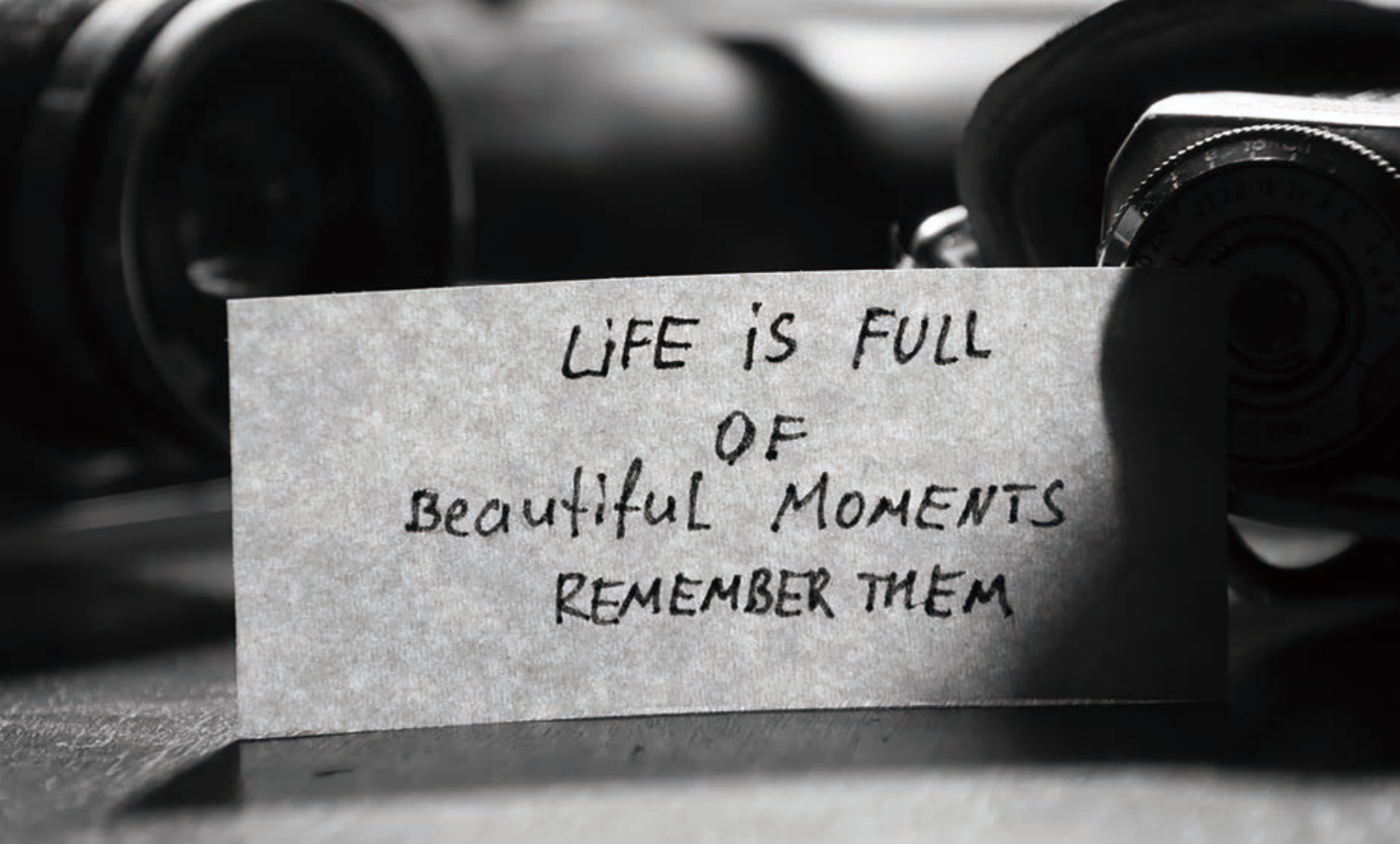


GOOD PEOPLE
GOOD MEMORIES
GOOD LIFE



LIFE IS FULL
OF
Beautiful MOMENTS
REMEMBER THEM



2011, Nice, "A Tale of Frozen Faces", Photo by SJ Park

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Good People, Good Memories, Good Life!

“APT, APT! All you gotta do is just meet me at the APT. I’m talking drink, dance, smoke, freak, party all night. Sleep tomorrow but tonight go crazy.” These lyrics from ‘APT’, the globally hit K-POP song recently created by artist Rosé and pop star Bruno Mars, beautifully convey the timeless philosophy of ‘Carpe Diem’—that what truly matters most is spending today with good people and cherishing the moment. I believe that the joyful memories we create today come together to build a happy life.

As I sift through countless photographs captured over the past 30 years at TCTAP meetings, a deep sense of gratitude washes over me as I realize how many wonderful people, I have shared joyful celebrations with—each moment etched with laughter and warmth. In that reflection, I have come to learn that *Good People* have come together, weaving *Good Memories* that linger through time. I can’t help but feel that all of us, captured in those frames, are living the essence of a *Good Life*—one shaped by joy, connection, and shared moments.

Making the Seemingly Impossible a Reality. Since its establishment in 1989, the Department of Cardiology at Asan Medical Center has gained global recognition in just 36 years. In 2024, we achieved the highest honor—ranking first globally in the evaluations at the Transcatheter Cardiovascular Therapeutics (TCT). The impossible became our reality.

Looking back, at just the right time, the Division of Cardiology brought together good people—like-minded friends. Back then, we were all “No. 3s”- hungry, young dreamers. We had a clear goal: to quickly catch up with the reputation of other established university hospitals. So, we all worked hard. With the opening of the hospital, we treated countless patients and built a strong academic foundation, publishing numerous research papers. In 1991, we performed the very first Palmaz-Schatz bare-metal stent procedure in the Asia-Pacific region, and by 1994, we had begun left main stenting for patients with left main coronary artery disease. At first, skepticism and ridicule made the journey difficult. But today, according to ACC/AHA and ESC guidelines, stent procedures are considered a viable treatment option for nearly two-thirds of patients with left main disease—a reality that once seemed unimaginable. Academically, we published our first paper in *The New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM)* in 2003, and to date, we have produced over 700 papers, including nine additional publications in *NEJM* and one in *The Lancet*.

In 1995, we established the Angioplasty Summit, creating a space-much like Rosé’s ‘APT’—where colleagues could meet, share their experiences, learn from one another, and forge lasting friendships. In 2005, through collaboration with TCT in the U.S., the event evolved into TCTAP (Transcatheter Cardiovascular Therapeutics Asia Pacific), which now celebrates its 30th anniversary. Today, TCTAP has grown into one of the most prestigious global conferences in interventional cardiology. What once seemed impossible—beyond the realm of imagination—has now become reality.

The reason we have grown this much is deeply rooted in the unique “philosophy of sharing” established by Chairman Chung Ju-yung, who founded the hospital with the goal of helping the poor and the sick. This founding philosophy of sharing was ultimately about supporting one another and thriving together through collaboration. From a methodological perspective, our success today has been shaped by his spirit of challenge—embodied in the question, “Have you tried it?”—as well as by a new kind of servant leadership that empowers our members to work with excitement and enthusiasm, giving them the freedom to fully engage. Furthermore, this growth was made possible because our team’s confidence and capabilities continued to expand. Most importantly, we stood together, driven by a shared vision and unwavering determination, this is collaboration.

Collaboration is the Key to Human Survival. We became number one. Now, our only competitor is ourselves. Throughout history, collaboration has been humanity’s most effective survival strategy—from our hunter-gatherer ancestors to the present day. In essence, the purpose of working together is to ensure that a team’s collective achievements far exceed what any individual could accomplish alone. From a socio-economic perspective, the greater the benefits, the higher the chances of survival. This is why humanity has endured as a group.

When viewed through the lens of history and the humanities, one of the most important factors in successful collaboration is the presence of “*good people*”—those who support and help one another. In other words, while we thrive as a team, each individual member plays a vital role. However, given that assembling a group of only “good people” is unrealistic, we must acknowledge that collaboration is never inherently stable! For this reason, I believe it is crucial for team members to pass down core values while continuously striving to understand, empathize with, and uphold them across generations.

On a personal level, I am deeply grateful and immensely proud to witness the unwavering dedication of Professors Park Duk-Woo, Ahn Jung-Min, and Kang Do-Yoon, along with our devoted clinical fellows who have not only preserved but also expanded upon everything we have built together. Through *relentless questioning, studying, learning, supporting, and respecting one another*, they have upheld our team’s values with steadfast commitment, ensuring that our legacy continues to grow even stronger. I feel incredibly happy, as if I am looking ahead to a bright and hopeful future for the next 30 years. Heartfelt thanks.

Seung-Jung Park, MD

Chair Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Ulsan, Asan Medical Center

Chairman, CardioVascular Research Foundation (CVRF)

Director, TCTAP

Editor-in-Chief, *Photo Album*

Learning Basic Concepts and Skills

Congratulations on the 30th Anniversary of the TCTAP! TCTAP has become one of the most successful live demonstration-based educational courses in the field of cardiovascular intervention in the Asia-Pacific region. As one of the founding members of the Angioplasty Summit, which is the original name of this symposium, I am very proud of the achievements that TCTAP has pursued. Most importantly, throughout the course, the basic concepts and skills could be learned, as well as cutting-edge strategies were demonstrated by the experts. This symposium has provided opportunities for young interventionists to present and discuss their cases with world-renowned experts. TCTAP has also given good opportunities for the many colleagues working in this field to gather in Seoul, Korea and to see old friends and to strengthen their friendship. I truly appreciate the extraordinary efforts of Dr. Seung-Jung Park and his wonderful team to make this symposium very successful. Without SJ's leadership and continuous contribution, the present TCTAP could not have been made. I would like to congratulate you all again and really hope to see the successful TCTAP year after year again.

Dr. Seong-Wook Park (South Korea)
President & CEO of Asan Healthcare System
Co-Founder, TCTAP

Spreading the Educational Activities on Interventional Cardiology Throughout Asia

SJ, I want to congratulate you and all of the organizers of the TCTAP on this 30th anniversary. Your meeting has been a great honor for me to engage for many years and I have so many memories of the coming there even during the tsunami in Japan, in 2011. Learning so many things about left main stenosis and how to treat bifurcation lesions from you has been a wonderful experience.

But most of all, I congratulate you on spreading the educational activities on interventional cardiology throughout Asia. This has been a wonderful contribution and has made this one of the outstanding courses in the world in interventional cardiology. The fact is that you're going to Incheon airport to Seoul to celebrate, and I think it is great and I'm very pleased to be involved in all these years. Thank you very much.

Dr. Spencer B. King III (USA)
Professor Emeritus of Medicine at Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia. USA



It is Exceedingly Important for TCTAP to Stay in the Forefront of Interventional Cardiology

It is my great pleasure and honor to celebrate the 30th anniversary of TCTAP with you! For over twenty years, I have come to TCTAP to learn from Dr. SJ Park and his colleagues at Asan Medical Center about the latest insights into interventional cardiology. It was left main PCI (when everyone thought it was crazy), multi-vessel PCI (it was possible and good outcomes in a subset of patients), IVUS/FFR (more is not better), and numerous other insights! Of course, the friendship we have developed is to be treasured gratefully. Best wishes for the next decade: As the world is getting "flatter" and news traveling faster, it is exceedingly important for TCTAP to stay in the forefront of Interventional Cardiology, to weed out the noise from the truths. I look forward to continuing my collaboration with you for years to come.

Dr. Alan C. Yeung (USA)
Professor at Stanford University School of Medicine, holder of the Li Ka Shing Professorship in Cardiology

Honoring 30 Years of Excellence

I have had the pleasure and honor of being Dr. SJ Park's ski buddy, stent buddy, and program confidante for the 30 years. I introduced him to stent technology, how to set up a Cath lab with data management, and most importantly how to enjoy snow. He more than surpassed me in all three and it is a great honor to be invited to rejoin him and his now greatly expanded program in this 30th Anniversary meeting. Few interventional cardiologists deserve the title "Man of Steel" but he certainly does in his focus, energy, generosity and vision.

It is an honor to be part of his journey.

Dr. Ian Penn (Canada)
Clinical Professor of Cardiology at the University of British Columbia

It Brings Great Joy and Pride

I would like to sincerely express my heartfelt congratulations for the 30th anniversary of TCTAP in 2025. It's been 30 years since the TCTAP conference started, so the memories and experiences of the past 30 years come to my mind. Personally, as a member of the faculty of cardiology at Asan Medical Center in 1997, I have been actively involved in the organization of TCTAP conference since it was first organized in 1997. And I have seen with my own eyes how the TCTAP conference has grown tremendously with each passing year. I have felt immense pride and happiness in such achievements at that time. In addition, even after leaving Asan Medical Center in early 2009 and returning to my alma mater university hospital, I have been able to experience the remarkable growth of TCTAP firsthand over the years while participating as a course director of TCTAP every year. Over the course of 30 years, TCTAP has played an incalculable role in the field of interventional cardiology. Through such a role, TCTAP is confident that it has firmly established an Asia's leading interventional cardiology conference that provides new treatment techniques and exchange of medical knowledge to interventional cardiologists internationally every year. Top-level interventional cardiologists from home and abroad have attended such a great conference to learn new information and share their new knowledge with each other. It has also become a very valuable place and time to form a new human network. In particular, young generation interventionists from home and abroad have come to TCTAP every year to learn or present new knowledge and therapeutic experiences, which makes them feel that it is a great joy and pride. Through the live demonstration at the highest level, the practical effects were clearly demonstrated that are very helpful in real clinical practice. TCTAP has also played a very important role in the in-depth discussions and propagations of numerous important random studies which were conducted in Korea and presented at the session of late-breaking clinical trials in TCT, EuroPCR, ESC, AHA, and ACC international conferences. I personally feel immense honor and pride in being involved in TCTAP for the past 30 years. I would like to congratulate TCTAP's 30th anniversary from the bottom of my heart. Thank you.

Dr. Myeong-Ki Hong (South Korea)

Professor of Medicine at Severance Hospital, Yonsei University College of Medicine

Board Member, CardioVascular Research Foundation

Co-Director, TCTAP

The Spirit of TCTAP is Building Relationships and Pioneering Change

I have proudly served as part of TCTAP for the past two decades. For the first decade, I participated with great enthusiasm; for the following decade, I observed its progress with a reflective, more reserved perspective. Like life's most cherished moments, my youthful experiences here remain indelibly etched in my memory.

New challenges and changes are invariably exciting - even when they seem daunting at times. Similarly, while forging and maintaining meaningful relationships is both precious and rewarding, it can also prove challenging. Nevertheless, I have come to realize that embracing emerging trends and valuing our connections are essential prerequisites for advancing further.

In the early 2000s, as I embarked on my journey into interventional procedures during my cardiology fellowship, TCTAP played a central role in my professional life. To organize our conferences more systematically, CVRF was established, and a new website—summitmd.com—was launched. In our rapidly expanding organization, we often faced manpower shortages, and a dedicated handful of us—including myself - worked tirelessly to bridge the gap. Monday mornings, when new articles were published on our website, were always charged with anticipation. Despite reviewing manuscripts throughout the weekend, occasional typos and last-minute adjustments to illustrations were inevitable. Yet, by boldly embracing change, TCTAP continued to flourish - a testament to the dynamic, adaptive leadership that has guided its evolution. TCTAP's success is rooted not only in its academic accomplishments but also in the meaningful relationships we have forged and nurtured over the years. All those who have contributed to this commemorative volume have forged enduring bonds over the past 30 years, fostering not only academic exchange but also a deep sharing of each other's joys and sorrows. I extend my deepest respect and admiration to all who have joined us on this journey, and especially to Dr. SJ Park, who has led TCTAP with distinction.

Today, as a new generation of cardiologists embarks on its journey, I sincerely hope they will carry forward the spirit of TCTAP and forge an even brighter future. As we celebrate this momentous 30th anniversary together, I extend my heartfelt gratitude and respect to everyone whose tireless, behind-the-scenes dedication has been instrumental in our society's success.

