiac surgery. Dr. Sheeraz Alam, HIMSR delivered an interesting presentation on use of artificial intelligence in hypertension management. Prof. (Dr.) Ashish Kakkar, PGI, Chandigarh gave his talk on the important topic of statin safety.

Dr. M.A. Geelani, VMC, New Delhi Receiving K.K. Talwar Oration Award

Dr. Nilesh Chandra, ICMR, New Delhi in his keynote address discussed the very important topic of how to write a research study protocol. Prof. (Dr.) Nirmal Singh, Punjabi University, Patiala. He gave a very interesting talk on Post-conditioning as a protective strategy against ischaemia-reperfusion injur and Prof. (Dr.) Renuka Sharma, VMMC, New Delhi in her very engaging lecture discussed the physiological and affective responses to acute exercise in sedentary individuals. Other invited lectures included Prof. (Dr.) Asif Hasan, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh delivered the next keynote address on the very relevant topic of coronary artery disease in young with Indian perspective. Next keynote address was given by Prof. (Dr.) Ramanjan Sinha, AIIMS, Raipur who discussed the causative role of cerebral haemodynamic stress as a causative factor for neuro - cognitive deficits in Sickle cell disease.

The next session of the day included the V. K. Vijayan Symposium on Nitric Oxide and free radicals. Dr. Shampa Sarkar Biswas, Presidency University, Kolkata presented an interesting lecture on how NO regulates female gonad development and maturation. Dr. Amrit Pal Singh, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar delivered lecture on the role of Nitric Oxide in kidneys. Dr. Varun Malhotra, AIIMS, Bhopal gave an interesting talk on role of yoga in modifying HRV and EEG.

Dr. Andras Varro, Szeged, Hungary Receiving the Ramesh Goyal Oration Award

From Cardiovascular diseases to Ergonomics

Professor Istvan Baczko presented interesting findings on pro-arrhythmic remodeling a large dog model offor endurance exercise. In another Symposium (DIPAS Symposium) exclusively supported by the Delhi Institute of Physiology and Allied Sciences (DIPAS) of India's Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) there were many interesting lectures on Military Ergonomics. This encompassed a very interesting talk by Dr. Madhusudan Pal, DIPAS, New Delhi on integration of human factors and product development for military applications. Dr. Tanushree Maity, DIPAS, New Delhi gave an engaging lecture on effect of combat vehicle operations on crew performance. Dr. Patade Vikas Yadav, DIPAS New Delhi presented the important topic of challenges in human factor standards in defense research and development. Next in session was an interesting talk by Dr. Abhinav Kanwal, AIIMS, Bathinda on SIRT3 - SIRT6 axis in mitochondrial protection and cardiometabolic disease.

Dr. Jeemon Panniyammakal Conferred with Harpal Buttar Oration Award

Beyond cardiovascular Sciences linking other disorders of brain and kidney through Nitric Oxide pathway

Dr. Sudeshna Mukherjee, Amity University, Noida presented her lecture on arsenic arrests adult hippocampal neurogenesis and its rescue by folic acid. Dr Sana Rehman, HIMSR deliberated on role of Nitric oxide on Neurobehavioral and cardiovascular changes associated with PTSD in rats. Prof. (Dr.) Dinu S Chandran, AIIMS, New Delhi gave an interesting talk on the interface of arterial mechanics and circulatory homeostasis. Dr. Santosh Kumar, Central University of Kashmir on human resistant as a mediator of cardiac dysfunction in pulmonary hypertension. Dr. Sanjay Kumar Dey, Dr. BRACBR, University of Delhi presented his talk on functional characterisation of a novel stress - adaptive G Protein Coupled receptors to control atherosclerosis and hypertension. Dr. Ekta Arora, GIMS, Greater Noida delivered an interesting talk on repurposing of drugs.

Dr. Vladimir Jakovljevic, Kragujevac, Serbia Receiving the Suresh Tyagi Oration Award

The keynote address of the conference, which was given by Prof. (Dr.) Amar K. Chandra, University of Calcutta, Kolkata. He presented his work on Indian cyanogenic plant foods and discussed the free radicals induced transformation of euthyroid cells to goitrous thyroid followed by autoimmune thyroiditis. Prof. (Dr.) Raj Kanwar Yadav, AIIMS, New Delhi presented the advancements in Cardiovascular kidney metabolic Syndrome. Prof. (Dr.) Amal Chandra Mondal, JNU, New Delhi presented an interesting lecture on insights into the pathophysiology of Alzheimer's disease and potential therapeutic target.

Presentations from Young Faculty and students

The parallel sessions were organized for young researchers for which 32 young scientists were presented in different categories of awards during oral sessions. In addition, 82 students and young faculty presented their findings in the Poster sessions. These were judged under the categories of awards like – N. K. Ganguly awards, N. S. Dhalla awards

and SNOAR Young Scientist and C. C. Kartha Travel Awards to motivate budding researchers.

Dr. Suvro Chatterjee, Budwan University Receiving Arunabha Roy Oration Award

Cultural Program and Valedictory Function

After a day filled with knowledge, research and scientific exchange, a vibrant cultural extravaganza themed - "Pulse of India: Rhythm of life" was organized wherein science met art and celebration. This gala event highlighting music and dance from 12 states of India was received with great cheer and resounding applause. The
delegates were left spell bound and stated that they felt they had taken a short tour of the cultural diversity and heritage of India.

During the Valedictory function was held. Admirations were expressed upon the successful completion of this confluence of great scientific minds. The warm hospitality by the organizing committee was much appreciated. The results of the poster and oral presentations were announced in the valedictory session. 15 awards were declared in total, encompassing the categories of N. K. Ganguly awards in Clinical Research, N.S. Dhalla awards in basic sciences and genomics research, SNOAR Young Scientist awards and C.C. Kartha Travel Awards in cardiovascular research. In addition, C.C. Kartha travel grant award were given to meritorious student participants who had travelled from other parts of India. Prof. (Dr.) Md. Iqbal Alam delivered his vote of thanks in which he shared the reach of the conference, which attracted 306 participants from India and all across the globe especially from USA, Canada, Hungry, Croatia, Nepal, Serbia, Bosnia, Saudi Arabia and all across India.

Young Faculty and Students Receiving Awards

Felicitation of some IACS- India Section Invited Speakers

Poster Sessions

Glimpses of the Cultural Program

Some of the National and International Delegates in Attendance of the meeting

Awardees at the 2026 IACS India Section Meeting

Dr. G.N. Qazi

Life time Achievement Award: Prof. Dr. G. N. Qazi, is currently holding the position of Director General/ CEO at Hamdard Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (HIMSR), a prestigious modern medical institute conceived and executed under his leadership. Dr. Qazi. joined Jamia Hamdard (Hamdard University) as Vice Chancellor on October 13, 2008 after serving as Director CSIR-IIIM Jammu for over 8 years. He obtained his masters and Ph.D degrees respectively in Biochemistry and Microbiology from M. S. University (Baroda, India) and Post-Doctoral training from the University of Dortmund (Germany). He has to his credit more than 40 years of research experience in the areas of Biochemistry, Microbial Biotechnology, Bio-prospecting of Natural Products and clinical validation studies for Indian classical drugs. He has been for more than 25 years in a leadership position and groomed scores of scientists and technocrats in the area of his core-competence. He has more than 300 international publications and over 30 international patents to his credit. He guided 35 scholars leading to Ph D degrees of 12 Universities in India and Germany where his Post-Doctoral research collaboration lasted over two decades. He led several national and international collaborations during his career with CSIR. Dr. Qazi sits as chair or a member of several prestigious committees of various higher education and scientific bodies of the country.

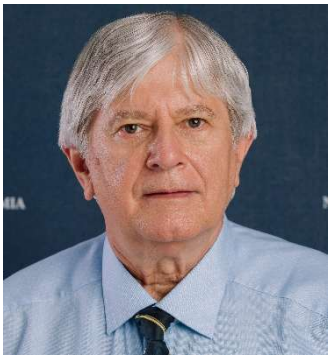
Dr. Md. Iqbal Alam

Distinguished Service Award: Dr. Md. Iqbal Alam, Professor & Head, Department of Physiology, Hamdard Institute of Medical Sciences & Research, New Delhi. He has obtained his Masters and Ph.D. degrees from Department of Physiology, University of Calcutta. Dr. Alam has served as a Chairman and Professor of Physiology in the Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, Sebha University, Sebha, Libya. He is currently Vice President of Physiological Society of India and served as Vice President from 2020 to 2024 of South Asian Association of Physiologist and executive member of National Academy of Medical Sciences, Delhi Chapter. He is also the editor of Scientific Reports, a springer nature Journal and PNAS Nexus. He has all together more than 30 years of teaching and research experience in the field of Physiology, Pharmacology and Drug discovery. Many research funding agencies such as Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Department of Science and Technology (DST), Grand Challenge Canada (GCC) etc. have sponsored various projects, in which he has completed successfully.

