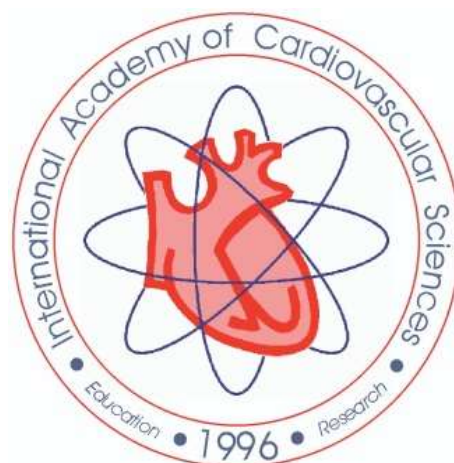


Promoting Cardiovascular Education, Research and Prevention

CV Network

THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF CARDIOVASCULAR SCIENCES

PUBLISHED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE ST. BONIFACE
HOSPITAL ALBRECHTSEN RESEARCH CENTRE



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Tribute to Dr. Morris Karmazyn, Former Professor of University of Western Ontario, London, Canada

It is with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Dr. Morris Karmazyn on July 31, 2026. Dr. Karmazyn was a highly respected cardiovascular pharmacologist and a distinguished member of the cardiovascular research community. He was a great supporter of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences as he supported 8 Poster Awards (4 in the name of Dr. Margaret Moffat and 4 in his name) for graduate students at Annual Meetings of the IACS-North American Section. He was also member of the IACS-Advisory Board and was honoured with Distinguished Service Award for Promoting Heart Health at the Canadian Cardiovascular Forum for Health and Disease in Winnipeg during July 21-23, 2026. Thus, the Academy pays highest tribute to Dr. Morris Karmazyn for his distinguished academic career and an extraordinary promoter of cardiovascular education. Thoughts of two Academy Board Members and one of his dear friends are given below:



*Dr. Morris Karmazyn
(1950-2026)*

I worked closely with Dr Karmazyn from my earliest days as a PhD student some 47 years ago. In my humble opinion, Morris was one of the most accomplished cardiovascular researchers in the field of ischemic reperfusion injury in the heart in the world. His work on the involvement of NaH exchange in IR injury led the field. A dedicated scholar, a gentle soul and a good friend who will be missed, not only by me but the scores of scientists around the world who knew and respected him. Morris loved a good cigar, a fine wine, some classical music and an excellent meal. Rest in peace big guy!

Grant N Pierce

It was such a pleasure and privilege to have had some great conversations with Morris during his recent visit to Winnipeg. He gave a fantastic, thought-provoking lecture on the gut microbiome and cardiovascular disease. He was one of the first scientists I met as a very new student over 30 years ago, and from then to now, every time I had the chance to speak with him, he was so friendly, kind, and engaging – he will be truly missed. Sincere condolences to his family and loved ones, and to all of you who knew him so well.

Michael Czubryt

Tribute to Dr. Morris Karmazyn: A guiding light in my science research career, A dearest friend in my dear Journey

My dearest friend, you're gone so suddenly,
When just the other day we were laughing.
The pain of your absence cuts so deep,
A wound in my heart that I cannot keep.

I came to be Dr. Karmazyn's MSc graduate student in May, 1993. Beyond providing guidance, he was a true inspiration. One of the greatest gifts he bestowed upon me was his unwavering belief in my abilities, which instilled in me the confidence to strive for greatness.

After I graduated, I continued to work for him for 24 years. Among his publications of more than 254 peer-reviewed papers, I had over 40 publications with him. Over the course of our professional relationship, we also became personal friends. We both retired in 2018 and have continued to be best friends since.

Although to most, Dr. Karmazyn was just my supervisor, he was so much more to me. Beyond his academic achievements, he was a wonderful person. His intelligence stunned me. He was so knowledgeable about many different things and I was always eager to learn. We talked about research, news, music, movies, sports, history and food all the time.

Morris had a fantastic sense of humour. I remember this one time when we went to Alcatraz Island in San Francisco, I asked him to take a photo of me next to one of the cells from which a prisoner had escaped. A nearby tourist said: "oh, she's got such a nice smile." Before I said anything, Morris said: "of course she does, she's outside the cell." Everyone erupted in laughter, including myself.

In May of 2018, he broke his legs and entered a long, difficult period of surgery, treatment, and recovery. I visited him every day with coffee, newspapers, and his favourite foods. Even then, he stayed remarkably positive. I once told him, "Don't worry, you can share my legs." He said, "They're a little small," and I answered, "Small legs use less energy." He laughed and said, "You're right." He was always keen to re-analyze a situation quickly from a positive mindset.

There was a large garden at Parkwood where he recovered, and it became our favourite place. I pushed his wheelchair as we toured the paths, enjoying the flowers, talking, sharing supper, and laughing often. The squirrels, birds, and geese were our companions. Whenever he spoke with the veterans there and listened to their stories, his eyes always grew wet.

After he returned home, life became more joyful. I was his chauffeur and kitchen assistant, and he was the chef. I took countless photos of the meals he cooked and wrote down the names of each dish. I told him I would write a cookbook one day.

After he was able to drive, I visited him every other day. We did our grocery shopping together, visited his medical doctors together, and watched movies every Saturday night. We also travelled together... From the northern lights of Alaska to the oceans of Australia's Gold Coast; from the cafes of Paris to the Western wall in Jerusalem, he was the best companion because he had such an appetite for life and a curiosity that complimented my own.

He loved the fresh vegetables that I grew in my backyard: tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, green beans and butter lettuce.... He also loved our annual celebrations that revolved around food and camaraderie (birthdays, Canada Day, Autumn Festival, Chinese New Year, Christmas Day, New Year's Day...). These had become a family tradition over the years. He was always in good spirits and we made each other laugh a lot. I cannot forget how much I treasured our daily chats, his rich laughter, his quiet words of

wisdom, our travelling experiences as well as all the fantastic food that he made.

After his retirement, he continued to attend scientific meetings, be a science consultant/advisor in the field of heart research as well as writing review articles. He served as a Guest Editor for a focused issue of *Molecules* (2019), an Editor of the Special Issue "Cardiovascular Diseases Prevention and Therapy" (MDPI), an elected fellow of the IACS (IACS: International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences) and a scientific advisor of RTx.Inc.(RTx: Resuscitation Therapeutic).

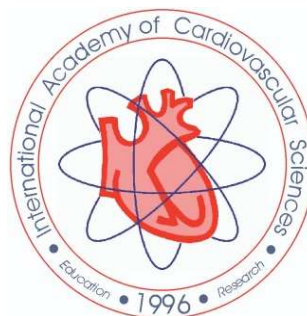
We had 7 reviews after his retirement. His job wasn't just his scientific career; it was his life's passion. It was his love of teaching and sciences that led him to create the "**Dr. Morris Karmazyn and Dr. Margaret P. Moffat Fellowship in Cardiovascular Research**" at McGill University, designated for McGill PhD students pursuing heart research. It had been set up in 2022 and will continue to be granted posthumously. (Dr. Moffat was a professor and his beloved wife who passed away in a car accident in 1994). Since then, Morris always found time to meet the fellowship's recipients during our biannual trips to Montreal when we visited his brother Leon and his wife Susan.

From July 21–23, 2026, we attended the IACS meeting in Winnipeg. There, he gave an outstanding presentation as well as received the **Distinguished Service Award for Promoting Heart Health**. Although I didn't expect this to be his final public appearance, I truly believe the science he discovered is still very much alive and will continue to advance heart research and benefit people's health.

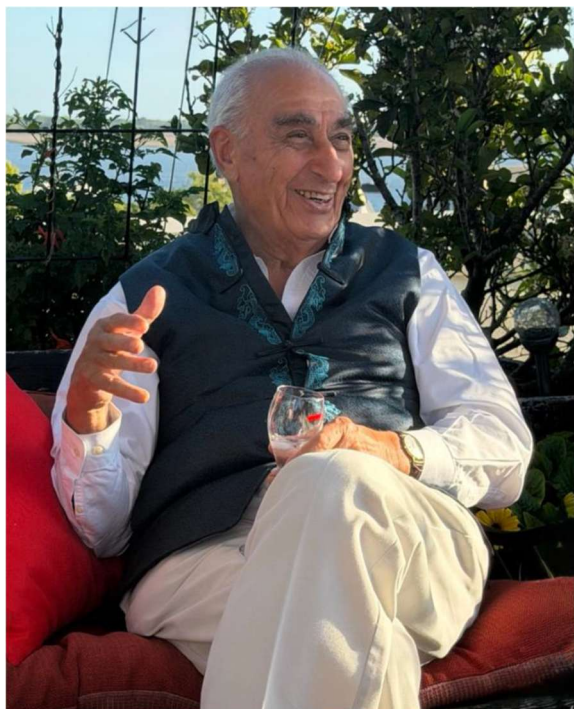
I am lucky and proud to have been Morris's grad student and then a fellow employee. He taught me a lot in our field. I am even luckier to have been his close friend. For the past 33 years, as his student, colleague as well as a close friend, it was always my privilege.

Dear Morris, you were a guiding light in my science research career, you are my dearest friend in my journey through life. Though you're gone, you'll live forever in my heart. You touched my life in so many ways and I will cherish your memories forever.

Ms. Tracey Gan
London, Canada



Dr. Martin Morad to be Bestowed with the Naranjan Dhalla Honorary Lecture Medal During the European Section Meeting of the IACS, Zagreb, Croatia



Dr. Martin Morad

Dr. Morad is an internationally recognized scientist in cardiac electrophysiology and calcium signaling whose pioneering discoveries and technologies have transformed the field. He has published more than 300 original research articles, including 20 in *Science* and *Nature*.

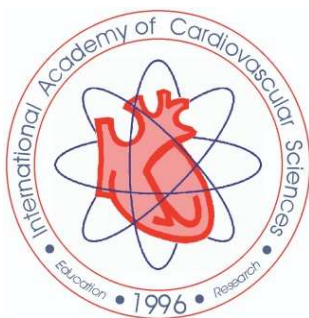
Throughout his distinguished career, Dr. Morad has developed innovative technologies that enabled major advances in physiology and molecular biology. His landmark discoveries are several and include establishing entry of calcium through the calcium channels to trigger the release of calcium in cardiac excitation-contraction coupling, identifying the cardiac-relaxant effects of

adrenergic hormones, discovering the pacemaker current (I_f) is carried by novel sodium-conducting channels that electrically insulate the sinoatrial node from the atrial electrical load, identifying Acid-Sensitive Ion Channels (ASICs in neurons), establishing human stem cell-derived cardiomyocytes (hiPSC-CMs) as reliable models for cardiac calcium signaling, and demonstrating their reliability in studying arrhythmia caused by Ryanodine receptor (RyR2) mutations.

He achieved numerous technical firsts, including the first voltage-clamp recordings from cardiac tissue, the first use of laser-scanning optical dyes to map cardiac action potential propagation, the first photo release of caged calcium in cardiomyocytes and neurons, and the first application of TIRF microscopy to resolve calcium sparks and signaling dynamics.

His work also provided fundamental insights into sinoatrial node rhythmicity and ion channel regulation. He was the first to clone the frog and shark Na/Ca exchangers and identify their unique regulation by cAMP. Dr. Morad has held professorships in Physiology, Pharmacology, Cell Biology and Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, Georgetown University, and the University of South Carolina, where he was awarded, the Blue Cross Blue Shield Endowed Professorship in Cardiovascular Health.

His contributions have been recognized with numerous honors, including the Germany's Alexander von Humboldt Senior Scientist Award. His current research investigates protein interactions that regulate cardiac function using transgenic animal models and human stem cell-derived cardiomyocytes where he pioneered the use of CRISPR/Cas9 gene editing to study CPVT1 arrhythmias in hiPSC-CMs. Dr. Morad's seminal studies of sinoatrial node rhythmicity are laying the path for development of tissue-based pacemakers. His research has been continuously supported by the NIH, foundations, and pharmaceutical industry for more than 60 years.