Dr. Young-Hak Kim (South Korea)

Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Ulsan

Chief of the Department of Cardiology, Asan Medical Center

TCTAP's Strength lies in Bridging Eastern and Western Approaches to Cardiovascular Care

I'm honored to contribute to TCTAP's 30th anniversary celebration. Over the past three decades, TCTAP has been a beacon of innovation and collaboration in interventional cardiology across the Asia Pacific region. My experiences with TCTAP have been truly enriching. I vividly recall my first presentation at TCTAP, where the enthusiasm and expertise of the attendees left a lasting impression. The conference's commitment to showcasing cutting-edge techniques and fostering international cooperation has been instrumental in advancing our field. Looking ahead, TCTAP's unique strength lies in its ability to bridge Eastern and Western approaches to cardiovascular care.

As we face global challenges in heart health, this cross-cultural exchange becomes even more crucial. I envision TCTAP continuing to lead in promoting personalized medicine and innovative therapies, always keeping patient outcomes at the forefront. May the next decade see TCTAP further solidify its position as a catalyst for groundbreaking research and improved patient care worldwide. Congratulations on 30 remarkable years, and to many more!



Dr. Roxana Mehran (USA)
Professor at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
Vice President, American College of Cardiology (ACC)

Offering Unparalleled Opportunities for Learning, Collaboration, and Inspiration

I am deeply honored to be invited to contribute to the commemorative photo book celebrating the 30th anniversary of TCTAP, one of the most influential meetings in interventional cardiology in the Asian-Pacific region. As we approach this remarkable milestone, it is a privilege to reflect on the journey we have shared and to look forward to the future advancements in the field of interventional cardiology.

Since its inception, TCTAP has established itself as a premier platform for the exchange of knowledge, innovations, and best practices in cardiovascular interventions. The conference has consistently brought together leading experts, researchers, and clinicians from around the world, fostering a collaborative environment that drives progress in our field. It has been my distinct pleasure to witness and participate in this remarkable program over the years. The evolution of TCTAP mirrors the advancements in interventional cardiology. From the early days of percutaneous coronary intervention to the latest breakthroughs in structural heart disease and complex interventions, the conference has been at the forefront of showcasing and disseminating cutting-edge research and techniques. Each year, TCTAP provides an invaluable opportunity for professionals to learn from each other, share their experiences, and promote technological innovation in the field of cardiovascular interventions. As we celebrate the 30th anniversary of TCTAP, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Park, the organizing committee, and all those who have contributed to the conference's success over the years. Your dedication and vision have made TCTAP a beacon of innovation and education in the field of interventional cardiology. I am confident that the upcoming conference will continue this legacy, offering unparalleled opportunities for learning, collaboration, and inspiration.

Thank you once again for the honor of including my message in this commemorative photo book. I look forward to joining you in Seoul for TCTAP 2025 and to celebrating this extraordinary milestone together.

Dr. Runlin Gao (China)
Chairman, National Expert Consultative Committee for Cardiovascular Diseases of China
Founder, China Interventional Therapeutics (CIT)

**The Collective Memory of Three Decades:
Moments of Collaboration, Innovation, and Resilience**

In 2025, we celebrate a remarkable milestone, the 30th anniversary of the TCTAP Conference. I still vividly remember the excitement I felt as a second-year resident in 2000, assisting with slide trays at the Angioplasty Summit, the precursor to TCTAP. It feels like only yesterday, yet here we are, marking three decades of growth and achievement. Reflecting on this journey, it strikes me how far we have come. When Dr. Seung-Jung Park first launched the Angioplasty Summit as an international meeting, it was a modest gathering held in a small lecture room at the hospital. Today, TCTAP has grown to become one of the most prominent cardiovascular intervention conferences in Asia, a testament to the relentless efforts and unwavering dedication of countless individuals over the years.

This commemorative photo album is a tribute to the rich history of TCTAP and the people who have been integral to its journey. It captures the collective memory of three decades, moments of collaboration, innovation, and resilience. Despite facing challenges such as political uncertainties, pandemics, and social upheavals, TCTAP has continued to thrive. For this, I extend my deepest gratitude to all the faculty members and participants whose commitment and support have been the foundation of TCTAP's success. Without your contributions, TCTAP would not have risen to its current stature as Asia's leading conference in the field. As we turn the pages of this album, we are reminded of how time has flown. The faces of yesterday's youth may now bear the wisdom of years, and dark hair may have turned silver with time. Yet, these photographs capture the timeless spirit of dedication and shared memories that define TCTAP. Let this album not only honor the past but also inspire us for the future. May it serve as a reminder of the incredible journey we've taken together and as a foundation for the continued growth and progress of this community.

I sincerely thank each and every one of you who has been part of TCTAP's 30-year history. I ask for your continued support and encouragement as we strive to advance and strengthen this conference for the generations to come.

Dr. Duk-Woo Park (South Korea)
Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Ulsan, Asan Medical Center
Executive Director, CardioVascular Research Foundation
Co-Director, TCTAP

**TCTAP Has Been a Catalyst for Advancing Academic Excellence and Clinical Innovation in
Cardiovascular Intervention**

Over the past 30 years, TCTAP has been a catalyst for advancing academic excellence and clinical innovation in cardiovascular intervention. What began as the Angioplasty Summit in 1995 has evolved into Asia's premier international conference - an achievement made possible by the unwavering dedication and expertise of countless medical professionals.

Personally, TCTAP has profoundly enriched my academic pursuits and broadened my clinical experience as an interventional cardiologist. This journey of growth and learning is undoubtedly a shared experience among all who have participated in this conference. This evolution is in no small part due to the visionary leadership of Professor Seung-Jung Park. His academic passion and pioneering spirit have been an inspiration to us all, setting an enduring standard for excellence in our field. As we mark our 30th anniversary, we are filled with both immense pride and a deep sense of responsibility. Looking ahead to the next 30 years, we remain committed to preserving and advancing our cherished academic legacy while pushing the boundaries of cardiovascular intervention even further. We stand on the shoulders of giants who have shaped our field, and we are deeply indebted to these pioneers who have shared their wisdom and experience through TCTAP. Their contributions have not only elevated the conference but have fundamentally advanced the practice of interventional cardiology.

This commemorative photobook stands not merely as a record of our footsteps, but as a testament to the academic achievements born from our vision and passion, and as a promise to the future. We extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who has been part of TCTAP - the pioneers, mentors, and colleagues who have made this journey extraordinary - and we warmly invite your continued participation as we embark on the next 30 years.

Dr. Jung-Min Ahn (South Korea)
Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Ulsan, Asan Medical Center
Board Member, CardioVascular Research Foundation
Co-Director, TCTAP

Shining as a Lighthouse in the Realm of Interventional Cardiology

I am honored and delighted to extend my heartfelt congratulations to you and TCTAP on the remarkable occasion of its 30th anniversary. As someone who has been privileged to be a part of this esteemed conference since its inception, I am immensely proud to witness its extraordinary growth and evolution over the years. From its humble beginnings, Angioplasty Summit has grown into a prestigious event of the highest international standard. It has rightfully earned its place as one of the best medical conferences in the world, consistently attracting a diverse and enthusiastic audience eager to learn and engage with the latest advancements in the field of interventional cardiology. The conference's unwavering commitment to presenting new and original research has been a cornerstone of its success. Each year, the quality and scope of the presentations have continued to improve, offering invaluable insights and fostering innovation. This dedication to excellence has made TCTAP a beacon of knowledge and progress in our field. As we celebrate this significant milestone, I extend my best wishes for the continued growth and success of TCTAP. May it continue to shine as a lighthouse in the realm of interventional cardiology, guiding and inspiring the global medical community for many more years to come.

Warmest congratulations once again, and here's to many more decades of excellence.

Dr. Teguh Santoso (Indonesia)

Professor at Universitas Indonesia

Director of Cardiology at Medistra Hospital

Attending TCTAP is Analogous to Attending a Family Reunion

I would like to congratulate the TCTAP course directors for reaching their 30-year milestone.

TCTAP has grown to become the premier interventional meeting in South East Asia, showcasing world-leading late break science and high-quality live cases. TCTAP has become one of the most important meetings in my diary, where I am able to speak with the high calibre Korean faculty and listen to not only the world-class work that they have presented, but also studies that they are planning to do.

In the past year, we have leveraged the opportunity to conduct interviews with TCTMD to gain greater insight into interventional practice in the region. One of the very unique features of this meeting is the many interpersonal friendships with both the course directors such as Drs. SJ Park, DW Park, JM Ahn, and other key Korean faculty members. Attending TCTAP is analogous to attending a family reunion rather than attending an interventional meeting as a faculty or as an attendee. Thank you to TCTAP for driving our practice across both Europe and North America over the past 30 years - your impact has been felt by both patients and physicians across the world.

Dr. Mamas Mamas (United Kingdom)

Professor of Cardiology at Keele University, United Kingdom



Bon-Kwon Koo Congratulations on the 30th Anniversary of the TCTAP! On this remarkable milestone, I extend my heartfelt congratulations for the great contributions of the TCTAP to the field of interventional cardiology. Under the visionary leadership of Professor Seung-Jung Park, the TCTAP has achieved tremendous advancements and set new standards in our society. It's been always my great pleasure and honor to be a part of this meeting and I truly look forward to the continued success.

David Joel Cohen Congratulations on the 30th Anniversary of TCTAP (which I have been attending for the last 15 years)!! TCTAP has always been one of my favorite conferences, because it has given me the opportunity to meet with so many colleagues from the Asia-Pacific region and around the world-many of whom I now consider good friends. Some of my favorite TCTAP experiences include many fabulous dinners with the Asan Medical Center team, Karaoke night, and of course the live cases. The opportunity to scrub with SJ, DW, and the entire Asan Medical Center staff and to teach new techniques to so many colleagues has been one of the highlights of my career!

David Paul Taggart I am currently at the CHC in Beijing and am delighted to have been awarded 'Distinguished Honorary Professor' at Fu Wai Hospital. I am very honored and privileged to know you and especially as 'the father' of interventional cardiology for left main disease. I will very much look forward to meeting with you at the 30th anniversary of TCTAP and am very grateful for the invitation.

Daide Capodanno It is with great admiration and respect that I congratulate the organizers of the TCTAP on reaching the milestone of their 30th anniversary. I have had the privilege of attending this congress numerous times, and it remains a standout event for its unparalleled hospitality, flawless organization, and cutting-edge scientific content. In a region renowned for its significant contributions to interventional cardiology, TCTAP has been a vital part of my career. Thank you for your enduring support.

Gian Battista Danzi I am particularly pleased that the TCTAP meeting you have organized is about to reach the milestone of its 30th edition with growing success. Over the years, TCTAP has established itself as an essential event for the cardiology community not only in the Asia-Pacific region but also globally. Over the years, it has become a fundamental point of reference for the interventional cardiology, and I assure you, also from the Italian community. Your meeting has been a fundamental event for me, thanks to a scientific program that is always engaging and up-to-date, and for the presence of an international faculty of the highest level. This meeting has allowed me to connect with the greatest professionals in the field and has significantly contributed to my professional growth. I owe all of this to your work and dedication and that of your collaborators. Thank you, and I extend my most sincere regards.

Giulio Guagliumi I'm keeping an incredible memory of the time spent at your Congress over the years. It's part of my history and gave me the unique chance to meet with you and your group, confronting, discussing and building steps together toward the excellence in cardiology. Extremely pleased to be part of the 30th TCTAP if you are creating the conditions for being supported in logistics.

Ik-Kyung Jang The 30th anniversary of TCTAP is a testimony to the revolution that has occurred in Korean cardiology over the past three decades. In 1995, when the first TCTAP was held, publications from Korea in top cardiology journals were scarce. In the decades since, Korea has produced several publications every month in those same high-impact journals. Korea has now unequivocally become one of the leading countries in interventional cardiology research. This remarkable growth was spearheaded by the director of this conference, Dr. SJ Park; and, although my contributions to Korean cardiology have been largely remote, I feel pride for my native country as a Korean American cardiologist. Congratulations!

Jacques J. Koolen My congratulations on your great performance. As you say, by hard work and thanks to your intelligence and scientific approach this meeting is among the best in the world. Your outstanding work for instance concerning main stem PCI is phenomenal. I personally always appreciated your hospitality and the perfect setting of the meeting.

Jae-Joong Kim It has already been 30 years since we first started the interventional live demonstration in Korea. It started in 1995 as the Angioplasty Summit in the auditorium of Asan Medical Center. It was our first interventional live demonstration, so everyone was anxious and worried. Since we did not have experienced support manpower, doctors, nurses, and technicians in the catheterization room directly participating in the interventional live demonstration had to prepare for the demonstration from early in the morning and participate in the live demonstration and take care of the patients until late in the evening. Other parts of the cardiology department supported the registration and guidance of the participants and the faculty, and the guidance of the lectures and discussions in the auditorium. I was in the catheterization room for the first year. For the PCI demonstration, I cannulated the femoral artery and took a coronary angiogram in advance, and for the percutaneous mitral balloon valvuloplasty, I performed atrial septal puncture and waited. Even though I was being anxious that I would not be able to prepare on time because the schedule was tight, I felt a sense

of pride in my heart when the live demonstration was over. The first TCTAP, which was anxious and worrying, was a success beyond expectations with about 800 people in attendance and the live demonstration proceeded smoothly without any mistakes. The number of participants continued to increase year after year, and the number of invited faculty, especially international faculty from the United States, Europe, and Asia, increased significantly. I was in charge of faculty reception and guidance, and I got to know many international faculty, which was a good experience for me. Since the hospital auditorium could not accommodate all the registrants, the interventional procedure was performed at the hospital and broadcasted live to a larger and better facility outside. The number of participants from Korea and abroad continued to increase, and it became the largest and the best interventional live demonstration in Korea. As someone who has watched closely from the beginning, I would like to sincerely congratulate the 30th anniversary of TCTAP, which has now become a world-class interventional live demonstration. In 2003, it was held as a domestic event without overseas participants due to SARS, and it was held online when the COVID-19 pandemic was taking place. I would like to praise the organizing committee for continuously developing TCTAP and overcoming these difficult times. I look forward to TCTAP's 50th Anniversary and hope for continued progress.

John McB. Hodgson I have always looked forward to and enjoyed your meeting! It would be an honor to attend the 30th celebration! Congratulations on such a well-organized meeting and the success that it has achieved! I know it takes lots of work and attention to detail to make it happen. You have done a masterful job!

John Robert Laird, Jr. I have very much valued our friendship and collaboration over the years and all of my years of participation in TCTAP. I will be very sorry to miss the 30th Anniversary. I'm sure it will be a great success!

Junbo Ge How time flies! I would very much like to attend TCTAP's 30th anniversary to meet old friends! You have made tremendous efforts and contributions to the development of interventional cardiology not only in the Asia-Pacific region but also worldwide. If I can be of any assistance for the event, please let me know.

Marie-Claude Morice I have a lot of admiration for you so it means a lot, as I am gently retiring. You can be very proud of what you achieved, your course is really unique.

Michael S. Lee I would like to give a heartfelt congratulations to Dr. SJ Park and his team for their amazing contributions to the field of interventional cardiology and to society. Your legacy and uncompromised and unwavering pursuit of academic and clinical excellence have left an indelible mark in medicine.

Mun Kyung Hong As I reflect on TCTAP and memorable times with Dr. Park, “Jeong” and incontrovertible authority stand out. For non-Koreans, Jeong is the endearing expression of genuine friendship, endless hospitality, and compassion. In addition, Dr. Park has been the pioneer and authority on left main interventional techniques, especially with an evidence-based approach, and has consistently demonstrated the techniques himself. I am a better person due to my association with Dr. Park and TCTAP. Things I want to convey to the TCTAP organizers: I still remember Dr. Park explaining to me decades ago why he had started the unprotected left main stenting program: many of his patients had failed bypass grafts even before hospital discharge. He made the valorous decision to help his patients with unconventional, but innovative procedures. Dr. Park’s lasting legacy will be the countless patients and their family members, whom he has helped and who will be helped by others using his evidence-based interventional techniques.