He has many National and International recognition and awards for his research work, from different reputed organisations like INSA, UNESCO-ICRO, DST, CSIR and UGC. Dr Alam has the membership award from National Academy of Medical Sciences (India). Dr. Alam has Lifetime memberships of various societies like Indian Science Congress Association, Indian Pharmacological Society, Indian Physiological Society, Association of Physiologist and Pharmacologist of India, Indian Academy of Neurosciences, Society for Nitric oxide and allied radicals and many more. He has made a significant contribution in Research and Development in India and abroad by bringing prolific innovation in the area of Venoms and Toxins and Vascular Physiology. The goal of his research is to understand the role of damaged associated molecular pattern and their signalling pathways. He has visited and presented several of his research papers in different countries like Paris, France; Istanbul, Turkey; Adelaide, Australia; Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; Tehran, Iran; Stanford, California, US, Yerevan, Armenia etc. His research area includes Vascular Physiology, Drug discovery and on Venoms and Toxins. He has contributed and published more than 100 research papers in international journals with high impact factor.

Dr. Mukesh Nandave

Exemplary Service Award: Dr. Mukesh Nandave is an experienced pharmacologist with a demonstrated history of working in national and international organisations. Currently, Dr. Mukesh Nandave is Associate Dean (Research)and Head of the School of Pharmaceutical Sciences at Delhi Pharmaceutical Sciences and Research University (DPSRU), Government of NCT of Delhi, New Delhi, India. He has strong professional skills in Pharmaceutical Research, Molecular Biology, Inflammation, and cardiovascular and metabolic diseases. Dr. Nandave has published over 170 peer-reviewed research papers, authored 7 books and 43 book chapters, holds three Indian patents, and has secured more than ₹4.6 crore in government and industry research funding. He serves on several national expert committees, including ICMR and AYUSH, and has received numerous prestigious awards for research and leadership. He is currently Secretary General of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (IACS), India, and General Secretary (International) of the Indian Pharmacological Society, and an active life member of multiple national and international professional societies.



Dr. Andras Varro

Ramesh Goyal Oration Award: Dr. Andras Varro graduated from the Szeged Medical University (Hungary) with an M.D. degree in 1978. He obtained his PhD degree in 1987. In 1998 he received the D.Sc. degree from the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Between 1978 and 1990 he worked at the Institute for Drug Research in Budapest. Between 1991 and 2001 he was working at the Department of Pharmacology and Pharmacotherapy at the University of Szeged, Hungary with professor Julius Gy. Papp and he succeeded him as chairman of the department in 2001. He served as vice rector of the University of Szeged between 2011-2014 supervising science and innovation. During his career, he spent 5 years in the USA, at the Kranner Institute of Cardiology, Indiana University with Prof. Surawicz, at the Department of Pharmacology and Cell Biophysics, University of Cincinnati, Ohio with professors Arnold Schwartz and David Lathtrop. He also spent more than 1 year (1991-1992) in the United Kingdom at the Department of Veterinary Preclinical Sciences, University of Liverpool, with professor David Eisner. His major research interests include physiology and pharmacology of cardiac potassium channels, cellular mechanisms of arrhythmias, antiarrhythmic and proarrhythmic drug actions. He participated in 3 EU-FP 6 or 7 grants, and obtained continuous funding from Hungarian National funding agencies (OTKA, NKHT etc). He supervised more than 10 successful PhD students and 5 habilitations. He organized several international scientific meetings one with 9 Nobel Laurates participations. Between 1998 and 2002 he served as an editor for the British Journal of Pharmacology and since 2013 he is editor of Cardiovascular Research and since 2017 J Molecular and Cellular Cardiology. He published more than 300 full length papers and 9 book chapters in English language which earned more than 8500 independent citations and resulted H index= 54. He was also involved in the development of several new cardioactive drugs which resulted 8 patent applications.

Dr. Rajiv Narang

K. G. Nair Oration Award: Dr. Rajiv Narang is a senior cardiology specialist serving as Professor and Head of the Department of Cardiology at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. He leads clinical services, teaching, and research in cardiovascular medicine at one of India's premier medical institutions. As the Head of the Cardiology Department he is responsible for overall leadership of cardiac care and academic activities. He is specialist in Cardiac Conditions and has extensive expertise in coronary artery disease, myocardial infarction, interventional cardiology (e.g., coronary angioplasty), heart failure, and atherosclerosis. He is actively involved in evidence-based cardiac care practices, patient management, and supervising complex cardiac interventions. Dr. Narang is a prolific author with over 200 scientific publications in cardiology, reflecting strong involvement in clinical research and advancement of heart disease management. His work includes studies on novel biomarkers, heart failure treatments, and disease profiles relevant to Indian patients. Dr. Narang also frequently appears in media and educational outreach offering insights on heart attack causes, prevention strategies and cardiac health tips for the general public.

Dr. Muhammad Abid Geelani

K. K. Talwar Oration Award: Prof. Dr. Muhammad Abid Geelani began his medical journey at J.N. Medical College, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh where he completed his MBBS and MS(Surgery). He did M.Ch. in Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery from G.B. Pant Hospital, Maulana Azad Medical College under University of Delhi. He has served as a faculty member for about 3 decades in Department of CTVS at G.B. Pant Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research, New Delhi (GIPMER) and as Head of the Department for a decade. He has worked as Medical Director at the G.B. Pant Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education & Research (GIPMER), New Delhi. He has also worked as officiating Dean of Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi, officiating Medical Director LNJP Hospital, New Delhi and officiating Director of Guru Nanak Eye centre, New Delhi. Currently, he is working as a Director Professor, Department of CTVS, Vardhman Mahaveera Medical College and Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi. He has earlier worked at various prestigious institutes like AIIMS, New Delhi and JIPMER, Pondicherry. A distinguished surgeon and academician, Dr. Geelani has contributed extensively as a member of boards of studies, expert panels, and as a resource person in several medical colleges and national bodies like NBE and NMC. His research and academic work have been widely published in reputed national and international journals, earning him numerous awards and recognitions. Beyond his professional accomplishments, Dr. Geelani strongly believes in nurturing values of integrity, empathy, and honesty within the medical system. He is deeply committed to the promotion of human values and ethics in both education and everyday practices in a simple and cost-effective way.

Dr. Vladimir Jakovljevic

Suresh Tyagi Oration Award: Dr. Vladimir Jakovljevic, MD, PhD (Kragujevac, Serbia) is Professor and Head of Cardiovascular Research Laboratory, Faculty of Medical Sciences University of Kragujevac, Serbia. Dr. Jakovljevic completed his PhD in 2004 at the University of Kragujevac and specialization in Clinical Physiology in 2005 at the University of Belgrade. His main research interest is cardiovascular (patho)physiology with focus on the role of oxidative stress and reactive species in the progression of cardiovascular diseases. Dr. Jakovljevic is highly dedicated to education of students of medicine, pharmacy, dentistry and postdoctoral students, to whom unselfishly transfer knowledge from the areas of his expertise, using interdisciplinary approach, thus providing strong intellectual basis for future medical doctors, pharmacists, dentists and young investigators.

Dr. Jakovljevic was elected in 2018 as Dean of the Faculty of Medical Science for a term of 3 years and re-elected in 2021, for 3 more years. The Council of the Faculty of Medical Sciences unanimously elected Dr. Jakovljevic in view of his exceptional successes as previous Vice-dean for Pharmacy Department. The Faculty of Medical Sciences under the leadership of Dr. Vladimir Jakovljevic continued to flourish with new scientific and educational heights. In 2013 he has been elected the President of the Serbian Physiological Society. Dr. Jakovljevic was awarded with Distinguished Leadership Award in Cardiovascular Sciences in 2015 by International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences; Lifetime Achievement Award in Cardiovascular Science, Medicine and Surgery in 2019 by International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences; John Foerester Distinguished Lecture Award in 2022 by Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences, St. Boniface Hospital Albrechtsen Research Centre, Winnipeg, Canada; Naranjan Dhalla Award for Innovation in Cardiovascular Sciences in 2023 by International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences and Outstanding Leadership Medal for Research, Education and Science in 2023 by Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences, St. Boniface Hospital Albrechtsen Research Centre, Winnipeg, Canada.

He was the Editor in Chief of the Serbian Journal of Experimental and Clinical Research published by the Faculty of Medical Sciences University of Kragujevac for almost 10 years, and currently is General Manager of the journal. Dr. Jakovljevic is currently the President of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences - European Section (IACS-ES) and the President of the International Society of Pathophysiology (ISP).