National Research Prize Bestowed Upon Dr. Rhian Touyz as an Outstanding Canadian Researcher in Heart Health



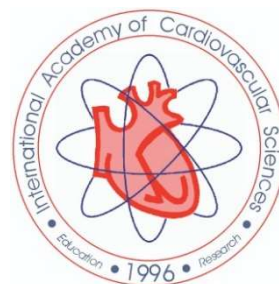
Dr. Rhian M. Touyz

The Margoese National Heart Disorders Prize is awarded by the University of British Columbia (UBC) Faculty of Medicine and is one of Canada's most prestigious national research honors (\$50,000) specifically recognizing outstanding Canadian scientists and physicians making transformative contributions to cardiovascular health and heart disorders. Dr. Rhian Touyz (McGill University) has received the 2026 Margoese National Heart Disorders Prize for her exceptional contributions to cardiovascular science that have advanced knowledge of hypertension and vascular disease around the world. Dr. Touyz, is the Executive Director and Chief Scientific Officer of the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre (RI-MUHC). She is the Canada Research Chair in Cardiovascular Medicine and Dr. Phil Gold Chair in Medicine, McGill University, Montreal. She is also the British Heart Foundation (BHF) Emeritus Chair. She served 10 years as the Director of the Institute of Cardiovascular and Medical Sciences and BHF Chair of Cardiovascular Medicine, University of Glasgow, Scotland, U.K. In 2021 she was recruited to Montreal to direct the RI-MUHC.

Dr. Touyz, a clinician-scientist focusing on molecular mechanisms of hypertension, received her BSc (Hons) (1980), MBBCh (1984), MSc Med (1986) and PhD (1992) in South Africa. She completed her post-doctoral fellowship at the Clinical Research Institute of Montreal and was the Canada Research Chair in Hypertension, University of Ottawa (2005-2011). She is an elected Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences, Royal Society of Edinburgh, College of Physicians, Canadian Academy of Health Sciences, Royal Society of Canada and the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences. She has received numerous awards, including the Hypertension Research Excellence Award from the American Heart Association, the highest honour in the field.

Dr. Touyz is the editor-in-chief of Hypertension. She contributes to best clinical practice and co-chairs the 2024 European Society of Cardiology hypertension guidelines. She held leadership roles in premier organizations: President, Canadian Hypertension Society; Chair, Hypertension Council (AHA); President, International Society of Hypertension and Chair, European Council of Cardiovascular Research. She is a strong advocate of equal opportunities for all in academia and research. She founded the 'Women in Hypertension Research Program' of the International Society of Hypertension and led the Silver award Athena Swan program at the Institute of cardiovascular and Medical Sciences, University of Glasgow. She has spearheaded numerous mentoring schemes for early and mid-career researchers.

She has published 672 peer-reviewed papers [h-index:154; citations 166000]. She has an interest in translational research where her discovery science impacts care of patients with hypertension and cardiovascular disease. Her particular areas of interest include: 1) vascular signaling and redox biology; 2) the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system; 3) adipose biology and cardiometabolic disease; 4) cardiovascular toxicity of anti-cancer drugs, 5) small vessel disease and vascular dementia, 6) pathophysiology and clinical management of human hypertension. She has supervised over 105 graduate and post-graduate trainees and is committed to mentoring young and mid-career researchers.



Report on the Inaugural Canadian Cardiovascular Forum for Health and Disease, July 21-23, 2026 Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Paramjit S. Tappia

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Overview

The International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (IACS), a non-profit organization established 30 years ago with its headquarters in Winnipeg, Manitoba, successfully convened the inaugural Canadian Cardiovascular Forum for Health and Disease from July 21–23, 2026 at the Fort Garry Hotel, Winnipeg. The Forum was established as a unique national initiative designed to stimulate the development of clinician-scientists, biomedical researchers, health professionals, trainees, and the next generation of cardiovascular investigators in Canada. The meeting brought together leading Canadian and international scientists, clinicians, academic researchers, trainees, and health professionals to discuss contemporary advances in cardiovascular science, disease mechanisms, therapeutic strategies, translational research, and emerging opportunities for collaboration. The scientific program provided a broad platform spanning fundamental molecular and cellular mechanisms through clinical research, pharmacotherapy, lifestyle interventions, cardiac regeneration, and the translation of laboratory discoveries into clinical and commercial applications.

Objectives

The Forum was organized around several major objectives:

- To stimulate the development of biomedical and clinical scientists in Canada;
- To promote scientific collaboration among investigators working at research centres and institutions of excellence across Canada and internationally;
- To address major cardiovascular complications and therapeutic challenges associated with diabetes, hypertension, heart failure, and ischemic heart disease;
- To identify molecular and cellular targets that may facilitate the development of new therapies for cardiovascular disease and further reduce cardiovascular mortality; and
- To recognize established leaders in cardiovascular science while encouraging and supporting the future generation of scientists, fellows, trainees, and health professionals through scientific awards and recognition programs.

Opening Reception

The Forum commenced on July 21, 2026, with registration followed by a welcome reception in the Crystal Ballroom in the Fort Garry Hotel. Dr. Paramjit Tappia, Organizing Secretary, served as the emcee for the evening. The formal part of the evening began with greetings from Dr. Jude Uzonna, Vice Dean (Research) on behalf of the University of Manitoba. This was followed by welcome remarks from Dr. Richard Keijzer, Associate Dean (Research) on behalf of the Max Rady College of Medicine, Rady Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Manitoba. Dr. Michael Czubyrt, Executive Director of St. Boniface Hospital Albrechtsen Research Centre, delivered welcoming remarks on behalf of St. Boniface Hospital Research.



*Welcome Reception in the Crystal Ball room,
Fort Garry Hotel, Winnipeg*

Next, Dr. Lorrie Kirshenbaum, Director of the Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences, brought greetings on behalf of the Institute. Dr. Sanjiv Dhingra, Deputy Chair, Department of Pathophysiology and Physiology was then invited to provide an overview of the Scientific Program of the Forum. The formal part of the evening ended with Dr. Tappia providing a highlight of the social program. The reception provided an opportunity for participants, faculty, invited speakers, trainees, and members of the organizing committee to establish professional connections and initiate scientific discussions prior to the formal scientific program. The strong participation of Canadian and international investigators highlighted the Forum's potential to become an important platform for fostering

national and international partnerships in cardiovascular research.

Scientific Program – July 22

The first full day of scientific programming featured four major symposia addressing cardiovascular disease mechanisms, pathophysiology, cardiac regeneration, and translational research.

Symposium 1: Clinical and Molecular Mechanisms of Cardiovascular Disease

The first session of the scientific program was opened by Drs. Grant Pierce (Winnipeg, Canada) and Roberto Bolli (Louisville, USA) who served as chairs, with the **Keynote Inaugural Lecture** delivered by Dr. Jagat Narula, President of the World Heart Federation and University of Texas Health, Houston. His presentation, “*More You Target–More You Learn; More You Know–Better You Target: Molecular Imaging in Cardiovascular Disease*,” highlighted the increasingly important role of molecular imaging in understanding cardiovascular disease and identifying clinically relevant biological targets. Additional presentations addressed sex and gender differences in cardiovascular disease, emphasizing the importance of these factors as an emerging frontier in cardiovascular medicine, by Dr. Louise Pilote (McGill University Health Centre, Montreal, Canada) as well as circadian regulation of autophagy and its implications for cardiac function and disease by Dr. Lorrie Kirshenbaum, Winnipeg, Canada. This was followed with the mid-morning coffee break.

Symposium 2: Pathophysiology and Mechanisms of Cardiovascular Disease

This session, after the coffee break, was chaired by Drs Simon Rabkin (Vancouver, Canada) and Ian Dixon (Winnipeg, Canada), on emerging mechanisms and pathophysiology underlying cardiovascular disease. The first talk of this session was by Dr. Gavin Oudit (Edmonton, Canada) on human epicardial adipose tissue expansion and myocardial infiltration in heart failure. This was followed by a presentation by Dr. Devendra Agrawal (Pomona, USA) on the role of PCSK9 in oxidative processes and atherosclerotic vascular inflammation, after which Dr. Navneet Narula (Houston, USA) spoke peripheral artery disease and its relationship to coronary atherosclerosis. This session concluded with a talk by Dr. Anna Lam (Edmonton, Canada) on machine learning for forecasting blood glucose in type 2 diabetic patients after cardiac surgery. The session demonstrated the multidisciplinary nature of contemporary cardiovascular research, linking metabolic, vascular, inflammatory, and molecular mechanisms with clinically important cardiovascular outcomes. This was followed with the lunch break.

Symposium 3: Cellular Therapy, Cardiac Regeneration and Cardiac Repair

Following the lunch break, a major focus of the afternoon program was cardiac repair and regeneration. This session was chaired by Drs Ren-Ke Li (Toronto, Canada) and Michael Czubryt (Winnipeg, Canada). Presentations addressed the new frontier of heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (Dr. Roberto Bolli), conductive biomaterials for atrial fibrillation by Dr. Ren-Ke Li, carbon nanomaterials for cardiac regenerative medicine by Dr. Sanjiv Dhingra (Winnipeg, Canada), and immune-mediated repair mechanisms at the epicardial border by Dr. Justin Deniset (Calgary, Canada). These presentations underscored the rapid evolution of regenerative cardiovascular medicine and the potential for advanced biomaterials, cellular therapies, nanotechnology, and immune mechanisms to contribute to future treatment strategies for cardiovascular disease.

Symposium 4: Innovations in Cardiovascular Research: Lab to Market

Following the coffee break, the final scientific session of the day was chaired by Drs. Vladimir Jakovljevic (Kragujevac, Serbia) and Ramesh K. Goyal (Ahmedabad, India), which emphasized the translation of cardiovascular discoveries from basic research into clinical and commercial applications. This session began with a talk by Dr. Andras Varro (Szeged, Hungary) on the ultra-rapid delayed rectifier potassium current in the cardiac ventricular muscle. This presentation was followed by Dr. Simon Rabkin (Vancouver, Canada) who spoke on the relationship of the QT interval and longevity and then Dr. Larry Fliegel (Edmonton, Canada) who presented on the impact of elevated NHE1 expression and activity to myocardial susceptibility to neuroendocrine stress and hypertrophy. The session concluded with the presentation by Dr. Riya Ganguly (Edmonton, Canada) on the topic of turning innovative research into business. The session was particularly relevant to the Forum's objective of encouraging translational research and demonstrating pathways through which discoveries generated in academic laboratories can ultimately benefit patients and society.

Poster Competition: Session 1

A substantial component of the Forum was devoted to supporting emerging investigators. Posters were presented by graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, medical students, clinical fellows, research associates, and health professionals, with competitive awards recognizing outstanding presentations. Poster judging for the poster competition session 1 was conducted by Dr. Jeffrey Wigle (Winnipeg, Canada) and Dr. Ashish Shah (Winnipeg, Canada).

Faculty Meet and Greet Dinner and Awards Presentations

The evening ended with an invitation only Faculty Dinner at one of the city's premier East Indian Restaurant, Clay Oven. The formal part of the dinner was the presentation of IACS awards to recognize service excellence, chaired by Dr. Gant Pierce, past President of the IACS. Exemplary Service Awards were presented to Drs. Ghassan Bkaily (Sherbrooke, Canada), Bram Ramjiawan (Winnipeg, Canada), Mr. Kris Ramchandrar (Winnipeg, Canada) and Mrs. Taran Malik (Winnipeg, Canada). The Distinguished Service Award was bestowed on Drs. Michael Kutryk (Toronto, Canada), Paul Ganguly (Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia), Morris Karmazyn (London, Canada), Paramjit S. Tappia (Winnipeg, Canada) and Mr. Darshan Kaila (Winnipeg, Canada).