Osamu Katoh Congratulations on the 30th TCTAP anniversary! I still remember the days when we were groping for collaboration between CCT and your meeting though it didn’t materialize. And I have lots of memories that I have visited your hospital and others in Korea and cultivated our friendships. More than ten years ago, just after Tamai passed away, I left CCT organization for the younger generation and retired from the clinical field. Now I am working just as an engineer to develop the next generation navigation system for CTO-PCI. I would like to attend your meeting just as one of the attendees to say “Congratulations”.

Satoru Otsuji I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to TCTAP on its 30th anniversary. 30 years, it feels like a long history. In the mid-1990s, the bare metal stent was launched. However, the results of PCI, especially for complex lesions, were far worse than they are today. In the early 2000s, when drug-eluting stent was launched, PCI for complex lesions became increasingly popular due to its good long term results, and the demand for live demonstrations and academic programs increased. I believe you have constantly disseminated cutting-edge technology and evidence to Asia and the Pacific region, and led cardiovascular intervention in this region. I think you really had a hard time during the recent COVID pandemic. But, the COVID pandemic has passed. I am confident that you and your team will continue to lead cardiovascular intervention in Asia and the Pacific region, as always, or even more than ever.

Shigeru Saito The past 30 years were also very important for me. While I was wondering, time has passed quickly. Anyway, I would congratulate you and your great career. I hope to see you in Seoul next year.

Sripal Bangalore Congratulations on the TCTAP 30th anniversary! Celebrating one of the largest and most well-organized meetings in the Asia-Pacific region, known for its cutting-edge science, attention to detail, and collaborative spirit. It’s more than just a conference; it feels like a family gathering that I enjoy attending every year. Here’s to many more years of innovation and togetherness!

Takashi Akasaka Congratulations Drs. SJ Park and DW Park, and the team of Asan Medical Center for the 30th anniversary of TCTAP in 2025! I would like to celebrate your great success with TCTAP for these 30 years based on your tremendous efforts and wonderful organization. I also appreciate you and your team for your great contribution in the fields of the development of cardiovascular intervention, education for the younger generation, and promotion of new

techniques with much evidences with important scientific data through the live demonstration course of TCTAP. I am so happy I could be invited as an international faculty member from the beginning and could discuss with all of you and the other faculty members from abroad in the development of intervention scientifically with much evidence and experience. I could learn a lot from Dr. SJ Park and his team and I would be so happy if I could contribute to them and to the meeting even if it is just a little bit as a faculty member. I am sure Dr. SJ Park and his team at Asan Medical Center should be one of the most productive teams for making new scientific evidence in the field of cardiovascular intervention, and TCTAP should be one of the best live demonstration courses in the field of intervention not only for learning intervention technique and knowledge but also for presenting and discussing important scientific evidences with education for the younger generation. I hope this meeting would continue in the future with the history of important medical event in the Asian Pacific Region and would be much bigger and bigger.

James Flaherty Congratulations on 30 years of TCTAP! This is a remarkable achievement. I am so fortunate to have been able to participate in TCTAP over the years. It has truly changed my practice and enhanced my career. The enormous impact of this meeting has been felt worldwide. This includes knowledge from expert lectures, novel interventional techniques demonstrated during live cases, and scientific data presented for the first time. Thank you TCTAP for the positive impact you have had on countless physicians and patients over the past 30 years. I can’t wait to see what the next 30 years bring!



Tullio Palmerini It is really an honor and a privilege for me to celebrate the 30th anniversary of TCTAP. TCTAP is one of the best interventional cardiology meetings in the world, always hosting outstanding faculty and providing great educational content, up-to-date science, and cutting-edge technology. Since my first participation several years ago, I have always come back home enriched from this meeting because of the important scientific content, the exchange of groundbreaking ideas and the formation of lasting collaborations that have pushed forward our discipline for the benefit of patients. In this special anniversary, I wish to express my gratitude to all the people who have contributed to making this meeting a great success and in particular to Dr. Seung Jung Park, Dr. Duk-Woo Park, and Dr. Jung-Min Ahn, whom I consider outstanding doctors, scientists, innovators, and friends. Dr. S.J. Park, Dr. DW. Park, and Dr. J.M. Ahn, congratulations for such a great achievement and thank you for having me being part of this amazing group.

Vinayak Bapat TCTAP continues to be the premium meeting addressing important topics in the cardiovascular space. Wishing you a successful 30th anniversary meeting and honored to be part of this meeting for the last 8 years.

Wei-Hsian Yin Hi Dr. Park and the team at TCTAP 2025. Greetings from Taiwan. I'm very pleased and thankful to have the opportunity to attend the conference to celebrate its 30th anniversary. TCTAP is one of the most important intervention conferences in Asia. We can truly see the dedication you have put into the preparation of the event. And the program by now is supposed to reach the practical. I'm confident that this year's conference will be a great success. And everyone will gain a lot from the meeting.

William F. Fearon Congratulations on 30 years of excellence in science, education, and case demonstrations. So many physicians and patients have benefited from your efforts. Looking forward to the next 30 years of collaboration and friendship!

Ziad A. Ali Over the past decade, the TCTAP has been invaluable to me, offering continued learning and growth. The intimate faculty dinners are a highlight, fostering close friendships and deep discussions that have enriched my professional journey. These gatherings have created lasting bonds, transforming colleagues into friends and making the conference a cherished event every year. The knowledge shared and connections made have been truly unforgettable. Best wishes to TCTAP for the next decade! May the conference continue to be a beacon of research and innovation, advancing the field of interventional cardiology. Here's to fostering groundbreaking discoveries, promoting excellence in education, and enhancing clinical care worldwide. May the coming years be filled with inspiring collaborations, transformative ideas, and continued success in shaping the future of cardiovascular medicine. Cheers to another decade of impact and progress!

Acknowledgment

I would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to those who played an invaluable role in bringing this TCTAP 30th Anniversary Photobook. Over the past year, countless hours have been dedicated to selecting the most meaningful photos, editing, and meticulously crafting this photobook to commemorate this special milestone. My deepest gratitude goes to Kyung-Ae Kim, Mi-Kyung Jung, Hyerim Yun, Chaewon Park, and Ina Youn from CVRF for their dedication, passion, and tireless efforts in making this project possible. Special thanks to photographer Hyosul Kim and his team for capturing and preserving these precious moments, as well as to the production team for their hard work in ensuring the highest quality of this photobook. Your unwavering commitment and contributions have made this photobook a truly memorable and meaningful collection, and I am deeply grateful for your efforts in bringing this vision to life.

Seung-Jung Park, MD
Editor-in-Chief, *Photo Album*





Remembering with Gratitude

With heartfelt gratitude to those who have supported us since the inception of the 'Angioplasty Summit' in 1995, I begin this photo collection as a tribute to their contributions and enduring spirit.

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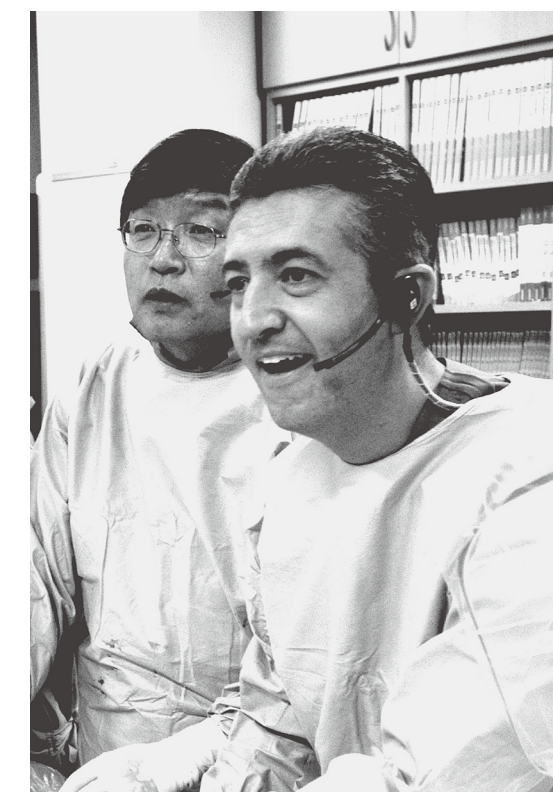
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2002, Dr. Jean Marco, France(Right), Dr. Junghan Yoon, South Korea(Left)



2008, Dr. Shigeru Saito, Japan(Right), Dr. So-Yeon Choi, South Korea(Left)

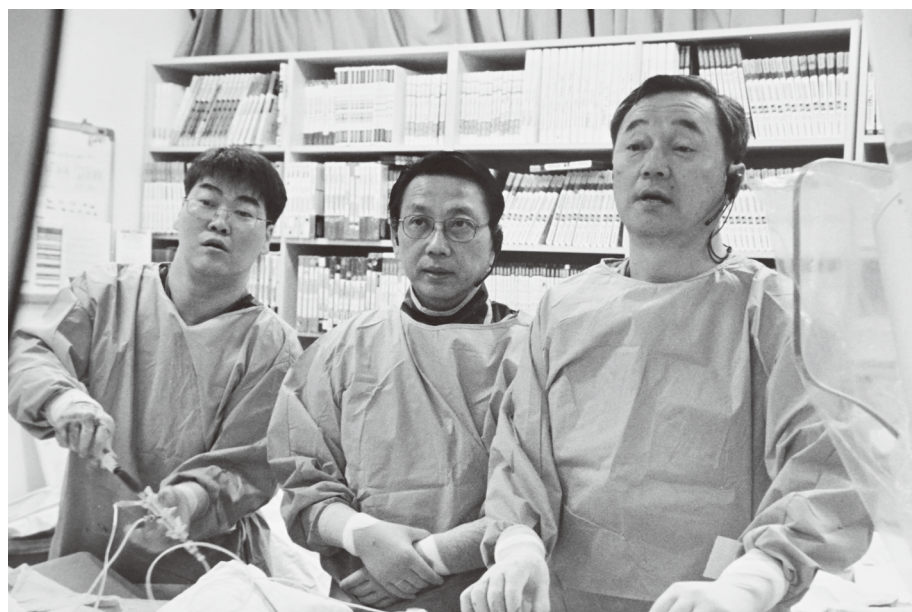


2007, Dr. Alexandre Abizaid, Brazil(Right), Dr. Ki-Bae Seung, South Korea(Left)



2002, Dr. Hideo Tamai, Japan(Right), Dr. Seung-Jea Tahk, South Korea(Left)

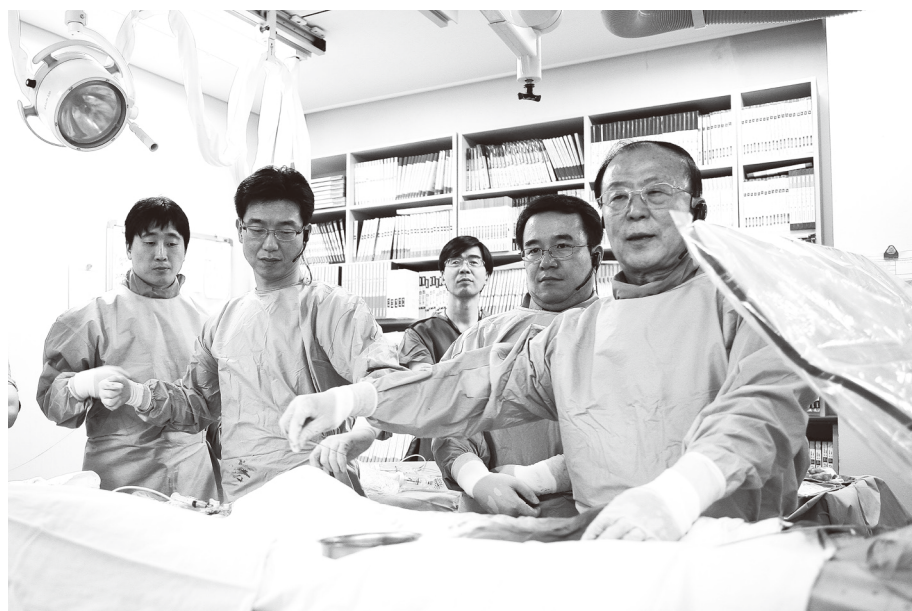
Dr. Jean Marco (France) founded the annual “Course on Complex Coronary Angioplasty and New Techniques in Interventional Cardiology” in 1989, which later became EuroPCR in collaboration with Dr. Jean Fajadet, Dr. Geoffrey Hartzler, and Dr. Cass Pinkerton. Dr. Junghan Yoon (South Korea) specializes in transradial coronary intervention. Dr. Hideo Tamai (Japan) developed the Igaki-Tamai stent, the world’s first fully biodegradable coronary stent, a groundbreaking achievement in interventional cardiology. He passed away in 2009 at the age of 60 and was a dedicated teacher. Dr. Seung-Jea Tahk (South Korea) specializes in FFR-guided PCI. Dr. Shigeru Saito (Japan) has been a global advocate for transradial coronary intervention and the treatment of chronic total occlusions. Dr. So-Yeon Choi (South Korea) specializes in optical coherence tomography and coronary interventions. Dr. Alexandre Abizaid (Brazil) performed the “First-in-Man” study of the first sirolimus-eluting drug eluting stent (DES) in 1999, pioneering advancements in stent technologies and revolutionizing interventional cardiology.



2002, Dr. Takahiko Suzuki, Japan(Right), Dr. Teguh Santoso, Indonesia(Middle), Dr. Si Wan Choi, South Korea(Left)

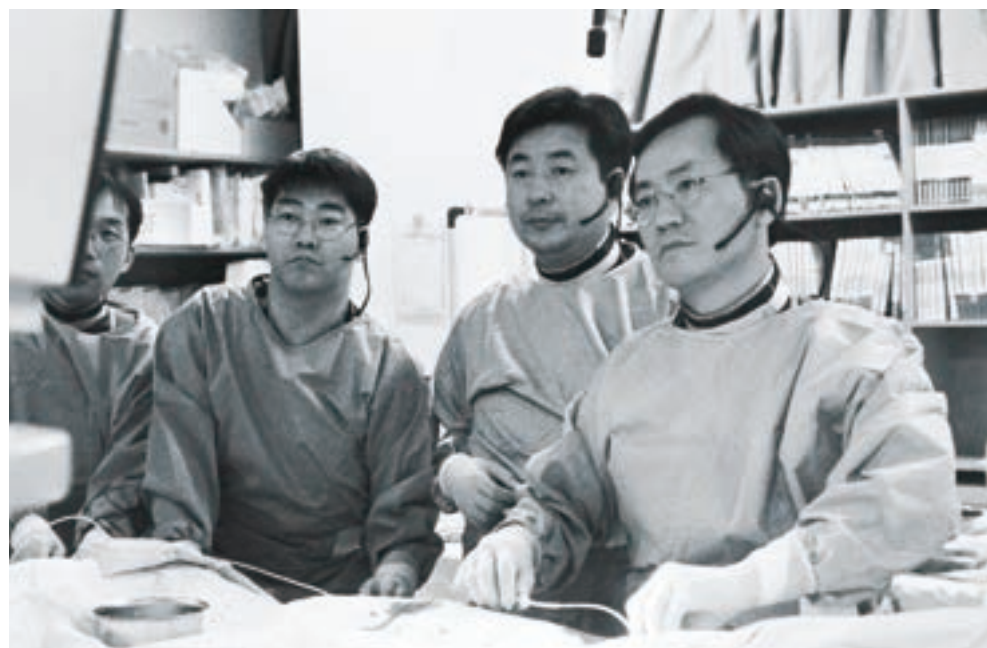


2002, Dr. Charles Chan, Singapore(Right), Dr. Hyun Sook Kim, South Korea(Left)



2008, Dr. Runlin Gao, China, Dr. In-Ho Chae, South Korea, Dr. Myeong-Ki Hong, South Korea, Dr. Young-Hak Kim, South Korea, Dr. Jongpil Park, South Korea(from the Right)

Dr. Takahiko Suzuki (Japan) is a renowned cardiologist at the Toyohashi Heart Center in Japan. His expertise in CTO PC. Dr. Si Wan Choi (South Korea) specializes in interventional cardiology. Dr. Runlin Gao (China) performed China's first percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA) for acute myocardial infarction, a landmark achievement in the nation's medical history. Dr. Charles Chan (Singapore) is a distinguished cardiologist in Singapore. He is renowned for his expertise in coronary and peripheral interventions.