Dr. Kavita Gulati

Suresh K. Gupta Oration Award: Dr. Kavita Gulati is Professor in Pharmacology at VPCI, University of Delhi since 2011. Dr. Gulati has 30 years of teaching and research experience in Clinical & Experimental Pharmacology and Toxicology in different capacities in India and abroad. Her research on Nitric oxide and cardio-respiratory pharmacology & toxicology, traditional medicine and stress research is exemplary. In recognition of her contributions she is elected as Fellow of NAMS (FAMS); IACS (FIACS, Canada) and IPS (FIPS). She is recipient of several national awards, gold medals and prestigious Orations including Prof. SK Gupta oration of IACS (India). Her name has been included in the XIV volume of Asian Admirable Achievers. She is also Coordinator of ADR Monitoring Center (AMC) and MDMC at VPCI under Programs of India; and Nodal Officer of Multidisciplinary Research Unit-VPCI, MoHFW, Govt. of India. She has published extensively in national and international journals (more than 200 publications, h-index 32 and i10-index 66), is co-author of several chapters in reference/textbooks of Pharmacology, and co-editor of five books in Pharmacology.

Dr. Miloš Stojiljković

Rakesh Kukreja Oration Award: Dr. Miloš P. Stojiljković, MD, PhD (Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina) graduated from the Medical Faculty, University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina (at that time, part of Yugoslavia) in 1984, earned his MSc degree in Experimental Pharmacology at the Medical Faculty, University of Belgrade in 1991 and defended his PhD thesis in Clinical Pharmacology at the Military Medical Academy in Belgrade in 1996. He was promoted Assistant Professor in 1997, Associate Professor in 2002 and Professor in Pharmacology, Toxicology and Clinical Pharmacology in 2009. Dr Stojiljković was a Postdoctoral Fellow in Clinical Pharmacology at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, South Carolina, USA (1999-2000). In 2016 he joined the Faculty of Medicine, University of Banja Luka, where he is currently holding a position of Professor and Vice-Dean for Scientific Research.Professor Stojiljković has been Editor-in-Chief of the biomedical scientific journal *Scripta Medica* since 2018. He is also Associate Editor of the peer-review journals *Drug and Chemical Toxicology* and *Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry*. In June 2023 he became a Full Member of the World Association of Medical Editors (WAME).Dr Stojiljković has published 250+ scientific papers in renowned biomedical journals, mainly in the fields of toxicology of acetylcholinesterase inhibitors, cardiovascular pharmacology and toxicology and history of medicine. He is also a member of numerous national and international societies and associations, including British Pharmacological Society, German Society for Experimental and Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology (DGPT). In January 2022 Professor Stojiljković was appointed Fellow, International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (IACS) and the Council Member of the European Section of the IACS.

Dr. Kusal K. Das

Devendra Agrawal Oration Award: Prof. Dr. Kusal K. Das is currently working as Distinguished Chair Professor (Vascular Physiology) at Shri B. M. Patil Medical College, Hospital and Research Centre, BLDE (Deemed to be University), Vijayapura, Karnataka, India. He did his PhD in Physiology from the University of Calcutta and joined as Assistant Professor of Physiology at Al Ameen Medical College, Vijayapur, India (1990). Further, he did his postdoctoral fellowship at University College London, United Kingdom. His area of research is metal-induced vascular smooth muscle cell signaling, with or without exposure to hypoxia (2–5% oxygen). His laboratory is also working on hypertensive rat models and cerebrovascular ischemic and haemorrhagic stroke models in relation to multiple vascular gene expressions and the pathophysiology of cardio- and cerebrovascular disorders. Professor Das was a Visiting Professor of Medicine at the Leeds Institute of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Medicine, University of Leeds, from 2014 to 2016. Prof. Das has supervised 32 PhD scholars and several MD (Physiology) and postdoctoral students. He has been conferred the prestigious "Dr. Raja Ramanna State Scientist Award" and the "State Award of Excellence" by the Government of Karnataka, India. In 2019, the Indian Science Congress Association, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India, invited him to deliver the "ISCA Endowment Lecture" and conferred on him the "G. P. Chatterjee Research Prize." Further, he has received the "Plurinational Science & Technology Award" from the Republic of Bolivia. Prof. Das was the former President of the South Asian Association of Physiologists (SAAP) and was conferred the "SAAP Lifetime Achievement Award" in 2024.Prof. Das's name has been enlisted in Stanford University's list of the top 2% scientists since 2023.

Dr. Jeemon Panniyammakal

Harpal Buttar Oration Award: Dr. Jeemon Panniyammakal is Additional Professor of Epidemiology at the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST), Thiruvananthapuram, is also a Senior Clinical Fellow of the DBT-Wellcome Trust India Alliance. Dr Jeemon has nearly two decades of research experience at the national level in India, with a focus on cardiovascular disease epidemiology. He has published extensively in leading medical/epidemiology journals, with over 190 publications (h-index: 87, citations exceeding 200,000). Currently, Jeemon holds major research grants from the Wellcome Trust-DBT India Alliance, NHMRC (Australia), Medical Research Council (UK), National Institute for Health Care Research (UK) and Indian Council of Medical Research. He is currently holding research grants worth over 100 Crores. Dr Jeemon's current focus is on heart failure and multi-morbidity. He is also currently involved in major implementation and scale-up research on hypertension and diabetes control in India, primary care research on managing multimorbidity, and collaborative care models for managing heart failure in Indian settings, utilising mHealth applications for support. He is also involved in several heart failure registries in India, including the National Heart Failure Registry of India, the Kerala Heart Failure Registry, and the Trivandrum Heart Failure Registry. Dr Jeemon received the prestigious Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award in Medical Sciences (2021) from the Government of India. He is also serving as an Honorary Professor at La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia.

Dr. Suvro Chatterjee

Arunabha Ray Oration Award: Dr. Suvro Chatterjee is the UGC-FRP Professor, Department of Biotechnology, The University of Burdwan, West Bengal. Before joining the University of Burdwan in May 2021 he was in Anna University, and Coordinator, Life Science Division, AU-KBC Research Centre, Chennai, India for a long 17 years. Suvro Chatterjee's research interests revolve around nitric oxide signaling in endothelial bed and vascular remodeling. The goal of the Chatterjee lab is to understand the role of nitric oxide signaling pathways in cellular migration, permeability and angiogenesis. He is B.Sc (1989) and M.Sc in Human Physiology from Calcutta University (1992).Trained as cell biologists at Devi Ahilya University Indore (Ph.D. 1999), McGill University (1998-2000) and Mayo Clinic Rochester (2001-2004) (Postdoctoral trainings). He has 140 research articles published in peer reviewed journals like PNAS, Circ Res, American Journal of Physiology, American Journal of Pathology, British Journal of Pharmacology and Journal of Cell Sciences to his credit. Dr. Chatterjee is the first recipient of UGC Faculty Recharge Programme (FRP) Professorship in Life Sciences and accordingly joined the Department of Biotechnology, Anna University in 2014. He is also awarded with Wood Whelan Fellow (IUBMB) (1997), MCBN - UNESCO Research Fellow (1998), Dr. Alan B. Hawthorne Award (McGill University 2000), INSA International Fellow Award (2014), Swiss National Science Foundation Award (2014) and Fulbright-Nehru Academic and Professional Excellence Fellowship (FNFPE) (2018). Presently, he is acting as member Member of the SERB Core Research Grant Biomedical and Health Sciences Programme Advisory Committee (CRG BHS PAC) since 2022.

Dr. Harlokesh Narayan Yadav

Exemplary Service Award: Dr. Harlokesh Narayan Yadav is currently serving as an Additional Professor in the Department of Pharmacology at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi. His research expertise lies in molecular and cardiovascular pharmacology, with a strong focus on elucidating novel therapeutic strategies for cardiovascular diseases. With over 18 years of rich academic and research experience, Dr Yadav has guided/guiding more than 55 postgraduate and doctoral scholars (M.Sc., M.Pharm., MD, and Ph.D.) and has published over 90 high-impact research and review articles in reputed national and international journals. Dr Yadav is the member of National Academy of Medical Sciences (NAMS) and the National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI), and has made significant contributions to the pharmacological community as the Secretary (International) of the Indian Pharmacological Society (IPS). Dr Yadav is serving as vice president of International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (India Section) and organised international conference (ICP-IPSCON 2024) in 2024 in AIIMS New Delhi. He has successfully executed and contributed to over 19 different research projects funded by premier agencies such as AIIMS, ICMR, DBT, and DST. In recognition of his outstanding scientific contributions, Dr Yadav has received numerous prestigious honours and awards, including the Fellowship of Indian Pharmacological

Society (FIPS, 2025), Fellowship of Punjab Academy of Sciences (FAPS, 2025), Fellowship of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (FIACS, 2023), Distinguished Service Award in Cardiovascular Sciences, Certificate of Excellence in innovation from ICMR, and Prof. N.S. Dhalla Oration Award (2023), Fellowship by the Asian Pacific Society of Hypertension (2022), Pharmacy Ratna Award (UP, 2021), Dr Manjeet Singh Award, N.N. Datta Prize, and Best Research Paper Award (2018) and many others.