Dr. Ghassan Bkaily (C) Receiving the IACS Exemplary Award from Dr. Grant Pierce (L) and Mr. Diljeet Brar, Member of Legislative Assembly- Govt. of Manitoba (R)



Dr. Bram Ramjiawan (C) Receiving the IACS Exemplary Award from Drs. Grant Pierce (L) and Navneet Narula (R)

Scientific Program – July 23

The second full day of the Forum continued with four additional symposia focusing on hypertension, heart

failure, cardiogenic shock, cardiac remodeling, pharmacotherapy, nutrition, lifestyle modification, and cardioprotection.

Symposium 5: Pathophysiology of Hypertension and Small Vessel Dilation

This session, chaired by Drs. Ali J. Marian (Houston, USA) and Richard Keijzer (Winnipeg, Canada), addressed contemporary mechanisms of hypertension and small vessel dilation. The first speaker of this session was Dr. Rhian Touyz (Montreal, Canada) who presented on redox signaling and the vasculome; followed by the presentation by Dr. Paul Ganguly (Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia) on the role of sympathetic activation mediated by neuropeptide Y in hypertension. Dr. Suresh C. Tyagi (Louisville, USA) then presented on epigenetic



Mr. Kris Ramchandrar (C) Receiving the IACS Exemplary Award from Drs. Grant Pierce (L) and Ramesh Goval (R)



Mrs. Taran Malik (C) Receiving the IACS Exemplary Award from Drs. Grant Pierce (L) and Vladimir Jakovljevic (R)

mechanisms underlying hypertensive heart failure with preserved ejection fraction; the session concluded with the presentation by Dr. Michael Kutryk (Toronto, Canada) who spoke about the role of endothelial and monocyte



Dr. Michael Kutryk (C) Receiving the IACS Distinguished Service Award from Drs. Grant Pierce (L) and Paramjit Tappia (R)



Dr. Morris Karmazyn (C) Receiving the IACS Distinguished Service Award from Drs. Grant Pierce (L) and Mike Czubryt (R)



Dr. Paul Ganguly (C) Receiving the IACS Distinguished Service Award from Drs. Grant Pierce (L) and Paramjit Tappia (R)



Mr. Darshan Kaila (C) Receiving the IACS Distinguished Service Award from Drs. Grant Pierce (L) and Andras Varro (R)

dysfunction in hereditary hemorrhagic telangiectasia. These presentations demonstrated the complexity of hypertension and emphasized the interaction between vascular, neural, epigenetic, and cellular mechanisms in cardiovascular disease.

Symposium 6: New CCS Guidelines and Pharmacotherapy of Heart Failure

This session began after the mid-morning coffee break and was chaired by Drs. Andras Varro (Szeged, Hungary) and Inna Rabinovich-Nikitin (Winnipeg, Canada). The first presenter of this session was Dr. Shelley Zieroth whose talk focused on contemporary approaches to heart failure management, including the new Canadian Cardiovascular Society heart failure guidelines and the emerging concept of cardiovascular-kidney-metabolic medicine. This was followed by a talk by Dr. Morris Karmazyn from London,



Dr. Paramjit Tappia (C) Receiving the IACS Distinguished Service Award from Drs. Grant Pierce (L) and Milos Stojiljkovic (R)

Canada) on the gut microbiome as a therapeutic target in heart failure. The next speaker in this session was Dr. Vladimir Jakovljevic who presented on the functional, molecular and structural insights on empagliflozin and sacubitril/valsartan combination therapy in isoproterenol-induced heart failure in rats. This presentation was followed by a talk on the therapeutic potential of angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 in heart failure by Dr. Ramesh K. Goyal. Collectively, these presentations highlighted the increasingly integrated approach to heart failure management that combined pharmacological, metabolic, molecular, and microbiome-based strategies.

Symposium 7: Cardiac Remodeling, ER Stress and Cardiogenic Shock

Following the lunch break, the Forum continued with this session on the mechanisms and treatment challenges associated with advanced cardiovascular disease.

The session was chaired by Drs Rhian Touyz and Thomas Netticadan (Winnipeg, Canada). The first presentation was by Dr. Ali J. Marian on chromatin remodeling and gene expression in heart failure, which was followed with the talk by Dr. Petr Ostadal (Prague, Czech Republic) on the use of extracorporeal membrane oxygenation in cardiogenic shock. Dr. Amir Ravandi (Winnipeg, Canada) then presented on lysophosphatidylcholine as a potential marker of haemodynamic and metabolic deterioration in acute myocardial infarction and cardiogenic shock. The session concluded by another talk by Dr. Simon Rabkin. The session provided an important bridge between fundamental molecular mechanisms and severe clinical cardiovascular syndromes.

Symposium 8: Pharmacotherapy and Lifestyle Modifications in Cardiovascular Disease

The final scientific symposium began after the coffee break and addressed pharmacological, nutritional, and lifestyle approaches to cardiovascular disease prevention and treatment. The session chairs were Drs. Jude Uzonna (Winnipeg, Canada) and Dragana Loncar-Stojiljkovic (Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina) and began with the presentation by Dr. Milos P. Stojiljkovic (Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina) who spoke about the use of pyridostigmine therapy in the treatment of isoprenaline-induced heart failure in rats. This was followed with the talk by Dr. Ghassan Bkaily (Sherbrooke, Canada) on taurine supplementation as a universal treatment for cardiovascular disease. The next speaker in this session was Dr. Harpal S. Buttar (Ottawa, Canada) with a presentation on pharmaconutrition and lifestyle modification for cardiometabolic disease prevention, and the session ended with the presentation by Dr. Tatiana Ravingerova (Bratislava, Slovak Republic) on the molecular mechanisms underlying cardioprotection associated with moderate exercise as a form of delayed remote preconditioning. The session reinforced the

importance of integrating conventional pharmacological approaches with nutrition, physical activity, and other lifestyle interventions in the prevention and management of cardiovascular disease.

Poster Competition: Session 2

The second day (July 23) Poster Awards competition was judged by Dr. Paramjit S. Tappia and Dr. Shuangbo Liu. The inclusion of dedicated poster competitions and awards provided trainees with an important opportunity to present their research, receive feedback from established investigators, develop scientific communication skills, and establish professional networks.

Awards and Recognition

The Forum concluded with a Gala Award Dinner on July 23, at the Fort Garry Hotel in the Provencher Ballroom. The dinner provided an opportunity to recognize accomplished investigators and celebrate contributions to cardiovascular research and education. Recognition of scientific excellence and support for the next generation of cardiovascular investigators represented an important component of the Forum.

This formal awards ceremony was chaired by Dr. Lorrie Kirshenbaum. The establishment of awards named after prominent individuals is particularly valuable in creating a lasting legacy for cardiovascular science while inspiring emerging investigators to pursue excellence in research, clinical practice, and innovation.

In this regard, the following named awards were presented. First, the Albert D. Friesen Award for Biomedical Scientists was presented to Dr. Andras Varro (President of the IACS, Szeged, Hungary), the Wayne Anderson Award for the Wayne Anderson Award for Clinical Scientists was presented to Dr. Jagat Narula (President of the World Heart Federation and Executive Vice President, University of Texas Health, Houston, USA). The Larry Vickar Award for Biomedical Scientists was presented to Dr. Ramesh Goyal (President of the IACS-India Section and Former Vice Chancellor of the DPSR University, Ahmedabad, India).

The Paul Ganguly Award for Clinician Scientists was presented to Dr. Rhian Touyz (Editor-in-Chief of Hypertension and Executive Director of McGill University Health Centre, Montreal, Canada), the Morris Karmazyn Award for Biomedical Scientists was presented to Dr. Roberto Bolli (Director of Institute of Molecular Cardiology and Editor-in-Chief of Journal of Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry, Louisville, USA), the Michael Kutryk Award for Clinician Scientists was presented to Dr. Ali J. Marian (Director of Center for Cardiovascular Genetic Research, University of Texas Health, Houston,



Dr. Andras Varro (2nd R) Receiving the Albert Friesen Award from Drs. Lorrie Kirshenbaum (L), Albert Friesen (2nd L) and Hon. Renee Cable, Minister of Advanced Education & Training- Govt. of Manitoba (R)



Dr. Ramesh Goyal (2nd R) Receiving the Larry Vickar Award from Dr. Lorrie Kirshenbaum (L), Minister Renee Cable (2nd L) and Mr. Larry Vickar (R)



Dr. Jagat Narula (R) Receiving the Wayne Anderson Award from Drs. Lorrie Kirshenbaum (L), Senator Gigi Osler (2nd L) and Wayne Anderson (2nd R)



Dr. Rhian Touyz (2nd R) Receiving the Paul Ganguly Award from Dr. Lorrie Kirshenbaum (L), Hon. Mintu Sandhu, Minister of Public Service Delivery- Govt. of Manitoba (2nd L) and Dr. Paul Ganguly (R)

USA), the Suresh Tyagi Award for Biomedical Scientists was presented to Dr. Vladimir Jakovljevic (President of IACS-European Section and Dean of Faculty of Medical Sciences, Kragujevac, Serbia) and the Naranjan S. Dhall Award for Clinician Scientists was presented to Dr. Petr. Ostadal (President of Czech Society of Cardiology and Head of Cardiology, Motol University Hospital, Prague, Czech Republic). Dr. Kirshenbaum continued and presided over the presentation of 8 Best Poster Awards; four in the name of Mr. Kamta Roy Singh and four in the name of Mr. Amarjeet S. Warraich. Drs. Ayodeji Falade and Garret Munch, representatives of Honourable Frances Chartrand, Minister of Health & Wellness, Manitoba Metis Federation, assisted in the presentation of these awards.

The recipients of the Kamta Roy Singh Best Poster Awards were Ahmed Al-Khaffaf (Winnipeg, Canada) for his presentation entitled "Diving into Life: When do Neonatal Pulmonary Artery Myocytes Lose Their Ability to Accommodate Low Oxygen?"; Shaggy Augusma (Montreal, Canada) for his presentation entitled "NOTCH3 Mutations and Vascular Dementia- Lessons Learned from CADASIL"; Aviva Gerring (Winnipeg, Canada) for her presentation entitled "Mechanotransduction and Remodeling of Cardiac Fibroblasts Under Simulated Microgravity" and Sikta Chattopadhyaya (Winnipeg, Canada) for her presentation entitled "Impact of Losartan on Angiotensin-II Induced Cardiac Fibrosis and Role of Scleraxis in this Pathway".



Dr. Roberto Bolli (2nd L) Receiving the Morris Karmazyn Award from Drs. Lorrie Kirshenbaum (L), Morris Karmazyn (2nd R) and Jude Uzonna (R)



Dr. Vladimir Jakovljevic (2nd R) Receiving the Suresh Tyagi Award from Drs. Lorrie Kirshenbaum (L), Suresh Tyagi (2nd L) and Grant Pierce (R)



Dr. Ali J. Marian (C) Receiving the Michael Kutryk Award from Drs. Roberto Bolli (L) and Michael Kutryk (R)



Dr. Petr Ostadal (2nd R) Receiving the Naranjan Dhalla Award from Drs. Naranjan Dhalla (L), Art Defehr (2nd L) and Lorrie Kirshenbaum (R)

The recipients of Amarjeet S. Warraich Best Poster Awards were Arianna Plante (Winnipeg, Canada) for her presentation entitled “The ACS-24 Study: Very Early Discharge after ACS in Low-Risk Patients is Safe and Effective”; Raneeta Thingnam (Winnipeg, Canada) for her presentation entitled “Impaired Autophagy Triggers cGAS-STING Signaling Pathway in Doxorubicin Cardiomyopathy”; Sara Haji Rasul (Winnipeg, Canada) for her presentation entitled “Comparative Single-Cell Transcriptomic Analysis of Skin and Heart Fibroblasts During Wound Healing” and Liam Quigg (Montreal, Canada) for his presentation entitled “Vascular Smooth Muscle Cell NOTCH3 Modulates Brown Adipose Tissue Anti-Contractile Pathways”.