2002, Dr. Ik-Kyung Jang, USA(Right), Dr. Tae Hoon Ahn, South Korea(Right Middle),
Dr. Si Wan Choi, South Korea(Left Middle), Dr. Jun Kim, South Korea(Left)



2002, Dr. Mun Kyung Hong, USA(Right),
Dr. In-Ho Chae, South Korea(Middle),
Dr. Hyun Sook Kim, South Korea(Left)



2009, Dr. Ki-Bae Seung, South Korea(Right), Dr. Duk-Woo Park, South Korea(Middle),
Dr. Gyung-Min Park, South Korea(Left)

Dr. Ik-Kyung Jang (USA) is the Allan and Gill Gray Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and holds the Michael and Kathryn Park Endowed Chair in Cardiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. He is internationally recognized for pioneering the use of intravascular optical coherence tomography to study vulnerable plaques and the mechanisms of plaque rupture. Dr. Tae Hoon Ahn (South Korea) specializes in interventional cardiology.

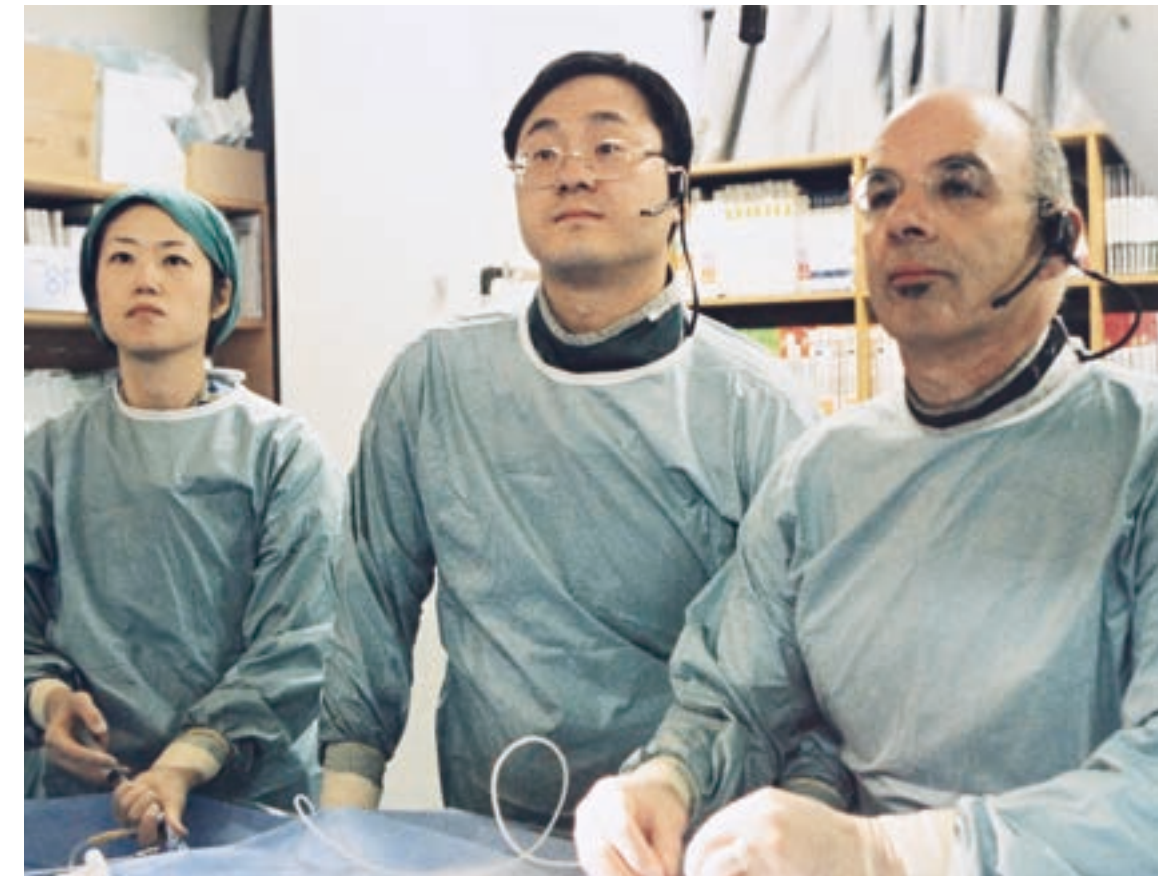
Dr. Mun Kyung Hong (USA) is the Chief of Cardiovascular Services at Bassett Healthcare Network in Cooperstown, New York. He is a nationally recognized interventional cardiologist with over 25 years of experience in cardiovascular medicine, having made significant contributions to the advancement of interventional cardiology. Dr. In-Ho Chae (South Korea) specializes in aortic aneurysms and peripheral vascular intervention. Dr. Ki-Bae Seung (South Korea) established the cardiology department at Seoul St. Mary's Hospital and has performed over 10,000 stent procedures during his 30-year career. In 2008, he authored a pivotal *NEJM* paper on the MAINCOMPARE study comparing LM stenting and CABG outcomes.

How Art and Science Work Together to Advance New Device Technology

Dr. Ian Penn (Canada) is a Clinical Professor of Cardiology at the University of British Columbia and is affiliated with the Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute. He has made remarkable contributions to interventional cardiology, particularly in the development and advancement of the first generation of coronary stents. His research, including the publication "Coronary Stenting: A Global Perspective," highlights the evolution and worldwide adoption of stenting techniques. In fact, Dr. Penn was the mentor who helped us start performing the first Palmaz-Schatz stent procedures in our country and played a pivotal role in the launch of TCTAP. Later, we became friends. He loved skiing, so I started skiing from that time as well. I still have the letter I wrote to Ian 20 years ago, where I planned a visit to Whistler for skiing.

Dear Ian, My Real Artist Friend,

It is so heartwarming to receive your family photos. Luckily, your kids seem to have inherited their genes from your wife's side! Since I first met you at Victoria Hospital in the winter of 1991, we've known each other for over than years. I thought I had experienced and achieved much, yet every time I see you, I'm inspired and, indeed, feel a renowned sense of motivation. Asher, Elisa, Daniel, Issac, and Sandy, you have a truly abundant harvest- blessed with your wonderful children. I genuinely admire and envy the courage it took for you to transform into an artist and embrace a new path in life. By the way, two years ago, I established a foundation called CVRF, making it easier to lead the Angioplasty Summit meeting. Thank you again for helping me start my very first meetings back in 1995. It's freezing out here, so I've been spending most of my weekends as a couch potato, watching television soap operas. I will recommend a good one for you as well. I hope you enjoy this Christmas Holiday with your lovely family, and I can't wait to meet you on the ski slopes soon! See you soon on the slopes, my Buddy!! Warm regards, SJ (2004-12-28)



2002, Dr. Ian Penn, Canada(Right), Dr. Young Chul Doo, South Korea(Middle), Dr. Hyo Jung Lee, South Korea(Left)

One vivid memory that lingers in my mind is from the very first time I met Ian; he was truly a unique and remarkable person. He already had a deep understanding of Eastern cultures and even shared fascinating insights about shamanism. He said he studied philosophy until he unexpectedly became a doctor. Now, he lives as an artist and painter.

In the realm of art, Dr. Penn's work spans various mediums and forms, capturing the essence of the people, places, and stories that have shaped his life. He earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Emily Carr University of Art and Design in 2010. His art often delves into themes of memory and personal history, exemplified by his solo exhibition, *Projections: A Monument to Personal Memory*, held at the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre. This powerful exhibition combined drawing, video, photography, and sculpture to explore the second generation's connection to the Holocaust. Dr. Penn's passion for landscapes, particularly mountain vistas, is reflected in his many paintings of Whistler and the Callaghan Valley.

Beyond his artistic endeavors, he is also a dedicated philanthropist, integrating art into healthcare. In 2009, he and his wife, Dr. Sandy Penn Whitehouse, founded the PENN IDEA Art Award, which bridges the visual arts and healthcare by supporting emerging artists who create works for healing environments in hospitals. Dr. Penn's commitment to both his medical and artistic careers underscores his multifaceted talents and the profound impact of his contributions to society.



Summer Poppies #5, 2024 Sydney Australia acrylic on linen

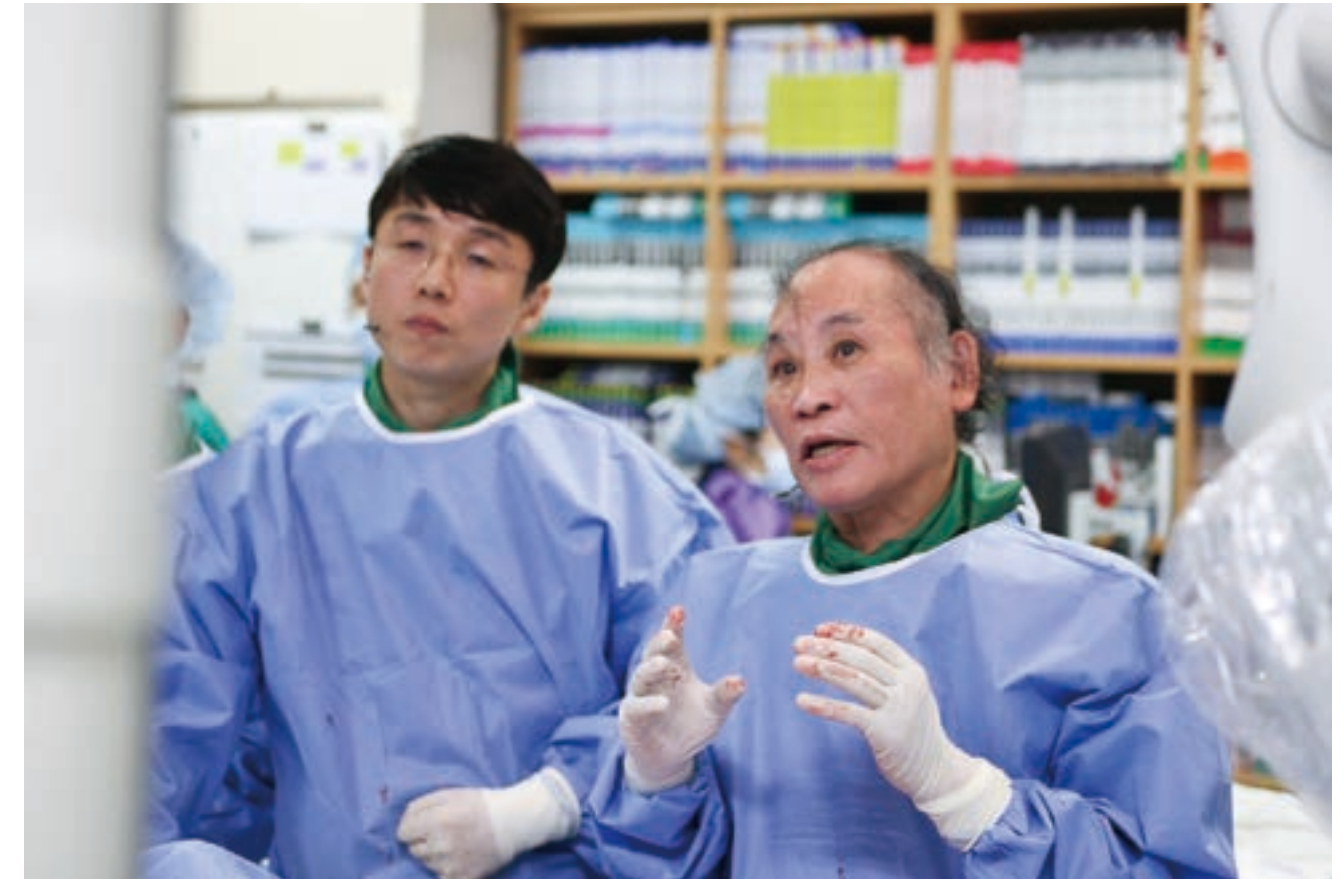


*Good People
Good Memories
Good Life*

First PTCA in Asia

Dr. Masakiyo Nobuyoshi (Japan) is a world-renowned and legendary cardiologist. His career has been closely tied to Kokura Memorial Hospital, where he made history by performing the first percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA) in the Asia-Pacific region in the early 1980s. Over his remarkable career, he performed PTCA on more than 45,000 patients, contributing significantly to the evolution of coronary intervention techniques despite facing many initial challenges. In recognition of his extraordinary contributions, he was awarded the inaugural “Master of the Masters” award in 2011 at the TCTAP conference. A vivid memory that lingers in my mind is attending a live demonstration course at Kokura Memorial Hospital before the era of stent procedures. In just one day, He performed and demonstrated nearly 20 PTCA procedures entirely on his own, showcasing his unparalleled skill and dedication. At the time, Dr. Takeshi Kimura was a young physician training under his mentorship. Dr. Nobuyoshi was truly a legend.

In the early 1980s, a young Japanese cardiologist, Dr. Masakiyo Nobuyoshi made the long trip to Kansas City to visit my cath lab at the Mid America Heart Institute. Although Dr. Nobuyoshi and I didn't share a common language, we communicated through the review of cases and by his observation of dozens of procedures. (Geoffrey O. Hartzler) He has been the mentor of many Japanese interventional cardiologists. Also, all the Asian interventional cardiologists should never forget that the current success of Asian interventional cardiology communities could never be brought about without Dr. Nobuyoshi. (Takeshi Kimura) Dr. Seung-Ho Hur (South Korea) specializes in IVUS and coronary interventions.