Dr. Suresh C. Tyagi

Exemplary Service Award: Prof. Suresh C. Tyagi currently serves as a Professor of Physiology & Biophysics at the University of Louisville (Louisville, KY, USA), the Stodghill Endowed Chair in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Louisville, and the Vice Chair for Research, Physiology & Biophysics, University of Louisville. Dr. Tyagi's research career began as a biophysical scientist during his graduate and post-graduate training in India and Ireland. He was an assistant professor of medicine and biochemistry at the University of Missouri at Columbia (1992–1996) and an associate professor at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (1998–2003). He has published in excellent journals such as American J Physiology, Circulation, J Biol Chem, Biochemistry, and various other biomedical science journals. Dr. Tyagi is a member of honored societies such as the APS, ISHR, and AHA where he has served in various capacities. He has served on NIH study section committees. Currently, he is a regular member of the NIH-MIM study section. He is on the editorial board of AJP, JMCC, Clin & Exper Hypertension, and Mol Cell Biochemistry. He has numerous awards and honors from AHA and APS. He has been supported by national funding throughout his research career. His research extends beyond the field of remodeling and has implications in cancer, vascular dementias, and brain microvascular diseases.

Dr. Surya Ramachandran

Exemplary Service Award: Dr. Surya Ramachandran is an Associate Professor of Medical Biotechnology at Gujarat Biotechnology University, Gandhinagar, and a cardiovascular biologist whose work bridges molecular science and meaningful clinical translation. With over two decades of research and teaching experience, she has built a strong academic profile centred on understanding the molecular drivers of cardiovascular disease, diabetes-associated vascular complications, maternal hypercholesterolemia, and early prognostic markers of cardiac risk in young individuals. Dr. Ramachandran completed her postdoctoral training in cardiovascular and diabetes biology at the Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology. She was also a Visiting Scientist at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, USA. Her research has consistently focused on vascular inflammation, macrophage biology, epigenetic regulation, and RNA-based biomarkers, with the goal of developing early predictive tools for atherosclerosis and sudden cardiac death. As Principal Investigator, she has secured nine extramural research grants from major funding bodies including the Indian Council of Medical Research, Gujarat State Biotechnology Mission and the Department of Biotechnology. Her current projects involve single-cell transcriptomics of unstable atherosclerotic plaques and DNA methylation–based prognostic markers for pediatric hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. Her work has been published in high-impact journals such as *Proteomics*, *Clinical Science*, *Cardiovascular Diabetology*, *FASEB* and *Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry*. A dedicated mentor, Dr. Ramachandran is guiding six PhD scholars and over 40 postgraduate dissertations, with her students receiving National and International awards, including recognition at the American Heart Association Scientific Sessions. Beyond research, she has held significant leadership roles, including Secretary General of the India Section of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (2016–2022), and currently serves in key academic and policy committees at GBU. Her contributions have been recognized with several honors, including the ICMR Chaturvedi Kalawati Jagmohan Das Memorial Award for Cardiovascular Research (2017) and the Prof. Indira Parikh 50 Women in Education Leaders Citation Award (2025). Dr. Ramachandran's work reflects a deep commitment to translational science, academic leadership, and public health outreach, particularly in promoting cardiovascular awareness among children and young adults.

ACADEMY OF CARDIOVASCULAR SCIENCES

Indian Section of
INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF CARDIOVASCULAR SCIENCES

A Tribute to Dr. Naranjan S. Dhalla: A Living Legend of Science and Humanity

Dr. Naranjan S. Dhalla

From a modest village near Batala to the summit of global scientific distinction, the life of Dr. Naranjan S. Dhalla stands as an extraordinary testament to perseverance, vision, and an unwavering dedication to serving humanity. His journey–marked by resilience, scholarship, and a rare humility continues to inspire generations of scientists, students, and admirers across the world. Born into simple circumstances, Dr. Dhalla's early life bore no indication that he would one day become one of the world's foremost leaders in cardiovascular science. Yet through determination and an unshakeable work ethic, he carved his own path. Beginning in a laboratory with little clarity about his future, he ultimately earned a scholarship to the University of Pennsylvania and then at Pittsburgh, where he completed his Ph.D. in Pharmacology in 1965. This milestone set the stage for a career that would influence cardiovascular research for more than half a century.

Dr. Dhalla's scientific contributions are monumental. A prolific scholar, he has published over 880 full-length research papers, authored and edited 68 books, and mentored 166 fellows and students who now lead independent research programs around the world. His pioneering work– spanning diabetic cardiomyopathy, ischemic heart disease, heart failure, calcium transport mechanisms, oxidative stress, and innovative therapeutic strategies–has shaped the modern understanding of cardiovascular pathophysiology. His research has been cited more than 37,000 times, a remarkable testament to its enduring global impact.

Equally remarkable is his role as a visionary institution-builder. In Winnipeg, Dr. Dhalla founded and developed the Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences (ICS), transforming it into an internationally respected centre of excellence. He played a foundational role in developing the International Society for Heart Research in 1968 for 25 years and later founded the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences in 1996 to promote global education, collaboration, and leadership in heart research. His 36- year tenure as Editor-in-Chief of Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry elevated the journal to a leading international platform for scientific exchange, a contribution so profound that he was named Editor-in-Chief Emeritus.

Dr. Dhalla's influence continues to live on not only through institutions and publications, but also through enduring traditions that celebrate excellence in cardiovascular medicine. On December 2 and 3, 2025, the Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences at the St. Boniface Hospital Albrechtsen Research Centre, in partnership with the University of Manitoba, proudly celebrated the 27th Annual Naranjan Dhalla Cardiovascular Awards. This distinguished two-day event–featuring a scientific forum and awards ceremony–honoured global leaders whose work has profoundly advanced cardiovascular medicine. The program also recognized early-career investigators and individuals who have made significant contributions to the growth of St. Boniface Hospital and the Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences.

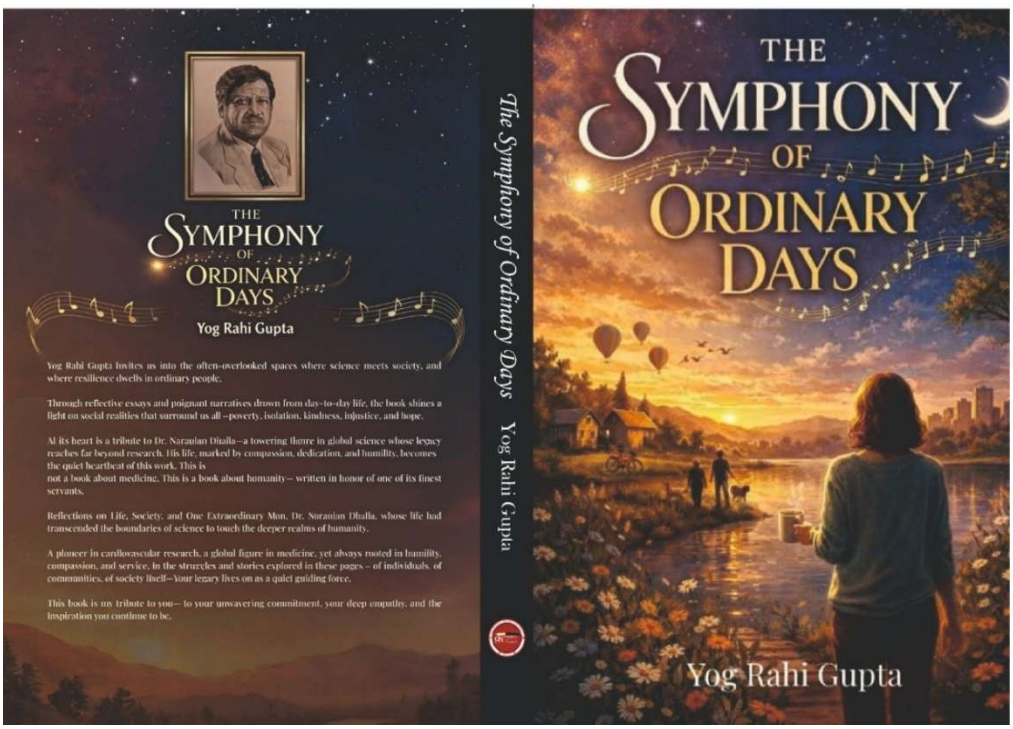
These awards, established by Dr. Dhalla, are a living embodiment of his values–scientific excellence, mentorship, integrity, and service to humanity. They reflect his lifelong commitment to nurturing talent, advancing knowledge, and strengthening the global cardiovascular community. That such several internationally respected awards exist in his honour is a testament to the depth of his influence and the respect he commands across continents. His lifetime of service has earned him over 220 honours and awards, including Canada's highest distinctions: the Order of Canada, the Order of Manitoba, and Fellowship in the Royal Society of Canada. He has been inducted into the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame, recognized among the Greatest Manitobans of All Time, and honoured with a statue in Winnipeg's Citizens Hall of Fame. He holds 11 honorary degrees (MD and DSc) from international institutions and has been invited to speak at over 560 conferences and academic institutions worldwide. In 2024, ScholarGPS ranked him among the top 0.005% of scholars globally, recognizing his extraordinary impact in medicine, cardiac physiology, and diabetic cardiomyopathy.