International and National Collaboration

A major strength of the Forum was the breadth of participation from Canadian institutions and international centres of excellence. Canadian faculty represented institutions including the University of Manitoba, University of Toronto, McGill University, University of Alberta, University of Calgary, University of British Columbia, Western University, University of Ottawa, Université de Sherbrooke, St. Michael's Hospital, and other leading centres. International participation included investigators from the United States, Hungary, Serbia, India, Saudi Arabia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Czech Republic, and the Slovak Republic. This broad representation provided a valuable environment for exchanging scientific knowledge, identifying complementary research expertise, and developing new national and international collaborations.



Dr. Lorrie Kirshenbaum (L) along with Mr. Kamta Roy Singh (2nd L) and Dr. Ayodeji Falade (3rd R) Present the Kamta Roy Singh Student Poster Awards to Shaggy Augusma (3rd L), Aviva Gerring (2nd R) and and Sikta Chattopadhyaya (R). Missing in photo: Ahmed Al-Khaffaf



Drs. Lorrie Kirshenbaum (L), Simar Warraich (2nd L) and Garret Munch (R) Present the Amarjeet S. Warraich Student Poster Awards to Liam Quigg (3rd L), Arianna Plante (C), Raneeta Thingnam (3rd R) and Sara Haji Rasul (2nd R)

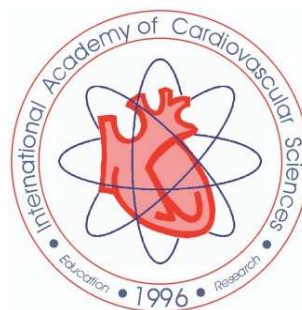
Overall Assessment and Significance

The inaugural Canadian Cardiovascular Forum for Health and Disease successfully fulfilled its central objective of creating a multidisciplinary platform for cardiovascular science, education, collaboration, and professional development. The scientific program covered the full continuum of cardiovascular research—from molecular and cellular mechanisms and experimental models to clinical disease, pharmacotherapy, regenerative medicine, lifestyle interventions, and translation of discoveries into clinical and commercial applications. Particularly noteworthy was the integration of emerging areas such as molecular imaging, cardiovascular immunology, nanomaterials, regenerative medicine, gut microbiome research, epigenetics, redox signaling, cardiometabolic medicine, and precision therapeutics. The Forum also provided a strong emphasis on trainee development, through poster presentations, competitive awards, interaction with senior investigators, and opportunities for professional networking. This component

directly supports the IACS objective of developing the next generation of Canadian biomedical and clinical scientists.

Conclusion

The Canadian Cardiovascular Forum for Health and Disease represents an important new initiative in Canadian cardiovascular science. By bringing together established investigators, emerging scientists, clinicians, trainees, and international leaders, the Forum created a productive environment for scientific exchange and collaboration. The breadth and quality of the scientific presentations, strong international participation, emphasis on translational research, and dedicated support for trainees collectively establish a strong foundation for the Forum's continued development. As a Winnipeg-based initiative of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences, the meeting also reinforces Winnipeg's role as an important centre for cardiovascular research, education, collaboration, and scientific leadership. The inaugural Forum is therefore well positioned to become a recurring national and international meeting that contributes to the advancement of cardiovascular research, development of clinician-scientists and biomedical professionals, promotion of collaborative research, and ultimately improved prevention and treatment of cardiovascular disease in Canada and beyond.



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

13TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF CARDIOVASCULAR SCIENCES NORTH AMERICAN SECTION

Presented by the International Academy of
Cardiovascular Sciences & the University of
Louisville Division of Cardiovascular Medicine

September 10-12, 2026
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

Conference Chair:

Roberto Bolli, M.D., D.Sc. (Hon), Dr. h. c.
Professor of Medicine and Physiology
Director, Institute of Molecular Cardiology
Distinguished University Scholar
Legacy Foundation of Kentuckiana
Distinguished Chair in Cardiology
University of Louisville Medical Center

Conference Co-Chair:

**Dinesh Kalra, M.D., M.B.A., FACC, FAHA,
FSCCT, FSCMR**
Professor of Medicine
Chief, Division of Cardiovascular Medicine
Endowed Chair, Cardiovascular Innovations
Director of Advanced Cardiac Imaging, Lipid Clinic &
Infiltrative Heart Disease Program
University of Louisville Medical Center



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WELCOME MESSAGE

Welcome,

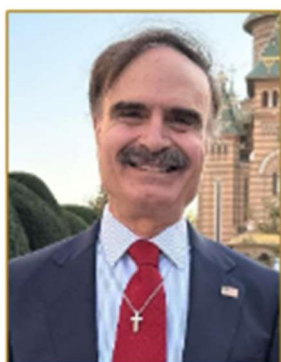
On behalf of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences-North American Section (IACS – NAS), the Institute of Molecular Cardiology (IMC), and the University of Louisville Division of Cardiovascular Medicine, it is a great pleasure to welcome you to this meeting, a premier gathering of cardiovascular scientists, clinicians, trainees, and students. This will be the 13th annual meeting of the IACS-NAS and will 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 groundbreaking 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.

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 medicine. 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 will mark the launch of the new Roberto Bolli, M.D., Distinguished Young Scientist Award, which advances the core mission of IACS-NAS to promote and support early career scientists. In addition to featuring an impressive cadre of leaders in cardiovascular science, we have also strived to provide a forum that brings together experts and trainees to discuss the latest and most topical issue in cardiovascular medicine.

This conference reflects the commitment of IACS-NAS to supporting young talent and 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/IMC/UofL Conference an unforgettable experience!



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



**Dinesh Kalra, M.D., M.B.A.,
FACC, FAHA, FSCCT, FSCMR**
Conference Co-Chair

PROGRAM AGENDA

AGENDA – Day 1: Thursday, September 10, 2026

12:00 – 6:00 pm **Registration**

2:45 – 3:30 pm **Welcome Remarks**

Roberto Bolli, MD, DSc (Hon.), Dr. h. c., Conference Chair

Dinesh Kalra, MD, MBA, Conference Co-Chair

*Jeffrey Bumpous, MD, Dean and Executive Vice President for Health Affairs,
University of Louisville*

*Jon Klein, MD, PhD, Executive Vice President for Research and Innovation,
University of Louisville*

President's Address

Buddhadeb Dawn, MD

3:30 – 6:30 pm **State-of-the-Art Lectures**

Moderators: *Roberto Bolli, MD, DSc. (Hon), Dr. h. C., Dinesh Kalra, MD, MBA*

3:30 – 4:00 pm **The Long And Winding Road Of Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy;
A Tribute To Dr. Eugene Braunwald (1929-2026)**

Ali J. Marian, MD

4:00 – 4:30 pm **Clonal Hematopoiesis and Cardiovascular Disease**

Alan Tall, MD

4:30 – 5:00 pm **Precision Hypertension - Molecular mechanisms to targeted therapies**

Rhian Touyz BSc. (Hons), MSc. (Med), MBBCh, PhD

5:00 – 5:10 pm **Session Break**

5:10 – 5:40 pm **FoxM1 promotes cardiomyocyte regeneration in mammalian hearts with
post-infarction LV remodeling**

Jay Zhang, PhD

5:40 – 6:10 pm **HFpEF: Where metabolism, inflammation, and fibrosis converge in the
context of obesity**

Philipp E. Scherer, PhD

IACS Medal of Merit Lecture

6:10 – 6:15 pm **Introduction of the Speaker**

Naranjan Dhalla, PhD, Honorary Life President, IACS

6:15 – 6:45 pm **PCSK9: How Evolution Created a Friend—and Left Us with a Foe?**

Jagat Narula, MD, PhD

7:00 pm **Welcome Dinner: Grand Ballroom A**

PROGRAM AGENDA

AGENDA – DAY 2: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

7:00 – 8:00 am **Registration & Breakfast**

Session 1: COMBS CHANDLER THE TRUE CARDIOMETABOLIC SCIENCE

Moderators: *Martin Young, PhD; Junichi Sadoshima, MD, PhD*

8:00 – 8:20 am **Metabolic Mechanisms in Heart Failure - Beyond ATP**
Dale Abel, MD, PhD

8:20 – 8:40 am **Metabolic regulation in the obesity heart**
Junichi Sadoshima, MD, PhD

8:40 – 9:00 am **Mechanism-based therapies for cardiometabolic diseases**
Yibin Wang, PhD

9:00 – 9:20 am **Durable myeloid reprogramming in human cardiometabolic disease**
Matthew Feinstein, MD

9:20 – 9:40 am **Circadian Control of the Heart in Health and Disease**
Martin Young, PhD

9:40 – 10:00 am **Circadian Regulation of Metabolic Signaling Pathways in the Heart**
Lorrie Kirshenbaum, OM, PhD

Session 2: GRAND BALLROOM B DIABETES AND THE HEART

Moderators: *Patrick C. Hsieh, MD, PhD; Bradley Ferguson, PhD*

8:00 – 8:20 am **When Diabetes Hits the Heart: GRK5 as the Hidden Saboteur**
Yajing Wang, PhD

8:20 – 8:40 am **Diaphanous 1-driven pathogenic mechanisms in ischemic and diabetic hearts**
Ravichandran (Ravi) Ramasamy, PhD

8:40 – 9:00 am **GLUT1: Inflection point of diabetic cardiomyopathy**
Konstantinos Drosatos, MSc, PhD

9:00 – 9:20 am **Sweetheart - How the Cardiomyocyte Senses Nutrients**
Jonathan Kirk, PhD

9:20 – 9:40 am **Targeting T-tubule Microdomains For Heart Failure Therapy Development**
TingTing Hong, MD, PhD

9:40 – 10:00 am **Interaction between Monoamine Oxidase and the Novel Antidiabetic Drugs in Cardio-metabolic Diseases**
Danina Muntean, MD, PhD

PROGRAM AGENDA

AGENDA – Day 2: Friday, September 11, 2026

Session 3: GRAND BALLROOM C GENE AND CELL-BASED THERAPIES I

Moderators: Jay Zhang, PhD; Roger J. Hajjar, MD

- 8:00 – 8:20 am** Allogeneic MSC Therapy in Diabetic Patients with Ischemic Heart Disease: the ACESO-IHD trial
Joshua M. Hare, MD
- 8:20 – 8:40 am** Cell therapy for Heart Failure
Roberto Bolli, MD
- 8:40 – 9:20 am** *STATE-OF-THE-ART LECTURE*
Advances in Cardiac Gene Therapy
Roger J. Hajjar, MD
- 9:20 – 9:40 am** Options for the Non-option Patient: Novel Therapies for Refractory Angina or Coronary Microvascular Dysfunction
Odayme Quesada, MD
- 9:40 – 10:00 am** Early Clinical Experience with Stem Cell Therapies in Infants with Congenital Heart Disease
Sunjay Kaushal, MD
- 10:00 – 10:20 am** Coffee Break

Session 4: GRAND BALLROOM B BUDDHADEB DAWN GRADUATE STUDENT AWARD COMPETITION

Moderators: Istvan Baczko, MD, PhD; Lorrie Kirshenbaum, OM, PhD

Judges: Rajasekaran Namakkal-Soorappan, PhD; Praveen K. Dubey, PhD;

Priyatansh Gurha, PhD; Nevena Jeremic, PhD; Henrique Furtado, MD, PhD; Finosh G. Thankam, PhD