2011, Dr. Masakiyo Nobuyoshi, Japan(Right), Dr. Seung-Ho Hur, South Korea(Left)

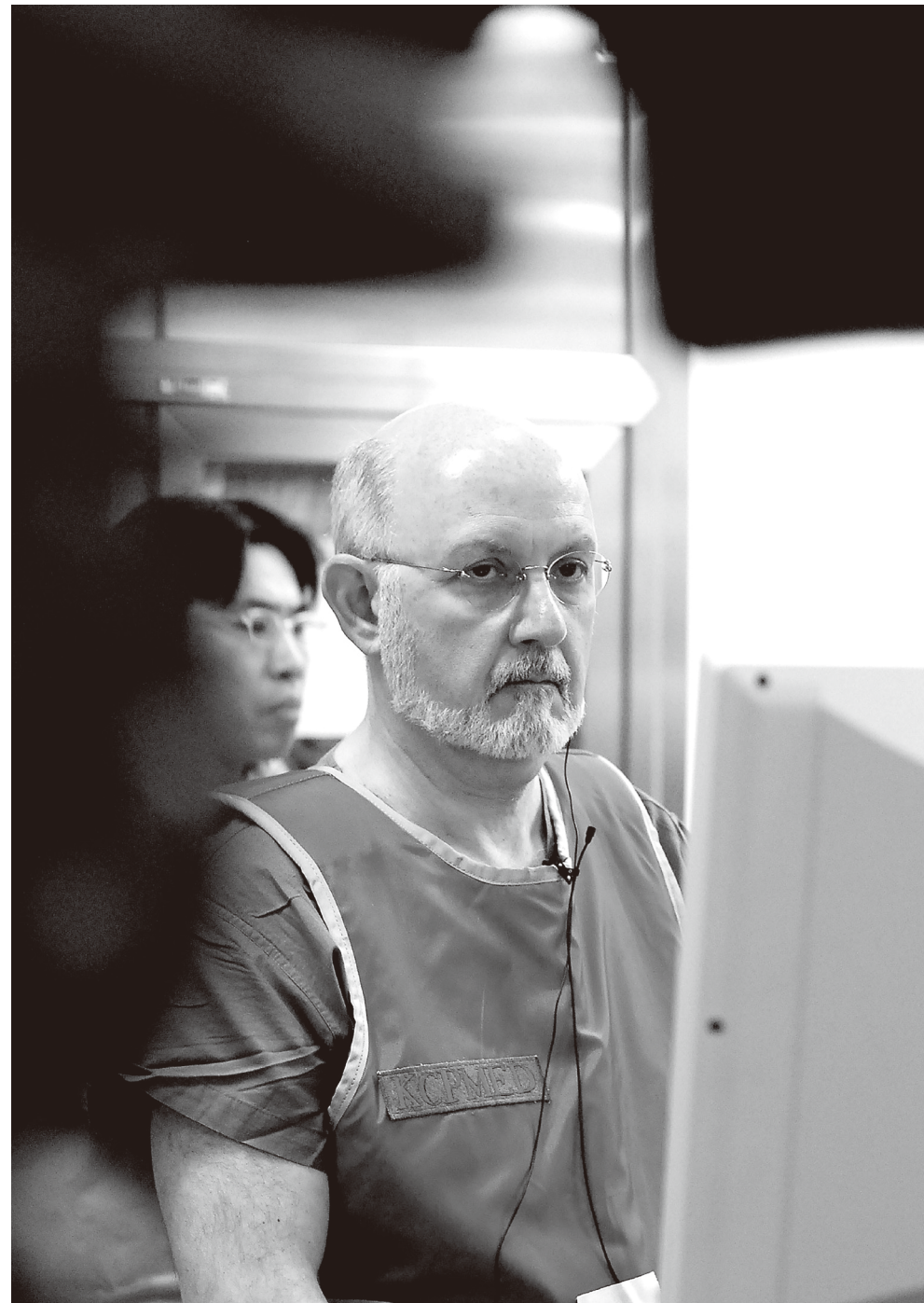
IVUS, IVUS!

Dr. Gary S. Mintz (USA) is renowned for his pioneering work in intravascular ultrasound (IVUS) and his significant contributions to interventional cardiology. With over 30,000 patients studied using IVUS, he has made groundbreaking observations on the pathology, pathogenesis, and mechanisms of coronary atherosclerosis, catheter-based interventions, and restenosis. His prolific academic career includes authoring over 1,000 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, along with more than 850 abstracts. Currently, he serves as the Senior Medical Advisor at the Cardiovascular Research Foundation (CRF) in New York and is a co-director of TCT. In recognition of his substantial contributions to TCTAP, he was honored with the “Master of the Masters” award in 2014. One memory that lingers in my mind is his impressive singing talent at karaoke.

His contributions to the interventional cardiology are really inestimable. Not only has he taught us about a course how to use IVUS to advance and prove outcome through patients in coronary artery disease, but even more so it's been his seminal insights into the process of atherosclerosis that has led to the development far behind what happens in cathlab. When people think of IVUS, people think of Gary Mintz. *(Gregg W. Stone)* So for me, Dr Mintz, he is my long-time mentor and why I like him is because he is strong and he is strong and he is strong. Every day I learn from him we should not never give up. *(Akiko Maehara)* Your work is inspiring me since my early day, since medical student. But it is really today very much older than and I realize it is not only the work but it's much more your outstanding personality who really deserved utmost respect. *(Eveline Regar)* What's been so impressive is the scientific regard with which you approach your work and a fact that you have kept open mind which is allowed you to develop so many novel concepts that are profoundly affected the way we treat our patient in the cathlab. And you've achieved all this with such grace and humanity. *(William F. Fearon)* I have a lot of memories with Gary because I've known him for almost 20 years. For me and my team he was the best teacher and mentor as he was smart, wise, and always generous with his time. *(Seung-Jung Park)*



2009, Dr. Gary S. Mintz, USA



2008, Dr. Gary S. Mintz, USA



2015, Dr. Gary S. Mintz, USA(Right), Dr. Soo-Jin Kang, South Korea(Left)



2011, Dr. Gary S. Mintz, USA

The History of PTCA

Dr. Spencer B. King III (USA) is a Professor of Medicine Emeritus at Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia. In 1980, he recruited Dr. Andreas Gruentzig to establish Emory's interventional cardiology program, which became a global leader through live demonstration courses and groundbreaking clinical trials that advanced PTCA into mainstream practice. With over 600 published papers and 10 co-edited books, including *Interventional Cardiology* and multiple editions of Hurst's *The Heart*, his contributions to cardiology are immense. Recognized with the TCT Career Achievement Award (2009), the ETHICA Award, and the "Master of the Masters" Award at TCTAP (2015), his impact on the field is profound. One memory I cherish is from our very first meeting when I thanked him for traveling such a long distance to attend. With humility, he mentioned learning a great deal about left main stenting, which he couldn't observe in the U.S. Since then, he has rarely missed our meetings. Spencer is truly someone we hold in the highest regard and remain deeply grateful for.

Spencer has been a driving force in invasive cardiology and interventional cardiology, and all aspects of cardiology. He has been a president of American Cardiology. He was head of the Interventional Cardiology Board Examination Writing Committee that I served with him on. He was in editor of *JACC Intervention*. So he has done it all. He has been a huge individual in the field. He has been incredibly productive. He is prolific in terms of giving talks, in terms of relating to people. But number one, he was incredibly involved with the American Cardiology. Number two, he was incredibly involved with the people around him, with his family around him. Number three, that really identifies multiple facets of Spencer B. King III. A great individual, a tireless worker in the field of interventional cardiology, in the field of education, in the field of science, in the field of research. A tremendous individual and tremendous friend. *(David R. Holmes)*

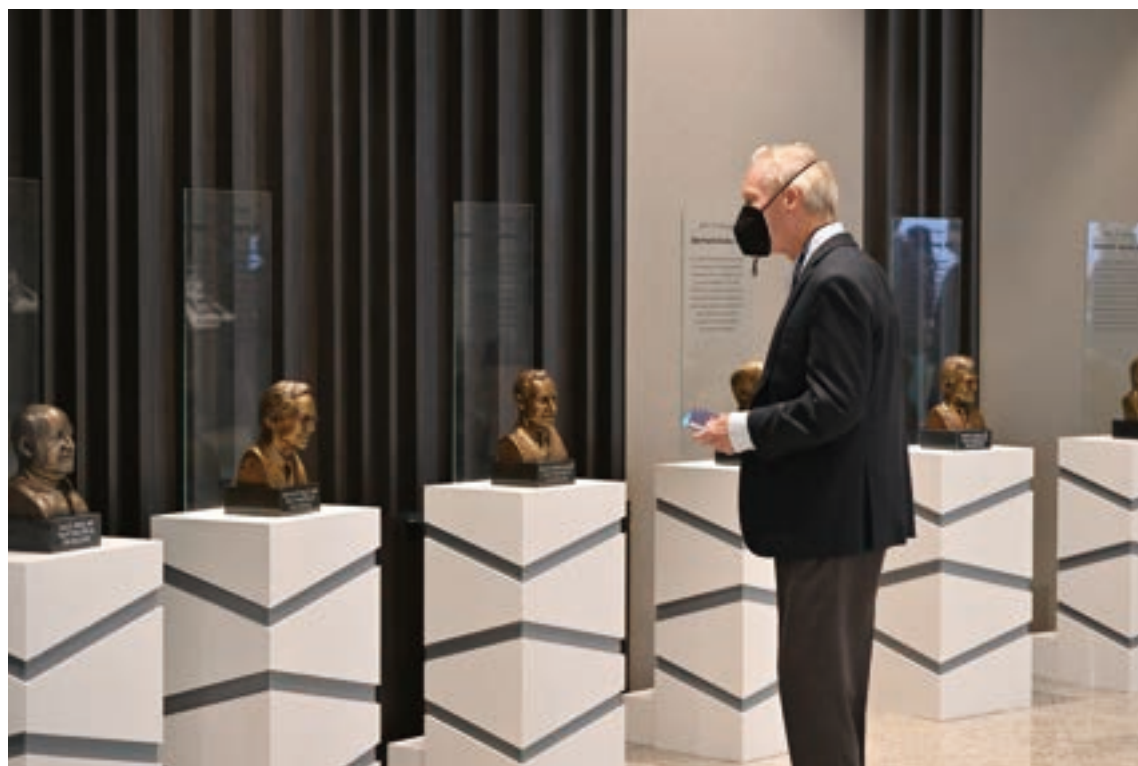


2008, Dr. Spencer B. King III, USA

You're the inventor of the multi-purpose catheter, and you kind of arm-twisted your fellows among them myself, to practice this multi-purpose catheter rather than using them more easy Judkins coronary catheter. This tremendously helped us to manipulate catheters in Sinus of Valsalva and this became particularly important when it came to manipulate guiding catheters for PCI. (*Bernhard Meier*) Spencer has been a special mentor to me. Obviously, we all know that Spencer is a giant in coronary angioplasty and has taught hundreds of thousands of interventionalists throughout the world. I was fortunate enough to succeed Spencer as the second chair of this committee. And I applied what I learned from Spencer, in really trying to achieve balance and achieve consensus and really sort of learned from how Spencer could run this committee and tried to apply to my role. (*Alan C. Yeung*)



2013, Dr. Spencer B. King III, USA



2023, Dr. Spencer B. King III, USA

I really thank you for all that you've done for interventional cardiology, from being there at the beginning, to helping us make this to the subspecialty. You've really truly served as a global ambassador for interventional cardiology around the world. You meant so much to me personally in terms of being a role model and really an inspiration for everything I've tried to accomplish. *(Gregg W. Stone)* For me, Spencer is responsible to the academic knowledge, to the clinical training. And also as a mentor, he taught me how to bring that, move that to the next generation, so that his legacy will always continue through the generation that I had fortunate to train. *(Ron Waksman)*



2015, Dr. Spencer B. King III, USA with his daughter

“Lion King”

Dr. David R. Holmes (USA) served as a Professor of Medicine at the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, dedicating over 46 years to a distinguished career before retiring as Emeritus Staff. Dr. Holmes was instrumental in the evolution of PCI and is credited with inventing the Watchman Left Atrial Appendage Occluder, a device that has been implanted over 100,000 times globally to prevent strokes. As a principal or co-investigator in over 70 clinical studies, his contributions to cardiovascular medicine are unparalleled. He has been honored with the American College of Cardiology’s Distinguished Scientist Award (Clinical Domain) and the “Master of the Masters” Award at TCTAP in 2018.

David is one of most sought-after lecturers, and speakers in the interventional cardiology world. The reason is David has the unique ability to combine the delivery of scientific message with engaging humor. *(Barry D. Rutherford)* Your contributions to your science and care of patients and your redoubtable way to communicate, particularly in the TCT courses overall this year and many other venues, have been quite extraordinary. *(Spencer B. King III)* All the history of interventional cardiology is full of memory and key contributions of David R. Holmes. Starting with angioplasty with data collection important initial ‘Vascular Intervention’ registries, stents and now research structural heart disease like atrial appendage occlusion. *(Antonio Colombo)* We belong to the same generation id with internal medicine and cardiovascular training in 75, 76. We started to a peer on stage of the ACC and American Cardiology association at the same time And I wouldn’t you will not believe but he was a very shy speaker who growing to a very stutter debater feared by many other furious debaters. *(Patrick W. Serruys)*



2008, Dr. David R. Holmes, USA



2006, Dr. David R. Holmes, USA

A vivid memory that stays with me is the first time I saw David; his presence was commanding, and he truly struck me as a "Lion King."



2018, Dr. David R. Holmes, USA



2008, Dr. David R. Holmes, USA

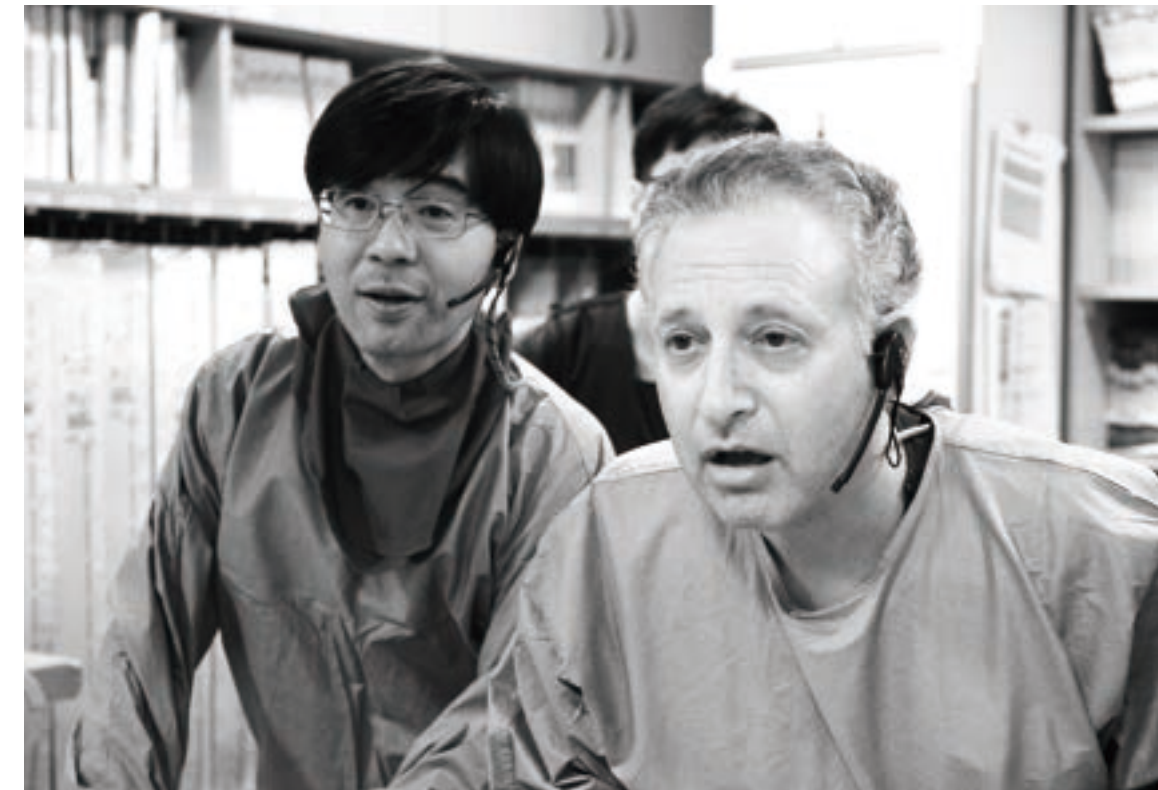


2021, "A Hand-Drawn Vision", Photo by HS Kim

“Fortune Teller!” Shaping the Future

Dr. Martin Bert Leon (USA) is a Professor of Medicine at Columbia University Irving Medical Center and the Founder of the Cardiovascular Research Foundation (CRF) and Transcatheter Cardiovascular Therapeutics (TCT), the world’s leading interventional cardiovascular meeting. A visionary thought leader, he has significantly influenced the development of interventional cardiovascular devices and drug therapies. Dr. Leon has been pivotal in over 75 clinical trials, including landmark studies like STRESS, STARS, Gamma-One, SIRIUS, ENDEAVOR, and the PARTNER trials, which revolutionized the treatment of aortic stenosis through TAVR. With over 2,000 publications and more than 10,000 interventional procedures to his credit, he has made an unparalleled impact on the field. His collaboration also helped launch TCTAP in 2005. Among his many accolades are the “Master of the Masters” Award at TCTAP in 2012 and the ACC Lifetime Achievement Award in 2019. A memory that stands out is his prediction, made a decade ago, that TAVR would become the mainstream therapy for nearly all aortic stenosis patients. Today, that vision is a reality, proving him to be a true visionary.