Yet beyond the accolades stands a man whose humility, kindness, and compassion are as exceptional as his scientific brilliance. Dr. Dhalla has devoted his life not only to advancing knowledge but to uplifting others– particularly

young scientists and scholars from regions often overlooked by the global scientific community. His unwavering commitment to ethical mentorship and academic integrity has transformed countless lives.

Every interaction with him reveals the depth of his character– gentle, sincere, encouraging, and deeply invested in the success of others. I have been profoundly blessed to know him personally. As a writer, I have felt his constant support, encouragement, and heartfelt blessings. Two years ago, his presence at the inaugural launch of my book "Life is a Journey" remains one of the most cherished moments of my literary path. His joy in seeing my work, his pride in every achievement, and his guidance at each step have left an indelible mark on my heart. To be in Dr. Dhalla's presence is to feel inspired. To listen to him is to receive wisdom. To observe his life is to understand the true meaning of service, dedication, and purpose. His passion for research–undiminished after decades–reflects a spirit driven not by recognition, but by a genuine desire to improve lives.

Dr. Dhalla's life teaches us that greatness is built through perseverance, shaped by humility, and fulfilled through service. His legacy is not only scientific–it is profoundly human. With deep respect, admiration, and gratitude, I offer this tribute to Dr. Naranjan S. Dhalla–a towering scientist, a visionary leader, a global ambassador of cardiovascular science, and above all, a gentle and noble soul whose guidance, blessings, and kindness have been a true gift in my life. This book is dedicated to him with heartfelt love, reverence, and eternal respect.



Back and Front Cover of the Book

This book entitled "The Symphony of Ordinary Days" written by the renowned author, Mr. Yog Rahi Gupta has been formulated *"through reflective essays and poignant narratives drawn from day-to-day life, the book shines a light on social realities that surround us all- poverty, isolation, kindness, injustice and hope. It is a tribute to Dr. Naranjan Dhalla- a towering figure in global science whose legacy reaches far beyond research. His life marked by compassion, dedication and humility become the quiet heartbeat of this work. This is not a book about medicine. This is a book about humanity- written in honor of one of its finest servants. Reflections on life, society and one extraordinary man. Dr. Naranjan Dhalla, whose life has transcended the boundaries of service to touch the deeper realms of humanity. A pioneer of cardiovascular research, a global figure in medicine, yet always rooted in humility, compassion and science. In the struggles and stories explored in these pages- of individuals, of communities, of society itself- your legacy lives on as a quiet guiding force. This book is my tribute to you- to your unwavering commitment, your deep empathy and the inspiration you continue to be"* **Yog Rahi Gupta**

Addendum to the Report on the 12th Annual Meeting of the IACS-North American Section, Las Vegas, USA

Editor's Note: In the December 2025 issue (Volume 24. No. 4) of CV Network, some of the IACS Awardees at the IACS-North American Section Meeting in Las Vegas were inadvertently missed in the published meeting report. Accordingly, in this issue we note that the recipient of the Naranjan Dhalla Award for Innovative Investigators in Cardiovascular Sciences was De. E. Douglas Lewandowski (The Ohio State University College of Medicine, Columbus, USA); the Paul Ganguly Distinguished Lecture Award in Cardiovascular Sciences was bestowed upon Dr. Ravichandran Ramasamy (NYU Grossman School of Medicine, USA); the Amarjit Arneja Distinguished Lecture Award in Prevention of Heart Disease was presented to Dr. Jianyi "Jay" Zhang (The University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA) and the Suresh Tyagi Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences was presented to Dr. Maria I. Kontaridis (Masonic Medical Research Institute, Utica, USA). The Gary Lopaschuk Graduate Student Award was presented to Eleanor Molar of The Ohio State University, College of Medicine, Columbus, USA). In addition, there were several award winners for the Morris Karmazyn Poster Competition (Dina Ali, Christine Lee, Angelie Pathak and Srushti Wagh) and Margaret Moffatt Poster Competition (Noah O. Vitek, Sei Kim, Chisom Ovuegbe and Bo Wang).

Dr. E. Douglas Lewandowski (2nd Left) Receiving the Naranjan Dhalla Award from Drs. Buddha Dawn (L), Andras Varro (2nd Right) and Naranjan Dhalla (R)

Dr. Ravichandran Ramasamy (Middle)Receiving the Paul Ganguly Award from Drs. Buddha Dawn (L and Andras Varro (R)

Dr. Jianyi "Jay" Zhang (2nd Right) Receiving the Amarjit Arneja Award from Drs. Buddha Dawn (L), Roberto Bolli (2nd Left) and Andras Varro (R)

Dr. Maria I. Kontaridis (2nd Left) Receiving the Suresh Tyagi Award from Drs. Buddha Dawn (L), Andras Varro (2nd Right) and Naranjan Dhalla (R)

Eleanor Molar (Middle) Receiving the Gary Lopaschuk Graduate Student Award from Drs. Buddha Dawn (R) and Devendra Agrawal (L)

Recipients of the Margaret Moffat Poster Award Competition with Drs. Devendra Agrawal (L) and Buddha Dawn (R))

Recipients of the Morris Karmazyn Poster Award Competition with Drs. Devendra Agrawal (L) and Buddha Dawn (R))

Recipients of the Margaret Moffat Poster Award Competition with Drs. Devendra Agrawal (L) and Buddha Dawn (R))

International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences
announces the

Roberto Bolli, M.D.

DISTINGUISHED YOUNG SCIENTIST AWARD COMPETITION

1st Place: $25,000 • 2nd Place: $10,000 • 3rd, 4th, and 5th Place: $5,000 each

Recognizing the most meritorious young cardiovascular scientists and future scientific leaders. Five finalists will compete at the 13th Annual Meeting of the North American Section of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (IACS-NAS) in

LOUISVILLE, KY (SEPTEMBER 10-12, 2026)

Eligibility

- Postdoctoral Research Fellows
- Medical Residents
- Clinical Cardiology Fellows
- Faculty members within the first 5 years of academic appointment at the time of the IACS-NAS meeting
- Investigators working in basic, translational, and clinical research are eligible
- The competition is open to applicants from all over the world

The Application Package should include:

- CV
- Manuscript submitted, in preparation, or published in the 12 months preceding the IACS-NAS meeting
- 700 word narrative summarizing research accomplishments and describing the significance of key publications (maximum 3 publications)
- 500-word statement of support by the mentor (for trainees) or Department Chair (for faculty) explaining why the applicant deserves this recognition.
- Recommendation letters will not be accepted.

Application deadline: July 1st, 2026

Submit online:

https://iacs-nas.org/roberto-bolli-ysa/

Update on the 13th Meeting of the North American Section of the Academy, Louisville, USA, September 10-12, 2026

On behalf of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences-North American Section (IACS – NAS) and the University of Louisville Division of Cardiovascular Medicine, it is a great pleasure to welcome you to this meeting, a premier gathering of cardiovascular scientists, clinicians, trainees, and students. This will be the 13th annual meeting of the IACS-NAS and will be held in conjunction with the Annual Symposium of the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine. The meeting will take place at the Galt House in Louisville, Kentucky, on September 10–12, 2026. We are thrilled to host this event in a wonderful setting that will foster innovation, collaboration, education, collegiality, and the exchange of ground-breaking ideas.

The International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences has a long tradition of promoting excellence in cardiovascular research, education, and collaboration. Over the years, and across the world, IACS meetings have been marked by exquisite collegiality and unique warmth, serving as a vital platform to advance understanding of cardiovascular health and disease, while also supporting the next generation of scientists and clinicians through mentorship, networking, awards, and career development opportunities. The University of Louisville Cardiac Symposium has been a forum that brings together experts and trainees to discuss the latest and most topical issue in cardiovascular medicine.