- 10:20 – 10:40 am** GSK-3 α Deficiency Activates NLRP3 Inflammasome Signaling and Spontaneous Cardiac Remodeling
Arvind Singh Bhati
- 10:40 – 11:00 am** Integrating Mechanical Signals and Chromatin Architecture: The Role of Histone H1.0 in Cardiac Fibrosis
Sean Bridges
- 11:00 – 11:20 am** Myocardial Depletion of Histidyl Dipeptides Enhances the Accumulation of Pathogenic CD4⁺ T cells in Failing Hearts
Benjamin Doelling
- 11:20 – 11:40 am** MyoAAV-mediated Delivery of Cardiac Bridging Integrator 1 (cBIN1) Enhances Cardiac Transgene Expression for Heart Failure Rescue
Patience Ofoseh
- 11:40 – 12:00 pm** Beyond Glycemic Control: Dual GIP/GLP-1 Receptor Agonist Tirzepatide Attenuates TMAO-Induced Endothelial Dysfunction by Inhibiting NLRP3 Activation and Oxidative Stress.
Sivthama Pacham

PROGRAM AGENDA

AGENDA – Day 2: Friday, September 11, 2026

Session 5: GRAND BALLROOM C

MECHANISMS OF MYOCARDIAL INJURY/FAILURE

Moderators: Nikolaos Frangogiannis, MD; Richard N. Kitsis, MD

- 10:20 – 11:00 am STATE-OF-THE-ART LECTURE**
Unifying Cell Death Programs in Myocardial Infarction
Richard N. Kitsis, MD
- 11:00 – 11:20 am ATG9A in Cardiac Mitochondrial Homeostasis and Quality Control**
Asa Gustafsson, PhD
- 11:20 – 11:40 am Neutrophil STING in ischemic cardiac injury**
Rebecca Levit, MD
- 11:40 – 12:00 pm When the Young Heart Fails: Age-Dependent Mechanisms in Pediatric Heart Failure**
Kika Sucharov, PhD
- 12:00 – 12:20 pm T cell immune responses in chemotherapy cardiotoxicity**
Pilar Alcaide, PhD

Session 6: COMBS CHANDLER

CARDIOMYOPATHIES/HEART FAILURE

Moderators: Ali J. Marian, MD; Vineet Agrawal, MD, PhD

- 10:20 – 10:40 am Novel Targets and Approaches for Dystrophic Cardiomyopathy**
Da-Zhi Wang, PhD
- 10:40 – 11:00 am Molecular Mechanisms of Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy**
Sakthivel Sadayappan, PhD
- 11:00 – 11:20 am Nampt Activators for the Treatment of Heart Failure**
Srinivas Tipparaju, PhD
- 11:20 – 12:00 pm KEYNOTE LECTURE**
Myocardial Recovery: Bedside to Bench and Back
Stavros G. Drakos, MD, PhD
- 12:00 – 12:20 pm Cardiac Myocytes Aging Transcriptome**
Leila Rouhi, MD, PhD
- 12:20 – 2:00 pm Lunch**

PROGRAM AGENDA

AGENDA – Day 2: Friday, September 11, 2026

SATELLITE SESSION:

Moderators: Ali J. Marian, MD; Devendra K. Agrawal, PhD, MBA

12:40 – 2:00 pm **Funding opportunities at the NIH: Mechanisms, Applications, and FAQs**
Renee Wong, PhD, National Institutes of Health

Session 7: COMBS CHANDLER

ROBERTO BOLLI, MD DISTINGUISHED YOUNG SCIENTIST AWARD COMPETITION

(2.5 HOURS CONTINUOUS TILL 4:30 PM – NO COFFEE BREAK)

Chair: Ali J. Marian, MD

Judges: Devendra K. Agrawal, PhD (Biochem), PhD (Med Sciences), MBA; Nikolaos Frangogiannis, MD; Daniel Garry, MD, PhD; Asa Gustafsson, PhD; Lorrie Kirshenbaum, OM, PhD; Maria Kontaridis, PhD; Junichi Sadoshima, MD, PhD; Philipp E. Scherer, PhD; Alan Tall, MD; Rhian Touyz, BSc. (Hons), MSc. (Med), MBBCh, PhD; Yibin Wang, PhD

Presentations in alphabetical order

2:00 – 2:30 pm **Mahmoud Abdellatif, MD, PhD**
Targeting The Biology Of Aging To Treat Cardiovascular Disease

2:30 – 3:00 pm **Sean Joseph Jurgens, MD, PhD**
Leveraging Shared Genetic Mechanisms Across Cardiovascular Disorders For Improved Gene Discovery And Risk Prediction

3:00 – 3:30 pm **Siddharth Patel, MD, MPH**
Factor XI Inhibition in Atrial Fibrillation: The Promise of a Safer Anticoagulant

3:30 – 4:00 pm **Eric Wei, MD, PhD**
Deep Learning Volumetric Imaging Reveals Genotype-Specific Microarchitectural Remodeling in Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy

4:00 – 4:30 pm **Yu-Sheng Yeh, PhD, RD**
Discovery of the Adipocyte Autophagy-Lysosome as a Nexus for Lipid Mobilization and Cardiometabolic Health

Session 8: GRAND BALLROOM B

CARDIAC ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY (HALF SESSION)

Moderators: Xander Wehrens, MD, PhD; István Baczkó, MD, PhD

2:00 – 2:20 pm **Sodium Channel Isoform Regulation in the Heart**
Barry London, MD, PhD

2:20 – 2:40 pm **Fibrosis reversal in atrial fibrillation by targeting the miR-31/calcitonin receptor axis**
Xander Wehrens, MD, PhD

PROGRAM AGENDA

AGENDA – Day 2: Friday, September 11, 2026

2:40 – 3:00 pm **Proarrhythmic remodeling of pulmonary vein sleeve myocytes in a large animal model of endurance exercise**

István Baczkó, MD, PhD

Session 9: GRAND BALLROOM C

NEW CONCEPTS IN CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE I

Moderators: *Leila Rouhi, MD, PhD; Brian Weil, PhD*

2:00 – 2:20 pm **Pulmonary hypertension and its potentially metallomic risks**

Lu Cai, MD, PhD

2:20 – 2:40 pm **2D Nanomaterials for Cardiac Regenerative Medicine**

Sanjiv Dhingra, PhD

2:40 – 3:00 pm **Time course of early and delayed myocardial protection induced by vagal nerve stimulation preconditioning**

Ricardo J. Gelpi, MD, PhD

3:00 – 3:20 pm **Coffee Break**

Session 10: GRAND BALLROOM B

NEW CONCEPTS IN CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE II

Moderators: *Barry London, MD, PhD; TingTing Hong, MD, PhD*

3:20 – 3:40 pm **The Ultrarapid Delayed Rectifier Potassium Current has Important Role in the Repolarization in the Canine and Human Ventricular Muscle**

András Varró, MD, PhD

3:40 – 4:00 pm **Protein Quality Control in the Mitochondrial Matrix: A Neglected Axis of Cardiac Resilience**

Venkatesh Sundararajan, PhD

4:00 – 4:20 pm **Spatial Multiomics in Atherosclerotic Plaque Stability**

Gregory A. Payne, MD, PhD

4:30 – 6:00 pm

Poster Session:

Morris Karmazyn Poster Award (4)

Margaret Moffat Poster Award (4)

Judges: *Rajasekaran Namakkal-Soorappan, PhD; Praveen K. Dubey, PhD; Venkatesh Sundararajan, PhD; Sanjiv Dhingra, PhD; Mohamed M. Radwan, MD; Finosh G. Thankam, PhD; Suresh C. Tyagi, PhD; Ewa Zuba-Surma, PhD*

6:30 pm **Evening is free for social time with colleagues**

PROGRAM AGENDA

AGENDA – Day 3: Saturday, September 12, 2026

7:00 – 8:00 am **Registration & Breakfast**

Session 11: COMBS CHANDLER

EPIGENETIC MECHANISMS IN HEART DISEASE

Moderators: Alan Tall, MD; Thomas Vondriska, PhD

8:00 – 8:20 am **Chromatin as a Biosensor in the Heart**

Thomas Vondriska, PhD

8:20 – 9:00 am **STATE-OF-THE-ART-LECTURE**

Actin Acetylation in Muscle Function

Bradley Ferguson, PhD

9:00 – 9:20 am **Reversing HFpEF by Epigenetics**

Suresh C. Tyagi, PhD

9:20 – 9:40 am **SeXX Matters: Epigenetic Based Sex Dimorphic Cardiac Reparative Activity of Endothelial Progenitor Cells**

Raj Kishore, PhD

9:40 – 10:00 am **Epigenetic Regression of the Failing Heart: The Role for KDM5**

Priyatansh Gurha, PhD

Session 12: GRAND BALLROOM B

EMERGING INSIGHTS INTO HEART FAILURE WITH PRESERVED EJECTION FRACTION

Moderators: Yi-Gang Wang, MD, PhD; Venkatesh Sundararajan, PhD

8:00 – 8:20 am **The Exposome and Heart Health: Linking Environmental Toxins to Cardiovascular Remodeling and HFpEF**

Vineet Agrawal, MD, PhD

8:20 – 8:40 am **A Clinically Relevant, Translatable Large Animal Model of HFpEF**

Roberto Bolli, MD, D.Sc. (Hon), Dr. h. c.

8:40 – 9:20 am **Investigating the Role of Protein Tyrosine Phosphatase 1B (PTP1B) Inhibition in HFpEF**

Maria Kontaridis, PhD

9:20 – 9:40 am **KEYNOTE LECTURE**

Myocardial Mechanisms of Diastolic Dysfunction in HFpEF: Rethinking the Role of Fibrosis

Brian Weil, PhD

PROGRAM AGENDA

AGENDA – Day 3: Saturday, September 12, 2026

9:40 – 10:00 am **Coronary Microvascular Dysfunction in HFpEF: Mechanisms and Clinical Implications**
Shengnan (Shanon) Zheng, MD

Session 13: GRAND BALLROOM C

IACS Symposium: ADVANCES IN CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH

Moderators: *Vladimir Jakovljevic, MD, PhD; Ranko Skrbic, MD, PhD*

8:00 – 8:20 am **PCSK9 and Atherosclerotic Stenosis in the Carotid Artery: Implication in Plaque Instability**
Devendra K. Agrawal, PhD (Biochem), PhD (Med Sciences), MBA

8:20 – 8:40 am **Novel Therapeutics for Cardiac Repair**
Arjun Deb, MD

8:40 – 9:00 am **Novel Therapeutic Options for Cardiac Fibrosis**
Michael P. Czubryt, PhD

9:00 – 9:20 am **Urolithin A Attenuate Experimental Heart Failure by Preventing Mitochondrial Dysfunction and Fibrotic Remodeling**
Ranko Skrbic, MD, PhD

9:20 – 9:40 am **Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy in Experimental Autoimmune Myocarditis**
Vladimir Jakovljevic, MD, PhD

9:40 – 10:00 am **Valvular Heart Disease: An Update**
Henrique Furtado, MD, PhD

10:00 – 10:20 am **Coffee Break**

Session 14: COMBS CHANDLER THE ENVIROME AND THE HEART

Moderators: *Jagat Narula, MD, PhD; Thomas Vondriska, PhD*

10:20 – 11:00 am **STATE-OF-THE-ART LECTURE**
Cardiovascular Risk and Evidence Based Nutrition
Kim A. Williams, Sr., MD

11:00 – 11:20 am **Stress and Heart Disease**
Arshed Quyyumi, MD

PROGRAM AGENDA

AGENDA – Day 3: Saturday, September 12, 2026

- 11:20 – 11:40 am** **Cardiovascular Health Check: New Preventive Strategy**
Goran Krstacic, MD, PhD
- 11:40 – 12:00 pm** **Exposome Implications on Cardiopulmonary Health: Role of Psychosocial Stress**
Loren Wold, PhD
- 12:00 – 12:20 pm** **The Effect of Nicotine Use on the Adolescent Heart and Brain**
Nicole Purcell, PhD