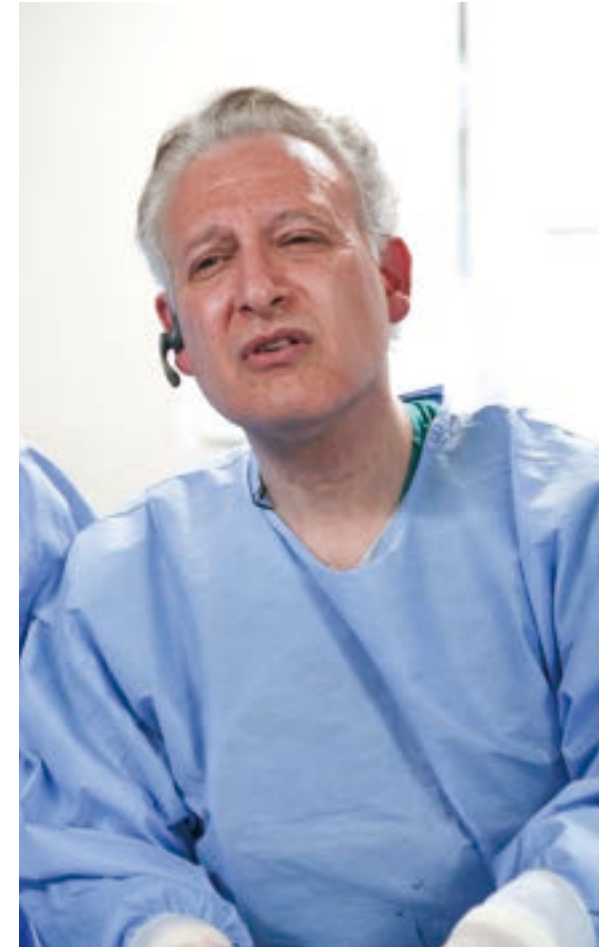
It inspires intelligence. He is articulated, he is visionary. *(Patrick W. Serruys)* Your ability to educate, mentor, and envision what the future shows and will has been your incredible talent. Your contribution to the field is immense, so you’re a master there. *(Roxana Mehran)* He is a very positive person. He spreads positive energy. TCTAP, he has been a supporter, a friend for many years, and he has been a very consistent factor. Hopefully we have many, many more years to cooperate. *(Eberhard Grube)* Martin is not only an outstanding interventional cardiologist, a physician scientist, but also an innovator Martin as a founder and director has greatly promoted the advances of interventional cardiology in the whole world. *(Runlin Gao)* If you had chosen a field other than interventional cardiology, there would have been no CRF, no TCT, and probably no Angioplasty Summit-TCT Asia pacific. *(Gary S. Mintz)* No one has meant more to the field of interventional cardiology than you have. *(Gregg W. Stone)*



2008, Dr. Martin Bert Leon, USA(Right), Dr. Myeong-Ki Hong, South Korea(Left)



2009, Dr. Martin Bert Leon, USA(Right), Dr. June Hong Kim, South Korea(Left)



2009, Dr. Martin Bert Leon, USA



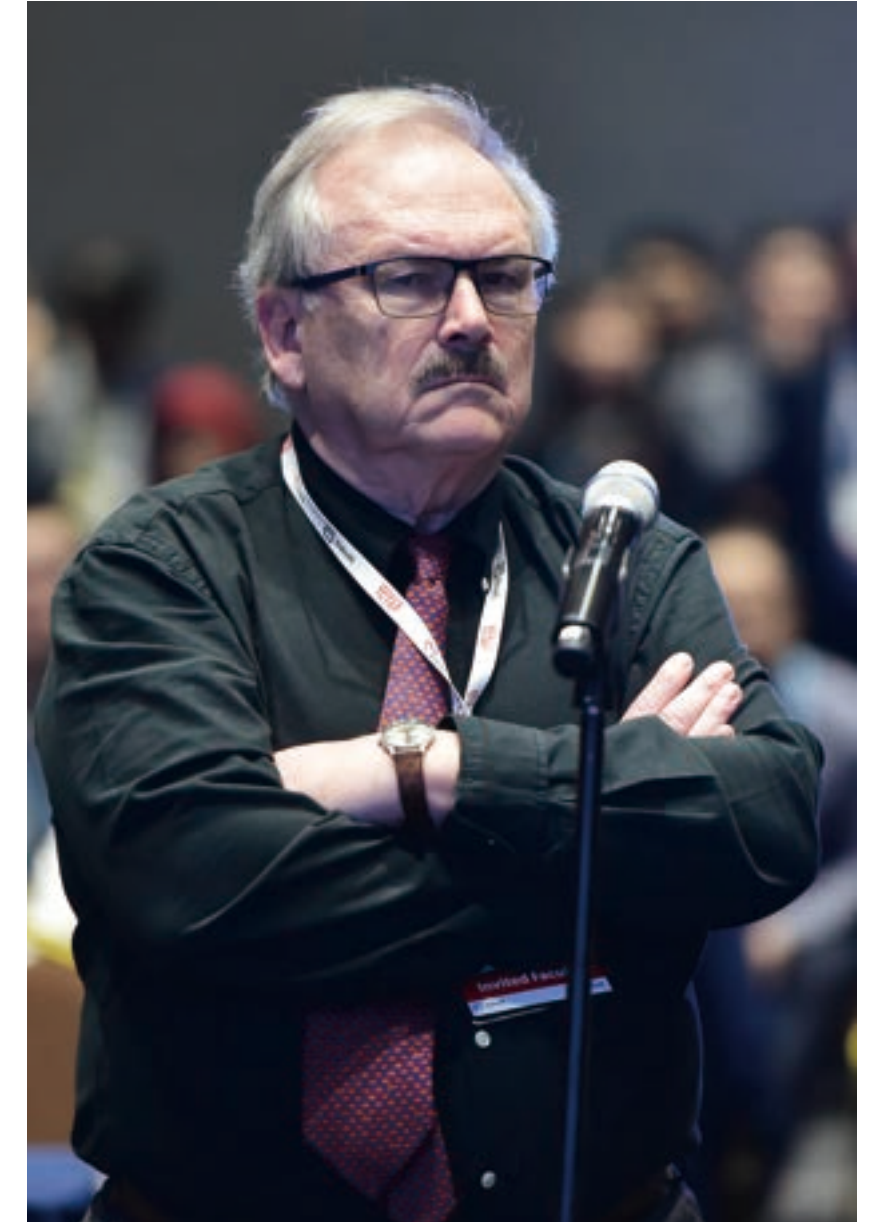


2019, Dr. Martin Bert Leon, USA

“A Philosopher” of Cardiology

Dr. Patrick W. Serruys (Ireland) served as the Chief of Interventional Cardiology at the Thoraxcenter, Erasmus University, Rotterdam, and currently holds the position of Professor of Interventional Medicine and Innovation at the National University of Galway, Ireland. His groundbreaking contributions to interventional cardiology include advancements in bare-metal stents (BMS), drug-eluting stents (DES), bioresorbable scaffolds (BRS), and transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR). He has also significantly advanced imaging techniques such as Quantitative Coronary Angiography (QCA), IVUS, and OCT. He has served as the principal investigator or co-PI in over 80 multinational clinical trials, including pivotal studies like the SYNTAX and EXCEL trials. With over 3,500 peer-reviewed publications and 42 books to his name, he is one of the most prolific contributors to cardiovascular medicine. His exceptional contributions have earned him numerous prestigious awards, including the TCT Career Achievement Award (1996), the Andreas Grüntzig Award (2000), the James B. Herrick Award (2006), the ACC Lifetime Achievement Award (2011), and the “Master of the Masters” Award at TCTAP (2019).

I’m personally very grateful that I have been able to join your team since 2007. I have learned so many things not only about interventional cardiology, but about so many other stuffs like basics in human communications, basics in scientific communications and how to put the people on the same page. (*Yoshinobu Onuma*) He has been a master of accumulating defining very large data sets. Data sets are related to Imaging such as early days of quantitative coronary angiography, data sets related to intravascular ultrasound, data sets related to OCT, those were clinical data sets. There were other data sets that he was able to master and then mastering that identified approaches to educate us and take us forward as we thought further about the field of interventional cardiology. (*David R. Holmes*)



2018, Dr. Patrick W. Serruys, Ireland



2009, Dr. Patrick W. Serruys, Ireland(Right), Dr. Nae Hee Lee, South Korea(Left)

The name Patrick W. Serruys is really synonymous with interventional cardiology. I can't think of a single scientist who more comprehensively integrates an understanding of basic science and intravascular imaging and pathophysiology to clinical outcomes. *(Gregg W. Stone)* The development of interventional cardiology would be totally incomplete without Patrick W. Serruys. The trials you've done, the drive you've had and the things that you have driven to help us understand better this specialty are unparalleled. This honor could go to no one more deserving than Patrick W. Serruys. And even though we have competed in some areas, journals and other things, I think you are the most deserving winner I can imagine for this award. Congratulations Patrick! *(Spencer B. King III)* Patrick is the dean, he is the pope of the academic interventional cardiology for the past four decades. What he has done to be able to elevate the field from the standpoint of academic recognition and clinical evidence has literally put interventional cardiology on the map. *(Martin Bert Leon)*



2009, Dr. Patrick W. Serruys, Ireland(Right), Dr. Yoshinobu Onuma, Ireland(Left)



2011, Dr. Patrick W. Serruys, Ireland

It was April 28, 2011, Dr. Serruys's birthday. After his lecture, Dr. Eun-Seok Shin, one of his former fellows, surprised him with a birthday cake, and he was visibly delighted. One small memory that lingers in my mind is when we published our AMC data, which showed that the SYNTAX Score had limited ability to predict long-term clinical outcomes, especially in left main disease. After that, I found it difficult to make eye contact with him at conferences for a while.



The World's First Infarct Angioplasty!

Dr. Barry D. Rutherford (USA) served as a Professor of Medicine at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and is currently affiliated with Saint Luke's Hospital of Kansas City. In 1981, he was part of the team that performed the world's first infarct angioplasty, a key development in acute myocardial infarction (AMI) treatment. In addition, he has contributed to CTO techniques and multi-vessel disease PCI, authored over 200 publications and delivered more than 230 invited lectures. In recognition of his contributions, he received the Geoffrey O. Hartzler Master Clinical Operator Award at TCT in 2012 and the "Master of the Masters" Award at TCTAP in 2016.

Barry, we've known each other for many years well over 30 years. Back in the days when you worked with Jeff and I worked with Andreas, who were somewhat competitors as we all know at that time. But since then, you have been affective as the leader of one of the most competitive training programs in interventional cardiology. And I've enjoyed working with you traveling around the world from Hawaii to South Africa and then always been amused. So it's been a great pleasure working with you. You have exhibited style and grace in training people in interventional cardiology. And for that, I truly congratulate you. *(Spencer B. King III)* Everyone knows about the seminar work you did with primary angioplasty for AMI. 25 years ago, you predicted what is stayed in care today. I think you are best known, however, for your calm and cool manner and your soft but confident voice. For instance, let's turn the clock back to September 2013, San Francisco, California, America's Cup races. New Zealander is leading eight versus to one. They need one more race to take the America's cup. But what happen is Kiwi's blowed it. America wins 9 consecutive races. And even you, Barry D. Rutherford, cannot keep his cool. Let's finish this discussion in the hotel by this evening. I'm looking forward to it. *(James R. Margolis)*



2005, Dr. Barry D. Rutherford, USA

We're talking from Rochester, Minnesota about an icon. Like honestly have been sort of defined in many different ways as an image, as a symbol, as many other things, but this specific icon we're talking about today is Barry D. Rutherford who I have known for probably forever. He was one of my first consultants here in Rochester, and he is an icon, comes from an interesting background, a soccer player, very good soccer player, or what would have called footballer. He then came into medicine, came into computer programming, while he was here in Rochester, he then essentially established in use of computers to computerize both the coronary care unit and as well as the catheterization laboratory, as well as all the systems that we take care of patients, after having spent a year going to Salt Lake City during part of this advanced training. As a person, as a mentor, as an icon, you could describe him as an incredibly impassioned, creative soul, interesting person, incredibly talented technically, incredibly talented intellectually, able to problem-solve, able to do all the things that you'd like to do, that you'd like to learn how to do it, he did so naturally. It wasn't natural completely, he works very hard at it, continues to work very hard at it. But all of those things that define what an interventional cardiology should be, what a cardiology should be, what a person should be, what a human should be, would be defined in that image, that iconic image of Barry D. Rutherford. He then, over the course of his life, has done many things, over the course of his life, has interacted, and really improved the lives of not only patients, but his colleagues and society as a whole. So in this celebration today of Dr. Barry D. Rutherford, I would again state that he is an iconic man, iconic image, iconic symbol of all those things that we each aspire to be throughout our lives professionally and personally. And to Barry D. Rutherford, all the best in the world to now an incredibly iconic man. *(David R. Holmes)*



2009, Dr. Barry D. Rutherford, USA

Barry, on behalf of the 55 cardiologists and friends, and you have here your St. Luke's Mid America Heart Institute, the cath lab staff, the nurses and everyone else. It's my distinct pleasure to offer to you our sincerious congratulations, for you have received the most deserved the TCTAP "Master of the Masters" 2016 Award. I personally would never forget the day when we came back from CRF, CTO Summit and announced interventional group that we are doing it wrong. By that you've met that, in order that build a successful CTO program, we needed to have a collaborated team. You asked for volunteers and you became restructuring the program. I volunteered for that program and my life has changed dramatically ever since. You stood by me side by side to good times and bad. You brought in guest operators from Japan. You promoted our efforts to gather at future meetings and introduced me to the CTO community. From this, I learned that one can never rest on his laurels and must always strive to be a better operator and can only accomplish to learning and collaborating with others. Barry, you've been a teacher, a highly skilled operator, a mentor and a father figure to me and to so many of us in the interventional community that I cannot pick up one more deserving this prestigious award than you. Congratulations and thank you so very very much for all that you have done to deserve it. *(James Aaron Grantham)* Barry, you are so deserving of this award, being one of the premier interventional operators in the world for over 30 years. You've taught us so much about STEMI therapy, chronic total occlusions, complex multi-vessel disease. You've been a mentor for young interventionists and you've been a role model to the entire world-wide interventional community. From all of your friends in New York city at Columbia, at CRF, we are thrilled that you are this year's recipient of the TCTAP, Master of the Masters award. *(Martin Bert Leon)*



2013, Dr. David Paul Taggart, UK, Dr. Seung-Jung Park, South Korea, Dr. Antonio Colombo, Italy, Dr. Barry D. Rutherford, USA, Dr. Spencer B. King III, USA, Dr. Gary S. Mintz, USA(from the Left)



2015, Dr. Barry D. Rutherford, USA with his wife



2015, Dr. Barry D. Rutherford, USA with his wife



2018, Dr. Barry D. Rutherford, USA with his wife

In my vivid memory, one evening at a dinner party, Barry suddenly sat down at the piano and began to play and sing. I couldn't quite remember the exact title of the song, but I think it was Billy Joel's *'Piano Man'*- *"It's nine o'clock on a Saturday, there's an old man sitting next to me, making love to his tonic and gin."* It felt as if Billy Joel himself was in the room. Everyone was surprised, and it was touching.

Devoted Researcher

Dr. Gregg W. Stone (USA) is the Director of Academic Affairs for Mount Sinai Heart Health System and holds professorships in Medicine (Cardiology) and Population Health Sciences at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. A leading clinical researcher, he has led numerous global studies and served as the principal investigator for over 140 multicenter randomized trials, including TAXUS IV, TAXUS V, PROSPECT, EXCEL, and COAPT. With over 3,000 publications, his expertise spans interventional therapies for acute coronary syndromes, drug-eluting stents, antiplatelet therapies, and transcatheter mitral valve procedures. He is the person with the most published articles in *The New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM)*. He received the “Master of the Masters” Award at TCTAP in 2020 for his significant contributions to interventional cardiology.