This conference in Louisville will continue these traditions by offering a warm, collegial atmosphere and a dynamic program that highlights the latest advances in cardiovascular science and therapy. From Plenary Lectures by world-renowned experts to poster presentations and award competitions, the meeting will cover a wide range of topics in science and medicine, including heart failure, inflammation, metabolism, epigenetics, and cardiac repair and regeneration, to name a few.

This conference reflects the commitment of IACS-NAS and UofL to exploring innovative approaches to the prevention, treatment, and management of cardiovascular diseases. We are particularly excited to provide a platform for investigators and physicians to showcase their work, engage in scientific discussions, and build connections that will shape the future of cardiovascular science and medicine.

We look forward to welcoming you to this exciting event! Together, let's make this year's IACS – NAS/UofL Conference an unforgettable experience!

Sincerely,
Roberto Bolli M.D., D.Sc. (Hon), Dr. h. c.
Conference Chair

Call for Abstracts:

All participants are invited to submit their abstract for ORAL or POSTER presentations.
Abstract submission Period: May 1, 2026 – August 31, 2026

Poster Presentation:

- If your abstract is accepted, you will be invited to present your poster at the conference.
- Please ensure your poster is professionally printed and adheres to the standard 4'x3′; (HxW) size commonly used in academic poster presentations. Detailed format requirements will be provided upon acceptance.
- Presenters must be available to discuss their posters during the designated poster session times.

Selection Considerations:

Space Limitations
Due to space constraints, not all high-quality submissions may be accommodated. Priority will be given to abstracts with the highest scores based on review criteria.

ABSTRACTS SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

Authors

- Must include clinical or research data. Abstracts of commercial products must consist of experimentally derived data.
- Results must be the work of the listed author(s).
- Abstract submitters, if accepted, must register and attend the meeting.
- Abstracts containing identical or nearly identical data submitted from the same institution and/or individuals will be disqualified.
- Proofread abstracts carefully to avoid errors before submission.

Text

- Microsoft Word document
- 500 words maximum (excluding title, authors, and affiliations). This includes text plus any graphics (figures and tables).
- 11-point Arial font.
- Margins: 1 inch.
- Abstract title: bold and centered.
- Corresponding author: Name and email address.

- Abstract body should preferably include: Background, Objectives, Methods, Results, Conclusions.
- May include graphs, tables and images.
- May exclude references.

Authors of accepted abstracts will be notified by September 01, 2025. Detailed guidelines for poster preparation will be provided at that time. Accepted Abstracts will be published in the Canadian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology.

Meeting Venue & Accommodation:

The Galt House Hotel located in Waterfront Plaza | Louisville |USA. Limited number of hotel rooms have been reserved for conference attendees at a negotiated rate. Reservations may be made online to access the Conference discounted rates via the LINK https://book.passkey.com/go/siasc0925mb.

Awards:

There will be 8 awards for Established Investigators:

- Naranjan S. Dhalla Award for Innovation in Cardiovascular Sciences
- Howard Morgan Award for Distinguished Achievements in Cardiovascular Research
- Jawahar (Jay) Mehta Award for Clinical Scientist
- Grant Pierce Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences
- Paul Ganguly Distinguished Lecture Award in Cardiovascular Sciences
- James Willerson Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences
- Amarjit Arneja Distinguished Lecture Award for Prevention of Heart Disease
- Suresh Tyagi Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences

Buddhadeb Dawn Graduate Student Award:

Graduate students, medical students, and clinical residents are invited to submit abstracts. A Review Committee appointed by the Program Director will review all abstracts and select the top 4 abstracts for oral presentations. Other abstracts that are not selected for the presentation will be assigned for regular poster presentation. The selected poster presenters will be paid complimentary registration and 3 nights of hotel accommodation and local hospitality. The appointed judges of this session will listen to each talk and select one presentation for the award.

Roberto Bolli Young Scientist Award:

Recognizing the most meritorious young cardiovascular scientists and future scientific leaders. Five finalists will compete at the 13th Annual Meeting of the North American Section of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (IACS-NAS) in Louisville, Kentucky.

1st Place: $25,000

2nd place: $10,000

3rd, 4th, and 5th place: $5,000 each

To learn more about eligibility, submissions, and more click here!

There will be 8 poster awards in the name of:

- Morris Karmazyn (4 awards)
- Margaret Moffat (4 awards)

Presented By:

The International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences in conjunction with the University of Louisville Cardiology Symposium.

Contact Us:

Program Contacts for Scientific Program and Abstract Submissions

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Contact for Registration questions and Website inquiries

Natalie Hernandez
hernandezn@westernu.edu | (909) 469-5204

Announcement for Honour and Awards to be given at the 2026 IACS-North American Section Meeting in Louisville, USA

The Academy is pleased to announce that the following Awards will be bestowed upon several individuals during the above-mentioned meeting during September 10-12, 2026:

A. IACS Medal of Merit

Dr. Jagat Narula, Houston, USA

B. Established Investigators Awards:

1. **Howard Morgan Award for Distinguished Achievements in Cardiovascular Research:** Dr. Vladimir Jakovljevic, Kragujevac, Serbia.
2. **Naranjan Dhalla Award for Innovative Investigators in Cardiovascular Sciences:** Dr. Ali J Marian, Houston, USA.
3. **James Willerson Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Medicine:** Dr. Rhian M Touyz, Montreal, Canada.
4. **Grant Pierce Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences:** Dr. Arjun Deb, Los Angeles, USA.
5. **Jay Mehta Annual Award for Clinical Scientists:** Dr. Ranko Skrbic, Bosnia & Herzegovina, The Republic of Srpska.
6. **Amarjit Arneja Distinguished Lecture Award in Prevention of Heart Disease:** Dr. Henrique Furtado, Palmas, Brazil.
7. **Paul Ganguly Distinguished Lecture Award in Cardiovascular Science:** Dr. Devendra Agrawal, Pomona, USA.
8. **Suresh Tyagi Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences:** Dr. Srinivas Tipparaju, Tampa, USA.

C. IACS Honors and Recognitions

1. Distinguished Leadership Award in Cardiovascular Science, Medicine and Surgery
2. Distinguished Service Award in Cardiovascular Science, Medicine and Surgery
3. Exemplary Service Awards for Promoting Heart Health

(Individuals for these Awards will be named at a later date)

D. Roberto Bolli Young Scientist Competition Awards

(The individuals will be declared later)

E. Buddhadeb Dawn Graduate Students Competition Award

(This will be announced at the Meeting)

F. Poster Awards:

1. **Morris Karmazyn Poster Awards in Translational Medicine** − 4
2. **Margaret Moffat Poster Awards in Biomedical Sciences** − 4

Academy Launches Canadian Cardiovascular Forum for Health and Disease During July 21-23 2026, Winnipeg, Manitoba

Conference Chairman
Naranjan S. Dhalla
International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences
Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences, University of Manitoba
St. Boniface Hospital Albrechtsen Research Centre
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Ph: (204) 235-3417; E-mail: nsdhalla@sbrc.ca

Organizing Secretary
Paramjit S. Tappia

Scientific Secretary
Sanjiv Dhingra

Biomedical Affairs Director
Lorrie Kirshenbaum

Clinical Affairs Director
Shelley Zieroth

Administrative Assistant
Parneet Kaur

Organizing Committee

Michael Czubryt
Ian Dixon
Todd Duhamel
Richard Keijzer
Shuangbo Liu
Thomas Netticadan
Grant Pierce
Inna Rabinovich-Nikitin
Amir Ravandi
Ashish Shah
Jude Uzonna
Jeffrey Wigle

Advisory Committee

Roberto Bolli, Louisville
Paul Ganguly, Riyadh
Morris Karmazyn, London, ON
Michael Kutryk, Toronto
Ren-Ke Li, Toronto
Ali J. Marian, Houston
Gavin Y. Oudit, Edmonton
Simon W. Rabkin, Vancouver
Rhian M. Touyz, Montreal

The International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences, which was established 30 years ago as a non-profitable organization, with headquarter in Winnipeg, has planned to initiate a unique program "Canadian Cardiovascular Forum in Health and Disease" to promote the development of clinician scientists and biomedical professionals in this country. Although, this program at present is going to focus on cardiovascular complications in hypertension, diabetes, atherosclerosis and heart failure; it is expected that it will grow in the future and become a paramount feature in Manitoba. It is pointed out that the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences has already established four highly successful Sections, namely, European, North American, South American and Indian, which are promoting cardiovascular education and research by holding annual conferences in their regions by raising their own funds. All these Sections are independent with their own management, but the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences coordinates their activities with respect to their scientific programs in addition to providing some funds for Awards to young and established investigators. It is noteworthy that the Academy has limited resources which were raised from some of its committed fellows and thus require funding for this proposed initiative in Winnipeg.