Session 15: GRAND BALLROOM B

EMERGING CONCEPTS IN NONINVASIVE AND INVASIVE CARDIOLOGY

Moderators: *Dinesh Kalra, MD, MBA; Petr Ostadal, MD, PhD*

- 10:20 – 10:40 am** **Concomitant Ventricular Tachycardia Ablation During Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD) Implantation**
Auras Atreya, MD, MPH
- 10:40 – 11:00 am** **Atrial Fibrillation and Heart Failure: Strategies for Management**
Nachiket M. Apte, MD
- 11:00 – 11:20 am** **New Horizons in Electrophysiology**
Jeffrey Stidam, MD
- 11:20 – 11:40 am** **Expanding PYP Scanning for Early Detection of Cardiac Amyloidosis**
DongBo Yu, MD
- 11:40 – 12:00 pm** **Demystifying Diastology: Update from the Recent ASE Guidelines**
Vincent L. Sorrell, MD
- 12:00 – 12:20 pm** **New Hope for Hopeless Patients with Complex Coronary Artery Disease**
Ibrahim Fahsah, MD

Session 16: GRAND BALLROOM C

CARDIAC REPAIR

Moderators: *Devendra K. Agrawal, PhD, MBA; Aisha Khan, PhD, MBA*

- 10:20 – 10:40 am** **New Strategies for Myocardial Infarction Repair**
Yi-Gang Wang, MD, PhD
- 10:40 – 11:00 am** **Universal Human Bioenergetic Battery**
Phil Yang, MD

PROGRAM AGENDA

AGENDA – Day 3: Saturday, September 12, 2026

- 11:00 – 11:20 am** **Microbial Metabolites as Systemic Regulators of Myocardial Repair**
Patrick C.H Hsieh, MD, PhD
- 11:20 – 12:00 pm** **STATE-OF-THE-ART LECTURE**
Smad Signaling Cascades in Cardiac Repair, Remodeling, and Fibrosis
Nikolaos Frangogiannis, MD
- 12:00 – 12:20 pm** **Closing the Gap: New Mechanisms of Electrical and Structural Rescue in Arrhythmogenic Cardiomyopathy**
Farah Sheikh, PhD
- 12:20 – 2:00 pm** **Lunch**

Session 17: GRAND BALLROOM B

GENE AND CELL-BASED THERAPIES II

Moderators: *Arshed Quyyumi, MD; Danina Muntean, MD, PhD*

- 2:00 – 2:20 pm** **Advancing Extracellular Vesicle Research: Progress and Innovations in Therapeutic Applications**
Aisha Khan, PhD, MBA
- 2:20 – 2:40 pm** **Early Clinical Experience with Stem Cell Therapies in Infants with Congenital Heart Disease**
Sunjay Kaushal, MD
- 2:40 – 3:00 pm** **Bacteria to the Rescue of Cardiac Conduction and Contraction**
Nenad Bursac, PhD

Session 18: GRAND BALLROOM C

ADVANCES IN CARDIAC IMAGING

Moderators: *Vincent L. Sorrell, MD; Jishanth Mattumpuram, MD*

- 2:00 – 2:40 pm** **KEYNOTE LECTURE**
Leveraging Imaging to Guide Preventive Therapies in Atherosclerotic Disease
Dinesh Kalra, MD, MBA
- 2:40 – 3:00 pm** **Low gradient, potentially severe aortic stenosis**
Marcus Stoddard, MD

PROGRAM AGENDA

AGENDA – Day 3: Saturday, September 12, 2026

Session 19: COMBS CHANDLER EMERGING CONCEPTS AND TECHNIQUES IN CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH

Moderators: Maria Kontaridis, PhD; Priyatansh Gurha, PhD

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 2:00 – 2:20 pm | Symphony of the Heart Proteome: Orchestrating Multi-Modal Frameworks and Agentic AI in Cardiovascular Medicine
<i>Peipei Ping, PhD</i> |
| 2:20 – 2:40 pm | The Causal Role of Cancer in Atherosclerosis
<i>Nick Leeper, MD</i> |
| 2:40 – 3:00 pm | Sphingolipids in Cardiovascular Disease
<i>Eleni Tseliou, MD, PhD</i> |
| 3:00 – 3:20 pm | Coffee Break |

Session 20: COMBS CHANDLER CARDIAC REGENERATION AND REPAIR

Moderators: Young-sup Yoon, MD, PhD; Jop Van Berlo, PhD

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 3:20 – 3:40 pm | Mechanisms that Govern Myocardial Repair and Regeneration
<i>Dan Garry, MD, PhD</i> |
| 3:40 – 4:00 pm | Cardiovascular Cell Therapy with iPSC-Derived Endothelial Cells and Reprogrammed Cells
<i>Young-sup Yoon, MD, PhD</i> |
| 4:00 – 4:20 pm | Cardiac Regeneration Through Stimulation of Cardiomyocyte Proliferation
<i>Jop Van Berlo, PhD</i> |
| 4:20 – 4:40 pm | Rewriting the Code for Cardiomyocyte Proliferation
<i>Tamer M Mohamed, PhD</i> |
| 4:40 – 5:00 pm | Endogenous stromal cells and injectable hydrogels for minimally invasive cardiac repair
<i>Finosh G. Thankam, PhD</i> |

PROGRAM AGENDA

AGENDA – Day 3: Saturday, September 12, 2026

Session 21: GRAND BALLROOM B

CURRENT ISSUES IN CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE

Moderators: *Kim A. Williams, Sr., MD; Goran Krstacic, MD, PhD*

- 3:20 – 4:00 pm** **KEYNOTE LECTURE**
Who May Benefit from ECMO in Cardiogenic Shock?
Petr Ostadal, MD, PhD
- 4:00 – 4:20 pm** **Updates in Management of Pulmonary Hypertension**
Sonali Arora, MD
- 4:20 – 4:40 pm** **Residual Risk in Coronary Artery Disease**
Arshed Quyyumi, MD
- 4:40 – 5:00 pm** **Genetics in Cardiomyopathies**
Jishanth Mattumpuram, MD

Session 22: GRAND BALLROOM C

NEW HORIZONS IN INTERVENTIONAL CARDIOLOGY

Moderators: *Marcus Stoddard, MD; Yuvraj Chowdhury, MD*

- 3:20 – 3:40 pm** **Updates in Structural Heart Disease Interventions**
Faraaz Rahman, MD
- 3:40 – 4:00 pm** **Role of TMVR in Failed Bioprosthetic Mitral Valve**
Naresh Solankhi, MD
- 4:00 – 4:20 pm** **Advances in Transcatheter Tricuspid Valve Interventions**
Ravi Sharma, MD
- 4:20 – 4:40 pm** **Beyond Flow: Redefining Coronary Physiology Using Advanced
Thermodilution and Flow Dynamics**
Yuvraj Chowdhury, MD
- 4:40 – 5:00 pm** **Advances in TAVR: Latest Research and Clinical Impact (remote
presentation)**
Gilbert Tang, MD, MBA

PROGRAM AGENDA

AGENDA – Day 3: Saturday, September 12, 2026

Awards Ceremony and Gala Dinner

6:00 – 7:00 pm Announcements, Recognitions, and Awards

Recognition by 2026 IACS-NAS Organizing Committee

Chairs: Dr. Roberto Bolli and Dr. Dinesh Kalra

Distinguished Service to Research Award

Dr. Renee Wong

Distinguished Research Achievement Award

Dr. Aisha Khan

Translational Catalyst Award

Dr. Santosh Sanganalmath

IACS Awards

Chair: Dr. Naranjan S. Dhalla

IACS Medal of Merit

Dr. Jagat Narula

Distinguished Leadership in Cardiovascular Science, Medicine, and Surgery

Dr. Roberto Bolli

Distinguished Service Award in Cardiovascular Science, Medicine, and Surgery

Dr. Buddhadeb Dawn

Distinguished Service Award in Cardiovascular Sciences, Medicine, and Surgery

Dr. Jay Zhang

Established Investigator Awards

Chairs: Dr. Naranjan S. Dhalla, Dr. András Varró, MD, PhD

Howard Morgan Award for Distinguished Achievements in Cardiovascular Research

Dr. Vladimir Jakovljevic

Naranjan Dhalla Award for Innovative Investigators in Cardiovascular Sciences

Dr. Ali J Marian

James Willerson Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Medicine

Dr. Rhian M Touyz

Grant Pierce Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences

Dr. Arjun Deb

PROGRAM AGENDA

AGENDA – Day 3: Saturday, September 12, 2026

Jay Mehta Annual Award for Clinical Scientists

Dr. Ranko Skrbic

Amarjit Arneja Distinguished Lecture Award in Prevention of Heart Disease

Dr. Henrique Furtado

Paul Ganguly Distinguished Lecture Award in Cardiovascular Science

Dr. Devendra K. Agrawal

Suresh C. Tyagi Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences

Dr. Srinivas Tipparaju

Roberto Bolli M.D. Distinguished Young Scientist Competition Awards

Chairs: *Dr. Ali J. Marian and Dr. Roberto Bolli*

Finalists (in alphabetical order):

Mahmoud Abdellatif, MD, PhD

Sean Joseph Jurgens, MD, PhD

Siddharth Patel, MD, MPH

Eric Wei, MD, PhD

Yu-Sheng Yeh, PhD, RD

Graduate Students Oral Presentation and Poster Awards

Chairs: *Dr. Buddhadeb Dawn and Dr. Devendra K. Agrawal*

Buddhadeb Dawn Graduate Student Award

Morris Karmazyn Poster Awards in Translational Medicine (4)

Margaret Moffat Poster Awards in Biomedical Sciences (4)

7:00 – 10:00 pm

Gala Dinner

12th Conference of the European Section of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

25–27 October 2026 | Sunday–Tuesday | Zagreb, CROATIA

GENERAL INFORMATION

Conference Dates: 25–27 October 2026

Conference Venue: Hilton Garden Inn Zagreb
Radnička street 21 / Zagreb / Croatia

Organizers: Faculty of Dental Medicine and Health University J. J. Strossmayer, Osijek
Institute for Prevention of Cardiovascular Diseases and Rehabilitation, Zagreb
International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences – European Section
Working group e-Cardiology Croatian Society of Cardiology

Meeting Director: Goran Krstajić (Croatia)

Meeting Co-Directors: Vladimir Jakovljević (Serbia)
Antonija Krstajić (Croatia)

Secretaries: Ante Miljak (Croatia)
Hrvoje Vražić (Croatia)

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

SUNDAY, 25 OCTOBER 2026

12:00–19:00 — REGISTRATION

MAIN MEETING ROOM

14:00–15:00 — OPENING CEREMONY

15:00–17:30 — KEYNOTE LECTURES

Chairpersons: Naranjan S. DHALLA (Canada), András VARRÓ (Hungary)

15:00–15:30 — Bohuslav OSTADAL (Czech Republic)

30/90 years - Celebrating history of IACS and Prof. Dhalla's leadership

15:30–16:00 — Roberto BOLLI (USA)

Cell therapy for heart failure

16:00–16:30 — Goran KRSTACIC (Croatia)

Non-linear dynamics and theory of chaos in cardiovascular medicine

16:30–17:00 — Naranjan S. DHALLA Honorary Lecture

Martin MORAD (USA)

Auto-rhythmicity of rabbit SA-Node, human iPSC-CMs, and rat neonatal cardiomyocytes: Criticality and Plasticity of calcium signaling mechanism

17:00–17:30 — Martin MORAD Honorary Lecture

Rui-Ping XIAO (China)

AI-enabled cardiovascular drug discovery and development

18:00–20:00 — WELCOME RECEPTION

MONDAY, 26 OCTOBER 2026

08:00–19:00 — REGISTRATION

HALL A — Monday, 26 October 2026

09:00–10:40 — IACS-ES AWARD LECTURES I

Chairpersons: Vladimir JAKOVLJEVIĆ (Serbia), Roberto BOLLI (USA)