The last count I think I've got about 18 to 20 papers that you have published as first or senior author in the *NEJM*. It's clear that your contribution goes beyond interventional cardiology and is a major achievement in medicine as well. *(Alan C. Yeung)* Gregg has made many contributions to interventional cardiology. But the one that stands out, of course, is his contributions in clinical trials of the design, the execution of those trials that have made major impact on our specialty. *(Spencer B. King III)* His fields of interest have been broad and include all of cardiovascular disease, both from those patients that have chronic angina to the treatment of complex coronary artery disease, to new technologies such as bio-vascular scaffolds, to the evaluation and treatment of patients with mitral regurgitation such as the recent COAPT trial. *(David R. Holmes)* Over the past two decades, I truly believe that Gregg W. Stone has been among the premier clinical trialists in evidence-based medicine and interventional cardiology, and he's made enormous contributions to the field that have been truly practice-changing. *(Martin Bert Leon)*



2011, Dr. Gregg W. Stone, USA



2015, Dr. Gregg W. Stone, USA

Gregg is a master of hard work. He is constantly working hard to improve himself and science by taking on new challenges and thinking through even simple questions to find a different or better way to approach a challenge. *(Akiko Maehara)* You have always been adamant in the research of these fields. You were looking to find answers, scientifically based answers, too many open questions in coronary disease and of course in structural disease. *(Eberhard Grube)*

“Innovative” Interventional Cardiologist

Dr. Eberhard Grube (Germany) is a Professor of Medicine and Head of the Center of Innovative Interventions in Cardiology at University Hospital Bonn, Germany, and a Consulting Professor at Stanford University. A pioneer in coronary interventions and TAVR, he has contributed to the development of drug-eluting stents, distal protection devices, and debulking techniques. He has authored over 548 publications, and he received numerous accolades, including the Carl-Ludwig-Ehrenmedaille in 2016 and the “Master of the Masters” award at TCTAP in 2017. A memory that stands out is his love for spending time with good friends and enjoying a drink together.

I respect him as being one of the true pioneers in interventional cardiovascular medicine. I believe that his contributions to early-stage interventional device development have been unique and have surpassed any single individual in the world. Eberhard Grube is truly a unique individual within intuitive understanding of how devices work, how they can be applied for specific new clinical applications and has both the technical skills and the cognitive understanding to be able to make the connection so that we can begin the process, the complex process of innovative new devices development. *(Martin Bert Leon)* Eberhard Grube is one of the most Influential interventional cardiologists of the last decades. No doubt. This applies more or less to every field in interventional cardiology, of course, starting at in-stenting area but touching upon almost every field in interventional cardiology. Without any doubt, he is best known for his crowning work in the TAVR world, and I think I do not exaggerate to state that the evolution of the TAVR field without him was even more difficult and maybe impossible without Eberhard. *(Georg Nickenig)*



2012, Dr. Eberhard Grube, Germany



2011, Dr. Eberhard Grube, Germany

Well, I have known Eberhard for more than 2 decades, now he is without any doubt one of the leading clinical researchers in interventional cardiology covering all fields including coronary as well as structural and valvular interventions and especially in the field of TAVR and mitral valve repair and mitral valve replacement. He is certainly one of the leaders world-wide. He is an extremely active lecturer giving talks all over the world. Whenever I come to a conference where I've not been before Eberhard is already there. He is also I think the first keynote lecturer at the AHA who gave a talk without title, and I like that very much. And he is also famous for his blue glasses, so I recently got these glasses, and I am starting to wear them as he does. Besides all of that he has become a very good friend over the years, so Eberhard I wish you all the best. *(Horst Sievert)* You are one of my best friends as well. I'll never forget our meeting during the flight from Frankfurt to Seoul. It's one of the first TCTAP. That's when our close friendship started. And now, it's continuing and getting stronger and stronger. *(Antonio Colombo)* Eberhard you are returned to your roots back to the university hospital in Bonn with the best thing that couldn't ever happened to us. Working with you is always great fun. You are a terrific teacher and very, very good friend to us. *(Nikos Werner)* We've known each other for almost 2 decades. During that time, you've always been with me and contributed to the growth of TCTAP as well. You are one of my best friends, and really good teacher and mentor for my academic career. Most of all, Eberhard, you are a great human being. That is the reason we all love you. *(Seung-Jung Park)* I met Eberhard and I knew him in the last ten years when I started my structural heart program. And in my mind, Eberhard was a teacher and a pioneer in interventional structural cardiology. *(Corrado Tamburino)* You truly deserved for your lifelong pioneer ship in your belief in interventional cardiology. Without you especially TAVI would never have been a success story. *(Jan-Malte Sinning)*



2016, Dr. Alain G. Cribier, France, Dr. Eberhard Grube, Germany, Dr. Susheel Kodali, USA(from the Left)

In Memory of Alain G. Cribier

He was arguably the 'father' of modern-era structural heart disease. He was a caring physician, a humble humanitarian, a creative iconoclast, and an intuitive transcatheter operator, vital character and professional attributes, which led to the remarkable discovery of TAVR. His two most endearing qualities were passion and perseverance, which drove his pursuit of an unimaginable vision: the successful transcatheter treatment of critical aortic stenosis in an awake patient on a beating heart. Most important to me, he was a dear and loyal friend, and I shall miss him desperately. (Martin Bert Leon) Dr. Cribier has been wildly celebrated and will be wildly missed, but his legacy will go on and on as long as people have aortic valves which get sick. His passing leaves a large hole in our firmament. (David R. Holmes)



Father of TAVR

Alain G. Cribier (France) was a Professor of Medicine and Director of Cardiology at Charles Nicolle Hospital, University of Rouen, France, and a pioneer in the treatment of heart valve disease. He performed the first-in-man TAVR procedure on April 16, 2002, marking a paradigm shift in managing structural heart disease. With over 1,500 journal articles, he received numerous accolades, including the ESC Gold Medal (2016), the Lefoulon-Delalande Foundation Scientific Grand Prize (2017) and the “Master of the Masters” Award at TCTAP (2023). He was also an accomplished pianist. Despite his musical talents, he chose to pursue a career in medicine, inspired by figures like physician-musician Albert Schweitzer. A memorable moment was when he served as the first proctor for our TAVR program in 2010. During the procedure, we couldn’t pass the wire through the stenotic aortic valve retrogradely, which was an extremely rare case. And then, he taught us how to approach it using the antegrade technique, a method he had also employed in his first TAVR procedure. Dr. Cribier passed away on February 16, 2024, leaving behind a lasting legacy of medical innovation.

Honestly, I can’t think of anyone who has made a larger contribution to the interventional cardiology over the past 20 years. Through your pioneering work on the development of TAVR, you have added both years to life, and life to years for so many of our older patients with severe aortic stenosis, and through this, you have ushered in a new era of structural cardiology which has only just begun. *(David Joel Cohen)*

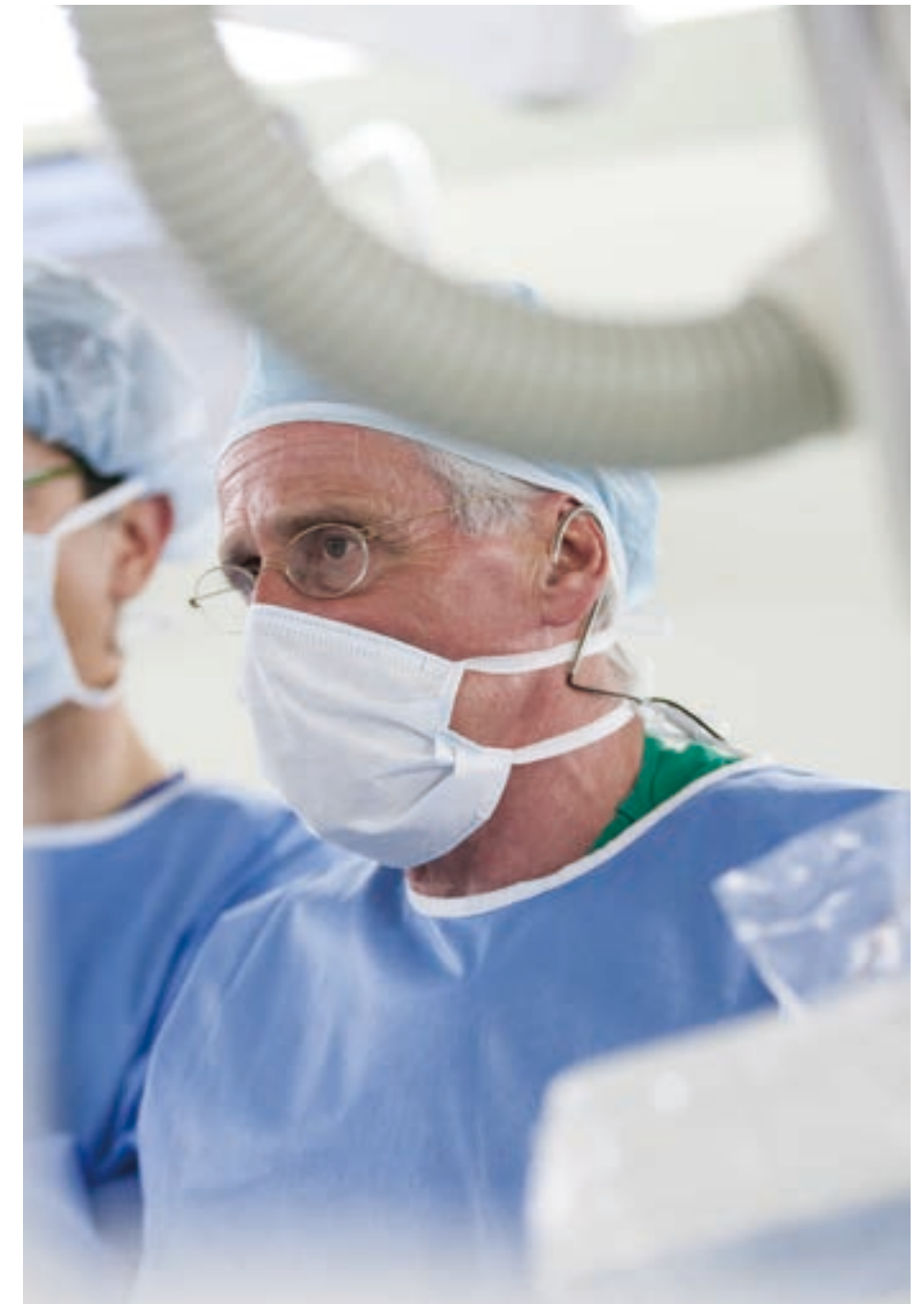


2011, Dr. Alain G. Cribier, France



2011, Dr. Alain G. Cribier, France

We are in the room where the first TAVI in the world was performed. Alain G. Cribier is known for his human qualities, his humor, his technical excellence, his passion and his sense of innovation. For us, Alain is a genius who has marked cardiology. *(Helene Eltchaninoff)* You have been an inspiration for all of us as a leader of the field, and we all owe you so much. Without you, the field of TAVR wouldn't be where it is today. This is a very prestigious award, and I cannot think of anyone better who deserves this award for what he has done for the field of TAVR. *(Eberhard Grube)*



2013, Dr. Alain G. Cribier, France



2010, Dr. Alain G. Cribier, France



2015, Dr. Alain G. Cribier, France



2023, Dr. Ziad A. Ali, USA, Dr. David Joel Cohen, USA, Dr. Alain G. Cribier, France, Dr. Duk-Woo Park, South Korea, Dr. Alan C. Yeung, USA(from the Right)

“A Genius”: Crush, Crush!

Dr. Antonio Colombo (Italy) is the Director of the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory at EMO GVM Centro Cuore Columbus in Milan, known for his pioneering contributions to coronary interventions, especially stenting techniques using IVUS. He developed the “Crush” technique for bifurcation lesion PCI, improving procedural outcomes. With over 1,000 publications, his work has earned numerous prestigious awards, including the TCT Career Achievement Award (1998), PCR Ethica Award (2010), the “Master of the Masters” Award at TCTAP (2013), and the F. Mason Sones Distinguished Service Award (2024).

You have been, without any doubt, a pioneer in the field of interventional cardiology. You have a real mentor and a teacher, not only professionally, but also in personal aspect. And what I learned from you is that apart from talent, what is really important is persistence in what to do. *(Alaide Chieffo)* I have learned one thing about you over the years. That is, we have to pay attention to what you say. Antonio, congratulations on this very significant and important honor. *(Spencer B. King III)* I can remember you sitting in the back of the auditorium and when discussion time came you ran down to the front and sat on the front steps so that you could be part of the dialogue with Jeff Hartzler at that time. From then on you became a real leader in the field of interventional cardiology. Congratulations, Antonio. It's really richly deserved. You became an icon of interventional cardiology. *(Barry D. Rutherford)* Antonio Colombo is the ambassador of interventional cardiology throughout the world. He has the unique capacity for being a brilliant technical interventional cardiologist, a very rigorous and thoughtful academician but also has an unusual creative spirit which allows him to challenge conventions and come up with new ways to treat patients with complex diseases. *(Martin Bert Leon)* Throughout his whole career, he has been a zestful person. I can remember a talk that I saw him give where it was a live case to where all of a sudden, then he talked with a patient on the table who then broke into an Italian opera. And it was zesty experience watching Antonio related to the patient on the table singing an Italian opera. It's great pleasure to know him, to work with him, and to continue to learn with him, from him and along with him. *(David R. Holmes)*



2008, Dr. Antonio Colombo, Italy

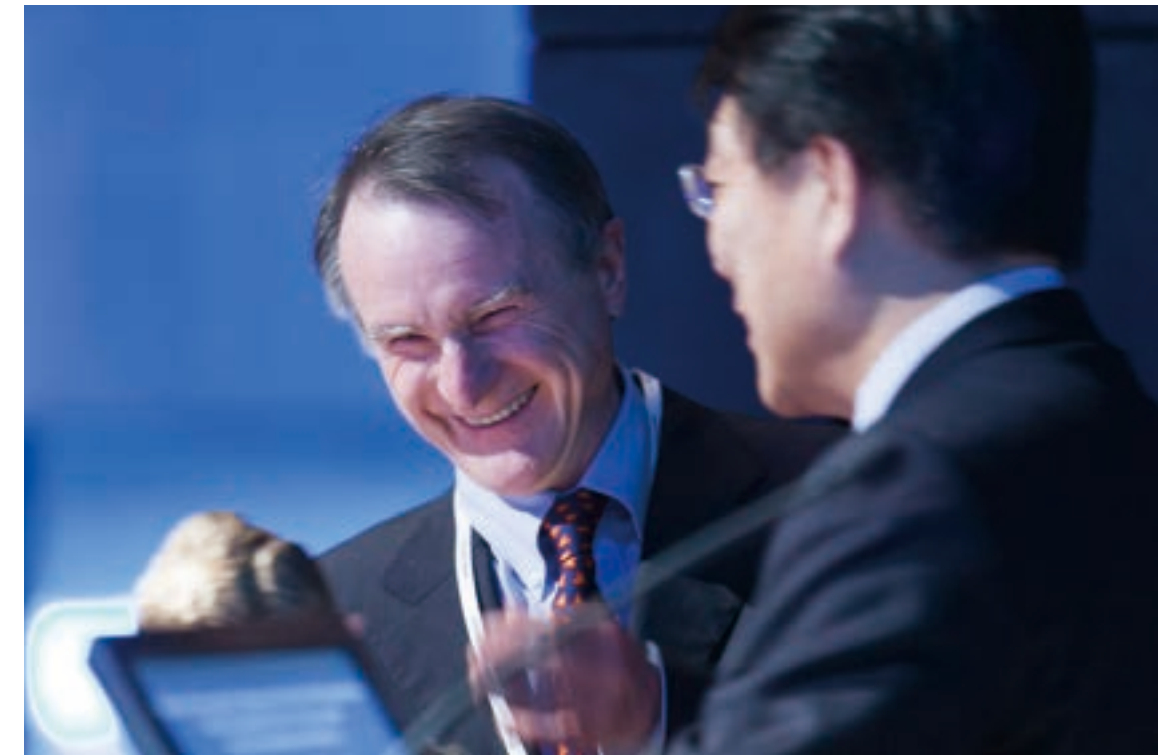


2013, Dr. Antonio Colombo, Italy

The piercing gaze of a wolfdog, *White Fang*, untamed and unyielding, mirrors the intense eyes of Antonio, both embodying strength, independence, and resilience. The animated film *White Fang*, inspired by Jack London's novel, delves into themes of adaptation, rebellion, love, and survival. However, at its heart, it is a story of unbridled freedom, much like Antonio's own unyielding spirit.