The proposed "Canadian Cardiovascular Forum for Health and Disease" in Winnipeg will be organized by International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences with the help of Organizing Committee, selected Faculty Members from the Max Rady College of Medicine, University of Manitoba, Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences, Cardiac Science Manitoba and St. Boniface Hospital Albrechtsen Research Centre. It is planned to hold this meeting during July 21-23, 2026 in Fort Garry Hotel, and invite 30 high-profile speakers for 8 symposia talks. In addition, two poster sessions are being arranged for graduate and medical students as well as biomedical and clinical fellows from all over Canada. It is expected that this Forum will attract about 200 participants. Eight Named Awards will be bestowed upon established investigators, four Awards for Young Clinical and Biomedical Scientists as well as eight Poster Awards for graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, research associates, residents and clinical fellows.

The objectives and the outline for 2026 Cardiovascular Forum are as follows:

1. To focus on cardiovascular complications and therapy of Diabetes, Hypertension, Heart Failure and Ischemic Heart Disease.
2. To promote scientific collaborations among Investigators in Various Research Centres of Excellence.
3. To provide stimulus for the development of Biomedical and Clinical Scientists.
4. To identify Molecular Targets for Drug Development for heart disease to further reduce mortality.
5. To recognize highly accomplished Investigators as well as encourage Young Students and Fellows by providing Awards named after Prominent Individuals.

For More Information, please contact:
Ms. Parneet Kaur
Administrative Assistant
Email: nsdhalla@sbrc.ca; Tel: 204-235-3417

Update on the European Section Meeting of the IACS October 25-27, 2026, Zagreb, Croatia

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

It is my great pleasure and honour to invite you to participate in the 12th Conference of the European Section of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences, which will be held in Zagreb, Croatia, October, 25 to 27, 2026, at the hotel Hilton Garden Inn. We happily awaiting you to join, present, discuss, network and enjoy the selected hottest topic in cardiovascular medicine.

This international conference is organized by the Faculty of Dental Medicine and Health, Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek, the Institute for Prevention of Cardiovascular Diseases and Rehabilitation in Zagreb, and the European Section of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences. The official language of the event will be English.

Our desire is to bring together leading scientists, experts, clinical and basic cardiologists, researchers, specialists and cardiology fellows to participate in this prestigious scientific conference. We will try to compose our sessions to be diverse, attractive and provide both – inspirative lectures, education on guidelines and other essential novelties for daily practice, as well as selected cutting edge science in cardiology. There will be some place for original contributions and challenging case presentations, to set the stage for our young cardiologist community.

I hope you will enjoy the Conference and its atmosphere, and take home nice memories.

We look forward to seeing you in Zagreb!

Sincerely

Prof. **Goran Krstačić**, MD, PhD, FESC, FEHRA
Director, Institute for Cardiovascular Prevention of Cardiovascular Diseases and Rehabilitation,
On behalf of the Organizing and Program Committee

Meeting Venue & Accommodation:

Hilton Garden Inn Zagreb | Radnicka street 21 | Zagreb | Croatia. Special accommodation prices have been arranged for the Conference participants in Hilton Garden Inn Zagreb and Canopy by Hilton Zagreb City Centre. Link for reservation will be available soon.

Alternative Accommodation:

Canopy by Hilton Zagreb City Centre | Ulica kneza Branimira 29 | Zagreb | Croatia.

Organizing Agency:

globtour event
TRAVEL AGENCY

Globtour Event d.o.o.
Radnička 1a, 10 000 Zagreb
T: +385 1 488 11 10
M: +385 91 488 10 07; +385 91 370 30 92
E-mail: IACS2026@globtour.hr

For more information please contact:
Conference Chair:
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Professor, Faculty for Dental Medicine and Health University of Osijek
Senior Research Advisor, School of Medicine, University of Zagreb
College Professor, University of Applied Health Studies, Zagreb
Director, Institute for Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation
Draskoviceva 13, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia
Tel: +385 1 4612 290
Email: gkrstacic@gmail.com

Announcement for Honour and Awards to be given at the 2026 IACS-European Section Meeting in Zagreb, Croatia

The Academy is pleased to announce that the following Awards will be bestowed upon several individuals during the above-mentioned meeting during October 25-27, 2026:

A. Naranjan Dhalla Honorary Lecture medal

Established by the IACS European Section

(To be announced at a later date)

B. Established Investigators Awards

1. **Bohuslav Ostadal Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences:** Dr. Danina Muntean, Timisoara, Romania.
2. **Jan Slezak Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences:** Dr. Inna Rabinovich-Nikitin, Winnipeg, Manitoba.
3. **Andras Varro Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences:** Dr. Rodolphe Fischmeister, Orsay, France.
4. **Karl Werdan Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences:** Dr. Petr Ostadal, Prague, Czech Republic.
5. **Vladimir Jakovljevic Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences:** Dr. Petra Kleinbongard, Essen, Germany.
6. **Lorrie Kirshenbaum Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences:** Dr. Zoltan Papp, Debrecen, Hungary.
7. **Norman Alpert Award for Established Investigators in Cardiovascular Sciences:** Dr. Ranko Skrbic, Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina.
8. **Dennis B. McNamara Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences:** Dr. Stefanie Dimmeler, Frankfurt, Germany.

C. IACS Honours and Recognitions

1. Lifetime Achievement Award in Cardiovascular Science, Medicine and Surgery
2. Distinguished Leadership Award in Cardiovascular Science, Medicine and Surgery
3. Distinguished Service Award in Cardiovascular Science, Medicine and Surgery
4. Exemplary Service Awards for Promoting Heart Health

(The individual for these Awards will be named at a later date)

D. Roberto Bolli Young Investigator Award

(will be declared later)

E. Poster Awards: (will be declared later)

1. Istvan Baczkó Poster Awards
2. Attila Ziegelhöffer Poster Awards
3. Milosav Kostić Poster Awards


24th ANNUAL MEETING
South American Section
International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences
1996
Vitória – ES – Brazil
November 05–06, 2026
Cardiovascular Surgery
Translational Research
Innovation & Structural Therapies
Young Investigators
Associação Médica do Espírito Santo (AMES)
Affiliated with the Brazilian Medical Association (AMB)
Rua Francisco Rubim, 395
Bento Ferreira • Vitória, ES • Brazil
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ames@ames.org.br
SAVE THE DATE
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Honour and Awards to be given at the 24th IACS-South American Section Meeting in Vitória, Brazil

The Academy is pleased to announce that the following Named Awards will be bestowed upon several individuals during the above-mentioned meeting during November 5-6, 2026:

1. Otoni Gomes Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences
2. Ricardo Gelpi Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences
3. Melchior L. Lima Award
4. Henrique Furtado Award
5. Makota Nagano Award
6. Poster Competition Awards in the name of: Naranjan S. Dhalla (2); Antoinette Oliveira Blackman (2)

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Names Cardiology Library after Prof. Jawahar (Jay) L. Mehta

The Division of Cardiology and the Department of Medicine at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in Little Rock, Arkansas, decided to name the Cardiology Library after Prof. Jawahar (Jay) L. Mehta, Chief of the Division of Cardiology, and the First Stebbins Chair in Cardiology 2000- present. Prof. Mehta is presently Distinguished Professor of Medicine, Physiology and Cell Biology, and Pharmacology and Toxicology. At the naming ceremony on February 23, 2026, Dr Jorge Saucedo. Chair of the Department of Medicine said, Prof. Mehta Believed in Excellence in Clinical Care, Education, and Research, and he continues to strive in all 3 missions of academic medicine. Dr. Mehta is President-Elect of the IACS.