09:00–09:25 — Danina MUNTEAN (Romania)

Bohuslav Ostadal Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences
Monoamine Oxidases As Emerging Targets for Vascular Protection

09:25–09:50 — Rodolphe FISCHMEISTER (France)

András Varró Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences
PEGylated ligands to study cardiac β -adrenergic receptor signaling in the T-tubule vs. outer surface membrane

09:50–10:15 — Petra KLEINBONGARD (Germany)

Vladimir Jakovljevic Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences
The cardiovascular protective potential of red blood cells

10:15–10:40 — Zoltán PAPP (Hungary)

Lorrie Kirshenbaum Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences
From hypercontractility to reserve: the paradox of myosin inhibitors beyond HCM

10:40–11:00 — COFFEE BREAK

11:00–12:40 — HEART FAILURE: FROM MOLECULAR MECHANISMS TO CLINICAL PHENOTYPES

Chairpersons: Ali J. MARIAN (USA), Adriana DURIŠ ADAEMOVA (Slovakia)

11:00–11:20 — Harlokes Narayan YADAV (India)

Calcium sensing receptor in crosstalk with Beta Receptors mediated signalling in models of Heart Failure

11:20–11:40 — Suresh C. TYAGI (USA)

Reversing HFpEF by Epigenetics

11:40–12:00 — Ali J. MARIAN (USA)

DNA damage in the pathogenesis of heart failure

12:00–12:20 — Adriana DURIŠ ADAEMOVA (Slovakia)

Necroptosis in Heart Failure: Intracellular and Extracellular Mechanisms and Pharmacotherapeutic Strategies

12:20–12:40 — Tamara PRERADOVIĆ KOVAČEVIĆ (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Decoding heart failure with preserved ejection fraction: true HFpEF vs phenotypic mimics

12:40–14:00 — LUNCH

14:00–16:00 — POSTER SESSION

16:00–17:40 — MYOCARDIAL ISCHEMIA, CARDIOPROTECTION & REPERFUSION INJURY

Chairpersons: Ricardo J. GELPI (Argentina), Paramjit S. TAPPIA (Canada)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 16:00–16:20 — Ricardo J. GELPI (Argentina) | Time course of early and delayed myocardial protection induced by vagal nerve stimulation preconditioning |
| 16:20–16:40 — Tatiana RAVINGEROVA (Slovakia) | Non-invasive “conditioning” strategies aimed to trigger cellular cardioprotective mechanisms in healthy and pathologically altered heart |
| 16:40–17:00 — Gerd HEUSCH (Germany) | The coronary circulation in myocardial ischemia/reperfusion |
| 17:00–17:20 — Amir RAVANDI (Canada) | Lysophosphatidylcholine and Hemodynamic–Metabolic Deterioration in Acute Myocardial Infarction and Cardiogenic Shock |
| 17:20–17:40 — Paramjit S. TAPPIA (Canada) | Evidence that Phospholipid N-Methylation Governs the Lipid Architecture of Cardiac Vulnerability |

17:40–18:00 — COFFEE BREAK

18:00–19:20 — CARDIAC FIBROSIS, INFLAMMATION & REMODELING

Chairpersons: Michael CZUBRYT (Canada), Jawahar (Jay) L. MEHTA (USA)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 18:00–18:20 — Vladimir JAKOVljević (Serbia) | Possible association between apical periodontitis and cardiac function in diabetic rats |
| 18:20–18:40 — Michael CZUBRYT (Canada) | Novel therapeutic options for cardiac fibrosis |
| 18:40–19:00 — Jawahar (Jay) L. MEHTA (USA) | How MI affects the brain; role of NLRP3? |
| 19:00–19:20 — Tejal GANDHI (India) | Modulation of NLRP3 Inflammasome and TGF-β1 Signaling Attenuates Cardiac Fibrosis |

HALL B — Monday, 26 October 2026

09:00–10:40 — 09:00–10:40 — ARRHYTHMIA AND ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY

Chairpersons: András VARRÓ (Hungary), István BACZKÓ (Hungary)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 09:00–09:20 — Carol Ann REMME (Netherlands) | Translating basic science into novel strategies for risk prediction and management in inherited arrhythmias |
| 09:20–09:40 — Cristina MOLINA (Germany) | Redefining neurocardiac interactions in the human heart |

09:40–10:00 — Thomas JESPERSEN (Denmark)	Pigs as mechanistic and treatment models for atrial fibrillation
10:00–10:20 — Vedran VELAGIĆ (Croatia)	ICE guided PFE ablation for atrial fibrillation
10:20–10:40 — Antonio ZAZA (Italy)	Calcium Recirculation Fraction – A revisit with potential translational applicability

10:40–11:00 — COFFEE BREAK

11:00–12:40 — REGENERATIVE MEDICINE AND CARDIOVASCULAR REPAIR

Chairpersons: Ren-Ke LI (Canada), Buddhadeb DAWN (USA)

11:00–11:20 — Ren-Ke LI (Canada)	Mechanism for stem cells to rejuvenate aged tissue
11:20–11:40 — Buddhadeb DAWN (USA)	Advancing cell therapy: From research to clinical reality
11:40–12:00 — Kathy Oi-lan LUI (Hong Kong)	From Growth to Regeneration: A Journey with T cells in Cardiovascular Science
12:00–12:20 — Ewa ZUBA-SURMA (Poland)	Novel approaches in stem cell therapies for cardiovascular repair – focus on extracellular vesicles
12:20–12:40 — Sanyiv DHINGRA (Canada)	Carbon nanomaterials and induced pluripotent stem cells for cardiac regenerative medicine

12:40–14:00 — LUNCH

14:00–16:00 — POSTER SESSION

16:00–17:40 — CARDIOMETABOLIC DISEASE

Chairpersons: Lorrie KIRSHENBAUM (Canada), Sanja MUSIĆ MILANOVIĆ (Croatia)

16:00–16:20 — Lorrie KIRSHENBAUM (Canada)	Circadian Regulation of Metabolic Signaling Pathways and Adiposity in the Heart
16:20–16:40 — Jerzy BELTOWSKI (Poland)	Hyperleptinemia is involved in obesity-associated elevation of endogenous NO synthase inhibitor ADMA: Implications for cardiovascular diseases
16:40–17:00 — Monika BARTEKOVA (Slovakia)	Can We Protect Diabetic Heart with Quercetin?
17:00–17:20 — Nevena JEREMIĆ (Serbia)	Medicinal Mushrooms and Type 2 Diabetes: Mechanistic Insights, Translational Evidence, and Clinical Caveats
17:20–17:40 — Sanja MUSIĆ MILANOVIĆ (Croatia)	Cardiovascular health in the age of obesity

17:40–18:00 — COFFEE BREAK

18:00–19:20 — CARDIOVASCULAR PHARMACOTHERAPY

Chairpersons: Dragan DJURIĆ (Serbia), Ján SLEZÁK (Slovakia)

18:00–18:20 — Raphael Sanzio PIMENTA (Brazil) Ancient knowledge as a source for the development of new cardiovascular drugs

18:20–18:40 — Dragan DJURIĆ (Serbia) Modulation of translocator protein (TSPO, peripheral benzodiazepine receptor) in isoprenaline-induced rat myocardial injury: Translational aspects in focus

18:40–19:00 — Ján SLEZÁK (Slovakia) Molecular Hydrogen as a Multitarget Adjunct in Cardiovascular Disease Management

19:00–19:20 — Ferenc GALLYAS (Hungary) Potential of PARP inhibitors in Cardio-Oncology

TUESDAY, 27 OCTOBER 2026

08:00–17:00 — REGISTRATION

HALL A — Tuesday, 27 October 2026

09:00–10:40 — IACS-ES AWARD LECTURES II

Chairpersons: Martin MORAD (USA), Grant N. PIERCE (Canada)

09:00–09:25 — Inna RABINOVICH-NIKITIN (Canada) Ján Slezák Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences
Sex-Dependent Cardiometabolic Remodeling in HFpEF Following Circadian Disruption

09:25–09:50 — Petr OSTADAL (Czech Republic) Karl Werdan Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences
ECMO in Cardiogenic Shock

09:50–10:15 — Ranko ŠKRBIĆ (Bosnia and Herzegovina) Norman Alpert Award for Established Investigators in Cardiovascular Sciences
Levosimendan Pretreatment Attenuates Mesenteric Artery Ischemia/Reperfusion Injury and Cardiac Damage in Rats

10:15–10:40 — TBD Dennis B. McNamara for Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences

10:40–11:00 — COFFEE BREAK

11:00–12:40 — ATHEROSCLEROSIS, PERIPHERAL VASCULAR DISEASE & PULMONARY CIRCULATION

Chairpersons: Rhian M. TOUYZ (Canada), Devendra AGRAWAL (USA)

11:00–11:20 — Devendra AGRAWAL (USA)	PCSK9 in Atherosclerotic Plaque Burden and Plaque Stability
11:20–11:40 — Rhian M. TOUYZ (Canada)	CADASIL and small vessel disease – defining new therapeutic targets for vascular dementia
11:40–12:00 — Mirza ŽIŽAK (Croatia)	Unraveling the physiological cascade of atherosclerotic remodeling in coronary arteries
12:00–12:20 — Iqbal ALAM (India)	Therapeutic potential of Tribulus terrestris L. on hypoxia induced pulmonary hypertension by targeting inflammasome in experimental animals
12:20–12:40 — Melchior Luiz LIMA (Brazil)	Remodeling of Ipsilateral Ulnar Artery After Radial Artery Harvesting for Coronary Artery Bypass Graft

12:40–13:30 — LUNCH

13:30–15:30 — POSTER SESSION

13:30–14:30 — ADVANCES IN CARDIOVASCULAR SCIENCE: FROM MECHANISMS TO TRANSLATION

Chairpersons: Katherine DIBB (United Kingdom), Joško BULUM (Croatia)

13:30–13:50 — Grant N. PIERCE (Canada)	The Failure to Translate Research Into Patient Applications
13:50–14:10 — Katherine DIBB (U.K.)	Understanding the role of atrial microtubules in t-tubule disruption in heart failure
14:10–14:30 — Joško BULUM (Croatia)	Novel strategies for the treatment of refractory angina pectoris: Coronary Sinus Reducer (CSR)

14:30–16:30 — MISCELLANEOUS

Chairpersons: Belma TURAN (Turkey), Harpal BUTTAR (Canada)

14:30–14:50 — Belma TURAN (Turkey)	Mechanistic Approaches to Sudden Cardiac Arrest: Insights from Experimental Animal Model Studies on the Roles of Nutraceuticals
14:50–15:10 — Antoinette Oliveira BLACKMAN (Brazil)	QT Interval Prolongation as a Convergent Phenotype of Drug-Induced Electrical Cardiotoxicity

15:10–15:30 — Enrico CAIANI (Italy)	Space physiology, with our studies conducted in bed rest to study cardiac deconditioning
15:30–15:50 — Ramesh K. GOYAL (India)	A Meta-analysis, GRADE analysis and Network analysis of Prevalence and Possible Pathological Aetiology for Higher Cardiovascular morbidity and mortality Across the Eastern Europe
15:50–16:10 — Miloš STOJILJKOVIĆ (Bosnia and Herzegovina)	Augmented parasympathetic input in the treatment of heart failure
16:10–16:30 — Harpal BUTTAR (Canada)	Holistic Approaches for Health Education and Health Promotion for the Prevention and Management of Cardiovascular Diseases

16:30–17:00 — CLOSING CEREMONY

20:00 — AWARD CEREMONY & GALA DINNER (Main Meeting Room)

HALL B — Tuesday, 27 October 2026

09:00–10:20 — ROBERTO BOLLI YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD COMPETITION

10:20–10:40 — COFFEE BREAK

10:40–12:40 — MARTIN MORAD YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD COMPETITION