Mehta Library Plaque (Top Left), Dr. Mehta Performs Ceremonial Ribbon Cutting (Top Right) and Dr. Mehta with Colleagues (Bottom)

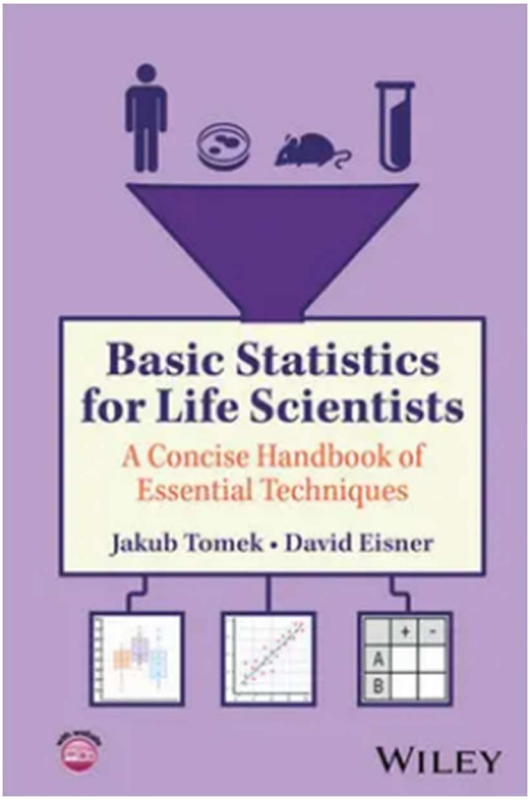
Dr. David Eisner Writes Book on "Medical Statistics for Life Scientists"

Basic Statistics for Life Scientists is an approachable, concise handbook of essential statistical techniques that teaches correct practice in the life sciences and related fields, helping readers become competent users of statistics and assisting them in identifying the best statistical method for their research question while also being aware of its strengths and limitations. The book is supported by illustrations and real-world examples explaining how to apply the techniques using statistical software tools.(https://www.wiley.com/en-us/Basic+Statistics+for+Life+Scientists%3A+A+Concise+Handbook+of+Essential+Techniques-p-9781394284979).

Written by two highly qualified authors, *Basic Statistics for Life Scientists* includes information on:

- Appropriate statistical techniques for evaluating experimental data, avoiding excessive jargon or mathematics
- Misuse of statistical techniques in life sciences research
- Systematic problems present in life sciences research, such as multiple hypothesis testing and pseudoreplication
- Experimental design and the problems associated with the concept of binary statistical significance

Basic Statistics for Life Scientists is an essential reference for students and researchers in life sciences and biomedicine, especially PhD students and postdoctoral researchers, seeking to confidently apply appropriate statistical tests to their data. The book is also valuable to advanced undergraduates and more senior researchers in related fields. The book is available in both Kindle and hardcopy at various Amazon outlets including https://www.amazon.com/Basic-Statistics-Life-Scientists-Techniques/dp/1394284969 [amazon.com] or direct from the publishers (Wiley): https://www.wiley.com/en-us/Basic+Statistics+for+Life+Scientists%3A+A+Concise+Handbook+of+Essential+Techniques-p-9781394284979 [wiley.com].



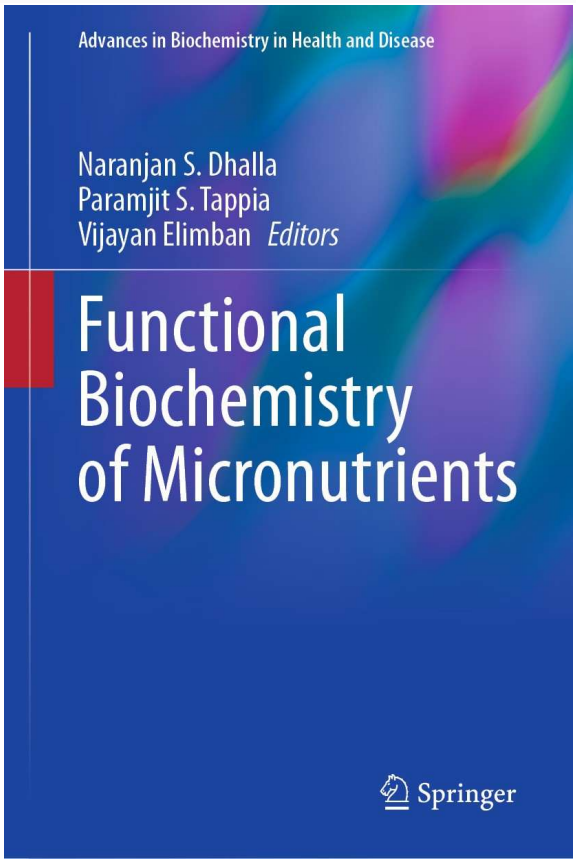
Front cover of the book.

David Eisner is the British Heart Foundation Professor of Cardiac Physiology at the University of Manchester. He received his B.A. (Natural Sciences) from Cambridge and D. Phil (Physiology) from Oxford. His early research focused on the regulation of intracellular sodium in cardiac muscle and the effects on contraction. He then investigated the control of intracellular calcium concentration and its role in the production of arrhythmias. He has worked extensively on the factors that regulate the calcium content of the sarcoplasmic reticulum and how this is altered in disease. His most recent work has been concerned with the regulation of diastolic calcium concentration. He has served as Editor-in-Chief of *The Journal of Molecular and Cellular Cardiology* and *The Journal of Physiology*. He has served on grants panels for The British Heart Foundation, MRC and Wellcome Trust. He was a member of panels for RAE 2001 & 2008 as well as REF2014.

On the book, Dr. Eisner comments *"The book was specifically designed to avoid problems of many statistics texts that overwhelm readers with mathematical detail or treat statistics as an abstract subject detached from real research. We took a different approach, providing a concise, intuitive introduction that focuses on understanding rather than calculation, helping readers choose the right statistical tests, recognise common pitfalls, and interpret results. We also bridge a gap often left unaddressed in the literature by integrating experimental design with statistical reasoning, showing how good design and good analysis go hand in hand. We hope that the book will be of use to you and your students in making statistics a genuinely helpful part of scientific thinking."*

Book on Micronutrients Published by Springer Nature

Advances in Biochemistry in Health and Disease focus on the latest developments in biochemical research with implications for health and disease. This book series consists of original edited volumes and monographs, presented by leading experts in the field and provides an up to date and unique source of information for all those interested in the fundamental, biochemical processes of the latest and emerging topics and techniques. Covering a wide variety of topics, this book series is a valuable source of information from those at the lab bench through to the Health Care workers.



This volume explores the multiple roles of micronutrients and vitamins in human health and disease, focusing on how micronutrients influence biochemical processes and cellular function. It takes a multidisciplinary approach and highlights the complex roles of micronutrients, providing a compilation of information ranging from fundamental knowledge to recommendations for their use as supplements in clinical practice, as well as broadening our understanding of the importance of micronutrients. Divided into three thematic parts, the book brings together cutting-edge research and expert opinions from around the world.

The first part focuses on the biochemical and physiological effects of micronutrients in various health contexts, such as obesity, cancer, cardiovascular disease, and sports nutrition. The chapters examine the modulation of cellular pathways, oxidative stress, inflammation, and necroptosis, highlighting both the therapeutic potential and the risks of micronutrient deficiencies and toxicities. The second part examines the pathophysiological functions of key vitamins (D, E, A, and K2), emphasising their role in immunity, metabolism, neurodegeneration, bone health, and endocrine disruption. Special attention is given to vitamin deficiencies in athletes and the synergistic effects of gut microbiota and antioxidant vitamins. The final section explores plant- and marine-based micronutrients, highlighting their economic and ecological benefits in the treatment of metabolic and cardiovascular diseases. Topics covered include polyphenols, cranberries and marine bioactives, with a focus on blue biotechnology and sustainable nutrition.

This book is an essential resource for physicians, researchers, nutritionists, and students, offering a deep understanding of how micronutrients and vitamins influence molecular mechanisms, cellular function, and disease prevention. It bridges the gap between basic science and clinical relevance, providing new insights into the changing role of nutrition in global health. Further information can be obtained from: https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-032-14441-6

Partnering Journals of the IACS

Canadian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology
Impact Factor: 1.4; CiteScore: 3.9

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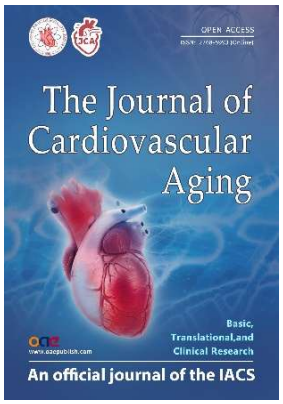

The Journal of Cardiovascular Aging
Impact Factor: 3.0; CiteScore: 3.3

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American Journal of Cardiovascular Drugs
Impact Factor: 3.0; CiteScore: 5.9

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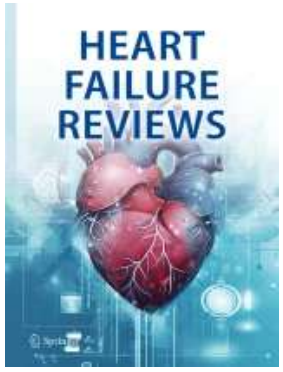

Heart Failure Reviews
Impact Factor: 4.2; CiteScore: 7.3

Editor-in-Chief:
Dr. Andrew P. Ambrosy

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IACS partnering journals:

1. *Canadian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology*
2. *The Journal of Cardiovascular Aging*
3. *American Journal of Cardiovascular Drugs*
4. *Heart Failure Reviews*

Readers are encouraged to submit original research articles and reviews to these partnering journals.