12:40–13:30 — LUNCH

13:30–15:30 — POSTER SESSION

13:30–14:30 — REHABILITATION, SPORT AND CARDIOLOGY, AND CARDIOVASCULAR PREVENTION

Chairpersons: Antonija KRSTAČIĆ (Croatia), Dejan SPIROSKI (Serbia)

13:30–13:50 — Marko NOVAKOVIĆ (Slovenia)	Exercise Training in Cardiovascular Patients: Current Perspectives and Clinical Importance
13:50–14:10 — Dejan SPIROSKI (Serbia)	CV rehabilitation – State of the art and future
14:10–14:30 — Ante OBAD (Croatia)	Spiroergometry in Modern Cardiology

14:30–16:10 — MISCELLANEOUS

Chairpersons: Branislav MILOVANOVIĆ (Serbia), Zdravko BABIĆ (Croatia)

14:30–14:50 — Branislav MILOVANOVIĆ (Serbia)

Neurocardiology and Biosignal Processing: A New Approach to Understanding Disease Pathogenesis

14:50–15:10 — Zdravko BABIĆ (Croatia)

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation

15:10–15:30 — Gordana PAVLIŠA (Croatia)

The Overlap Syndrome (OSA and COPD): Implications for Cardiovascular Risk and Clinical Management

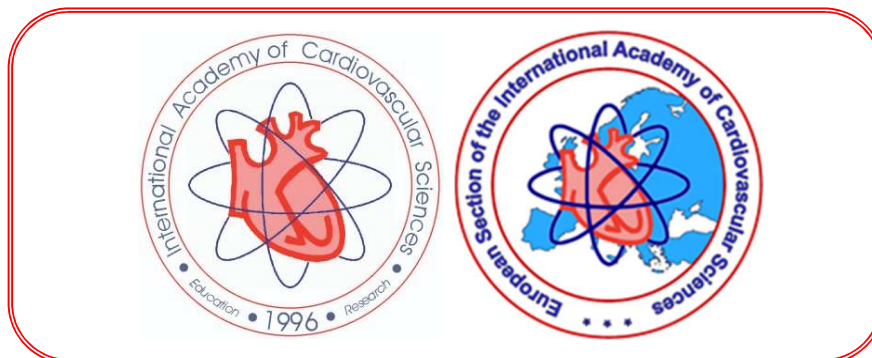
15:30–15:50 — Maja CIGROVSKI BERKOVIĆ (Croatia)

Sugar, salt and survival: the cardiovascular mandate of SGLT2 inhibitors

15:50–16:10 — Hrvoje FALAK (Croatia)

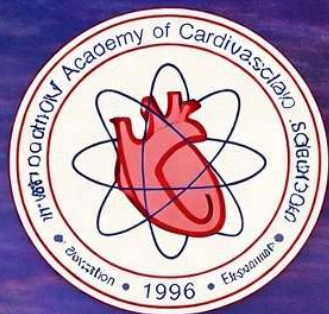
The effect of transcatheter aortic valve replacement on serum lysophosphatidylcholine concentrations in patients with severe aortic valve stenosis

20:00 — AWARD CEREMONY & GALA DINNER (Main Meeting Room)



24th ANNUAL MEETING

South American Section



International Academy
of Cardiovascular Sciences

Vitória – ES – Brazil

November 05–06, 2026



Cardiovascular Surgery



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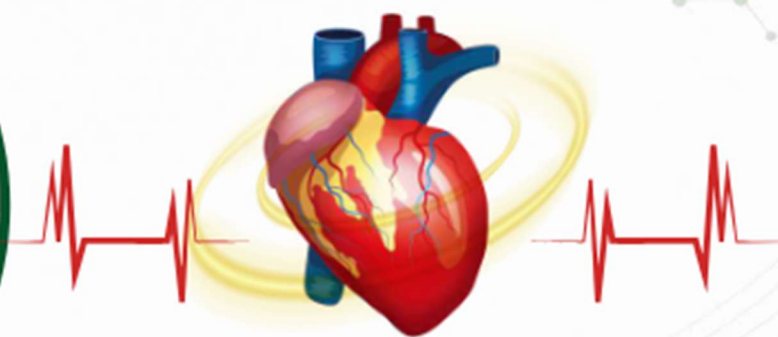
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2027

of

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Transforming Cardiovascular Care
Through Science, Technology and Innovation

11-13 February, 2027 GLA University, Mathura, (U.P.)



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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE-2027

of

International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (IACS)-India Section

Theme:

Transforming Cardiovascular Care Through Science, Technology and Innovation

INVITATION

Dear Sir/Madam,

Greetings from the **Institute of Pharmaceutical Research, GLA University, Mathura, U.P., India.**

We are delighted to invite you to the International Conference-2027 of the International Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences (IACS), India Section, scheduled to be held from **11th to 13th February 2027**. The conference is being organised by the **Institute of Pharmaceutical Research, GLA University, Mathura-281406, Uttar Pradesh, India.**

The conference aims to bring together eminent scientists, academicians, healthcare professionals, researchers, industry experts, and students from India and abroad to exchange knowledge, present innovative research, and discuss recent developments in cardiovascular sciences and related areas. The scientific programme will feature **keynote addresses, invited lectures, plenary sessions, panel discussions, scientific symposia, and oral and poster presentations**. The event will provide an excellent platform for participants to share their research findings, interact with distinguished experts, establish academic collaborations, and explore emerging opportunities in cardiovascular research and healthcare.

We cordially invite **faculty members, researchers, clinicians, scientists, postgraduate scholars, and students** from your esteemed institution to participate in this prestigious international academic event and contribute to its scientific deliberations. Your gracious presence and participation would be a matter of great honour and encouragement for the organizing committee, faculty members, and students of GLA University. We would also appreciate your support in circulating this invitation among interested faculty members, researchers, and students of your institution.

We look forward to welcoming you to **GLA University, Mathura**, and to your valuable participation in the **IACS-2027 India Section Conference**.

With warm regards,
Prof. Kamal Shah
Director
Institute of Pharmaceutical Research,
GLA University, Mathura-281406, U.P., India

Organizing Secretary
International Conference-2027
of IACS-India Section
Email Id: iacs2027@glu.ac.in
Contact Number: +91 9756866042



**11th to 13th
February, 2027**
**GLA University
Mathura,
Uttar Pradesh**



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2027 of

INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF CARDIOVASCULAR SCIENCES (IACS)- INDIA SECTION

Transforming Cardiovascular Care
Through Science, Technology and Innovation

Organized By
**INSTITUTE OF
PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH**
GLA University, Mathura (U.P.) India

ORATIONS AND SYMPOSIA OF IACS

Ramesh K. Goyal Oration

Devendra K. Agrawal Oration

Suresh K. Gupta Oration

Rakesh Kukreja Oration

Suresh Tyagi Oration

Harpal Buttar Oration

K K Nair Oration

K.K. Talwar Oration

Riya and Paul Ganguly Symposium

N. Radhkrishnan Symposium

C R Soman symposium

AWARDS TO YOUNG INVESTIGATORS

N. K. Ganguly
Award

Naranjan Dhalla
Award

C. C. Kartha
Travel Grant



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Selection of papers for presentation will be based on detailed abstract. Abstracts will be reviewed and only those abstracts approved by the reviewers will be selected. Abstract should be organized in the following order: title, name(s) of author(s) and his/her (their) complete affiliation(s) including zip code(s).

(Structured as: Aim, Method, Result, Conclusion, 3-5 key words; font type: Times New Roman; font size: 12; line spacing: double; not more than 250 words).

For Poster Presenters: Poster size: 3 by 5 feet.

For Oral Presenters: Participants presenting oral should prepare a clear and well-structured presentation with a maximum duration of 8 minutes covering the objectives, methodology, key findings, and conclusions. Each presentation will be followed by 2 minutes of discussion for questions and interaction with the session chair and audience.

For Online Participants

Participants presenting online should prepare a clear and well-structured presentation with a maximum duration of 8 minutes covering the objectives, methodology, key findings, and conclusions. Each presentation will be followed by 2 minutes of discussion for questions and interaction with the session chair and audience.

Scientific Research and Review papers on original work are invited from delegates for poster/oral presentation on the following subjects.

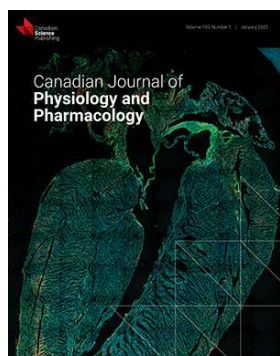
- Novel Drug Discovery and Development for Cardiovascular Diseases
- Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Care in Cardiovascular Diseases
- Pharmacogenomics and Personalized Cardiovascular Medicine
- Herbal Medicines and Nutraceuticals in Cardiovascular Health
- Translational Research in Cardiovascular Pharmacology
- Emerging Trends in Cardiovascular Therapeutics
- Public Health Pharmacy and Cardiovascular Disease Prevention
- Cardiometabolic Disorders
- Innovations in Cardiovascular Diagnostics
- Lifestyle Medicine for Cardiovascular Wellness
- Pharmacovigilance and Medication Safety
- Regulatory Affairs and Quality Assurance
- Innovations in Pharmacological Sciences
- Pharmaceutical Biotechnology
- Computational Drug Design and Molecular Modeling
- Biotechnology and Bioinformatics
- Immunology & Vaccine Development
- Pharmacoepidemiology & Pharmacoeconomic
- Quantitative Systems Pharmacology
- Synthetic & Medicinal Chemistry
- Nanomedicine

PAPER PRESENTATION IN ABSENTIA

Those who are absent on the date of conference after getting registered but wish to present paper is also encouraged to send their abstract. Papers presented in such cases are to be presented by co-authors during the conference.

Note: Last date of abstract submission is 25-12-2026

Partnering Journals of the IACS



Canadian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology

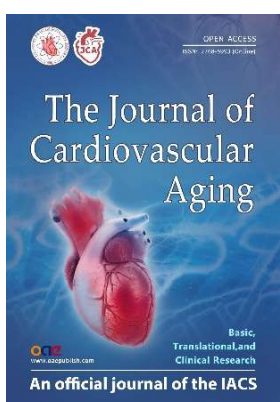
Impact Factor: 1.4; CiteScore: 3.9

Editors-in-Chief:

Drs. Kelly Hyndman and Dylan Burger

Editorial Office:

Canadian Science Publisher
1840 Woodward Drive, Suite 1
Ottawa, ON K2C 0P7 Canada
Email: cjpp@cdnsiencepub.com



The Journal of Cardiovascular Aging

Impact Factor: 4.4; CiteScore: 5.7

Honorary Editor-in-Chief:

Dr. Dayi Hu

Editorial Office:

OAE Publishing Inc.
245 E Main Street Ste 107,
Alhambra, CA 91801, USA
Email: editorialoffice@cardiovascularaging.com;
cardiovascularaging@gmail.com



American Journal of Cardiovascular Drugs

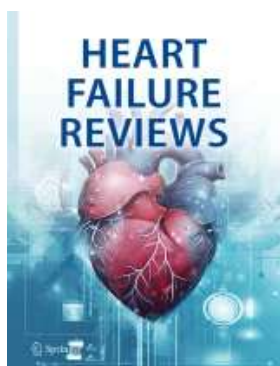
Impact Factor: 3.2; CiteScore: 6.0

Editor-in-Chief:

Dr. Amitabh Prakash

Editorial Office:

Adis, Springer Healthcare
74 Taharoto Road, Takapuna
Auckland, 0622, New Zealand
Email: amitabh.prakash@springer.com



Heart Failure Reviews

Impact Factor: 5.3; CiteScore: 7.3

Editor-in-Chief:

Dr. Andrew P. Ambrosy

Editorial Office:

Kaiser Permanente San Francisco Medical
Center and Kaiser Permanente Northern
California Division of Research, USA
Email: Lovely.Obico@springernature.com

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.