2007, Dr. Antonio Colombo, Italy



2013, Dr. Antonio Colombo, Italy(Left), Dr. Seung-Jung Park, South Korea(Right)

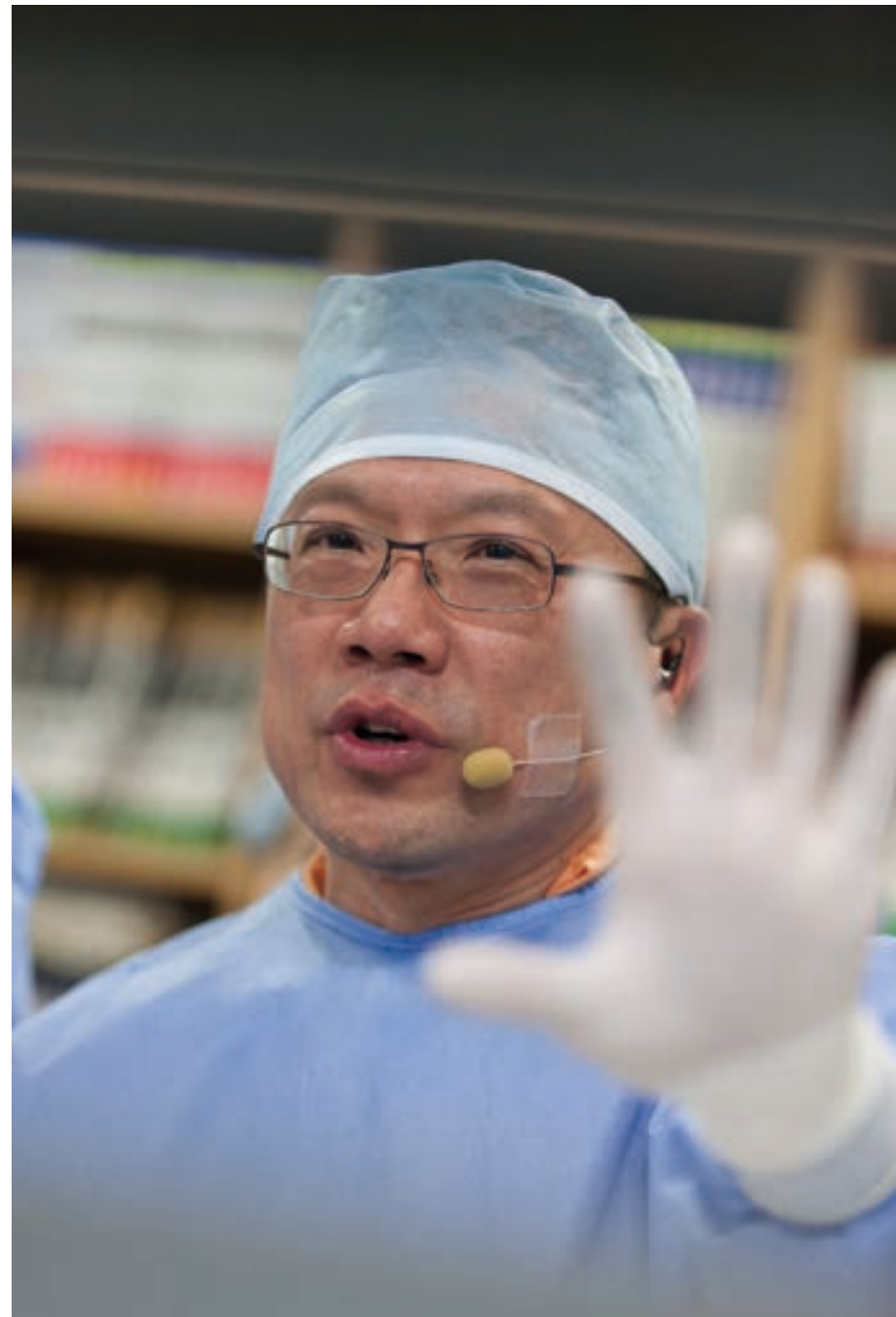
A memory that stands out is from about 10 years ago when I went skiing with Antonio in Yongpyong, Gangwon Province. While waiting in long lift lines, Antonio unexpectedly took off his skis, slung them over his shoulder, and started walking up the slope. I followed, but it was exhausting, and I was out of breath. Antonio, despite his age, was completely unfazed, and I was truly amazed by his strength.

A Loyal and Dependable Friend

Dr. Alan C. Yeung (USA) is a Professor at Stanford University School of Medicine, holding the Li Ka Shing Professorship in Cardiology. Specializing in TAVR, complex coronary interventions for CTO, and heart valve disease, his research focuses on coronary physiology, endothelial dysfunction, and atherosclerosis treatments. With over 300 publications, he has been a key figure in TAVR research and has contributed to numerous studies. Actively involved with TCTAP, he was honored with the “Master of the Masters” Award at TCTAP in 2022.

You had an economy of motion and a fluidity that was just beautiful to watch and then over the years, I came to appreciate how creative you are in the lab. You are an inventor in your own right. You invent on a case-by-case basis, which is very cool. I guess the other thing I'd say is how unusual, it is for someone with your level of clinical mastery to be an effective administrator. Stanford Cardiology thrived under your leadership as Chief. *(Paul Yock)* Alan has been a mentor and a friend. When I came down in the early 90s, I was not even close to being as skilled as Alan, but he helped me. He was always there if I needed a lending hand, needed how to progress on a specific coronary artery, or even take care of a particular patient with cardiovascular disease. *(Peter J. Fitzgerald)* I first met you when you were a cardiology fellow at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in the late 1980s. I was your attending physician, and I am proud to say I also became your research mentor. The audience should know that I as well as many of my faculty colleagues thought of you as the best cardiology fellow who worked in the Brigham for many years in the cath lab. *(Peter Ganz)* You added so much to the field of interventional cardiology, and it has been my pleasure and my honor to have been on your side for the last decades learning from you and from your vision. *(Eberhard Grube)*





2013, Dr. Alan C. Yeung, USA

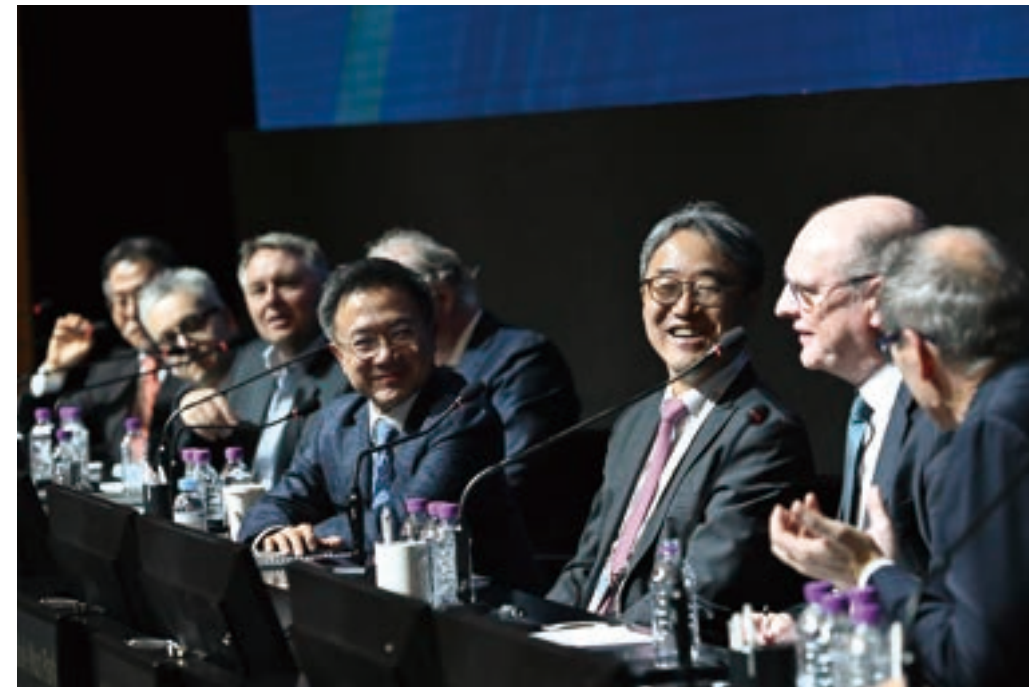


2007, Dr. Alan C. Yeung, USA

Worldwide, the interventional cardiology community knows of you as a superb clinician with amazing technical skills and an unparalleled fund of knowledge, who is also a gifted educator and researcher. But few have had the good fortune of working side by side and learning from you for the past 26 years like I have. You always put your junior colleagues first and promote them ahead of yourself. *(William F. Fearon)* I always found Alan to be a clear thinker and outstanding physician educator who helps to put our therapies and our choices into context. He has been a great bridge from the United States and all of the Asia for many of these years, and through that has to the dissemination of tremendous skills and knowledge throughout the world. *(David Joel Cohen)*



2024, Dr. Eberhard Grube, Germany, Dr. Alan C. Yeung, USA, Dr. Jung-Min Ahn, South Korea(from the Right)



2024, Dr. Alan C. Yeung, USA(Left Middle),
Dr. Duk-Woo Park, South Korea(Right Middle)



2024, Dr. Alan C. Yeung, USA, Dr. Hyo-Soo Kim, South Korea, Dr. Huay Cheem Tan, Singapore(from the Right)

A memory I cherish is knowing Alan for nearly 30 years. He attended our TCTAP meetings without missing a single year, even during the SARS epidemic. He has provided invaluable academic support, particularly in FFR, TAVR, and other cutting-edge topics. I would like to take this opportunity to share with him: "Alan, you are a true friend, and I hope our friendship and mentorship continue to flourish in the years to come."





2013, Dr. Marie-Claude Morice, France



2010, Dr. Marie-Claude Morice, France(Left Middle), Dr. Chiung-Jen Wu, Taiwan(Left), Dr. Se Hun Kang South Korea(Right Middle), Dr. Jung-Min Ahn, South Korea(Right)

Dr. Marie-Claude Morice (France) is the Director of the Interventional Cardiology Department at the Institut Cardiovasculaire Paris Sud and President of the European Cardiovascular Research Center (CERC). A pioneer in interventional cardiology, she played a key role in landmark trials like RAVEL and SYNTAX, contributing to the development of drug-eluting stents. With over 300 peer-reviewed publications, she received the Geoffrey O. Hartzler Master Clinical Operator Award (2014) and the Andreas Grüntzig Ethica Award (2021).

Evolving insights into “Neoatherosclerosis”

Dr. Renu Virmani (USA) is a renowned cardiovascular pathologist and former President and Medical Director of the CVPPath Institute. Her groundbreaking work on vulnerable plaques has advanced the understanding of myocardial infarction and sudden cardiac death. She also contributed significantly to research on *Neoatherosclerosis* in DES and BMSs, shedding light on restenosis and stent failure. With over 600 publications, seven books, and 100 book chapters, her achievements have earned her prestigious honors, including the TCT Career Achievement Award (2012), the Gold Medal Award at the European Society of Cardiology Congress, and the “Master of the Masters” Award at TCTAP (2021).

You’ve really been incredibly important in the contributions you’ve made in our understandings of the basics, of the mechanisms and progression of atherosclerosis, a vulnerable plaque, vascular responses to stents and other devices, and so much more. And you’ve done it in such an incredibly credible way, always scientific at its heart, and always with a clear intent to educate and to strive for the truth. *(Gregg W. Stone)* It was someday in October 2005, I met Dr. Virmani for the first time, and I asked her if I can work at CVPPath and she immediately said OK you can come, and my dream time started. Working with her is like riding a roller coaster which is so exciting every day and 3 years was so quick for me. *(Gaku Nakazawa)* There are people who are experts then there are experts of the experts. And in my opinion, not being too biased about this, she is the expert of the experts. There are people out there who cannot be replaced in terms of their knowledge and their understanding of certain areas, and I think Dr. Virmani qualifies for that. And I think that a lot of people including myself have benefitted from her knowledge and learning from her. I hope it would pass on through the generations. *(Aloke V. Finn)*



2014, Dr. Renu Virmani, USA



2014, Dr. Renu Virmani, USA



2012, Dr. Renu Virmani, USA(Right), Dr. Akiko Maehara, USA(Left)



2015, Dr. Renu Virmani, USA(Left), Dr. Akiko Maehara, USA(Right)



2016, Dr. Alope V. Finn, USA

Dr. Alope V. Finn (USA) is an Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and serves as the Medical Director and Chief of Research at CVPath Institute. His research focuses on the molecular mechanisms of mTOR inhibitors, macrophage phenotypes in atherosclerosis, and the cardiovascular impact of COVID-19 with over 200 peer-reviewed publications.



2006, Dr. Keiichi Igarashi Hanaoka, Japan

Dr. Keiichi Igarashi Hanaoka (Japan) is the Director of the Hanaoka Seishu Memorial Cardiovascular Clinic in Sapporo, Japan. He has contributed to advancing interventional cardiology, particularly in optimizing antiplatelet therapy for patients undergoing coronary interventions. Dr. Yean-Leng Lim (Australia) has been a Professor of the Centre for Cardiovascular Therapeutics at Western Health, University of Melbourne. He has contributed to the fields of cardiovascular medicine and interventional cardiology across Australia, Singapore, and China.



2008, Dr. Yean-Leng Lim, Australia



2014, Dr. Eveline Regar, Germany

Dr. Eveline Regar (Germany) is a senior interventional cardiologist at Erasmus MC in Rotterdam, specializing in advanced the clinical use of invasive diagnostics like IVUS and OCT in treating coronary artery disease. She has authored or co-authored around 300 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, disseminating valuable findings in interventional cardiology.



2008, Dr. Eveline Regar, Germany(Left), Dr. Gary S. Mintz, USA(Right)



2024, Dr. Eveline Regar, Germany(Left), Dr. Akiko Maehara, USA(Right)



Adorable Joan of Arc's

Dr. Roxana Mehran (USA) is a Professor at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and the Director of Interventional Cardiovascular Research and Clinical Trials. She has led numerous global studies, developed risk scores for bleeding and kidney injury, and contributed to national clinical guidelines. Her landmark TWILIGHT trial, published in *The New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM)* in 2019, evaluated ticagrelor monotherapy after PCI. With over 1,000 peer-reviewed articles and 200,000 citations, she is a prominent figure in cardiovascular research. A strong advocate for women in medicine, particularly cardiology, she co-founded Women as One to support women physicians' careers. Her achievements include receiving the Bernadine Healy Leadership Award in 2017, the Nanette Wenger Award in 2018, the Andreas Gruntzig Award, and the Ellis Island Medal of Honor in 2019. She has contributed to TCTAP for over 20 years and has been nominated as a "Master of the Masters" Award at TCTAP in 2025.

As a vivid memory, almost every year when she attended our TCTAP meetings, she would visit our hospital (AMC) and join us in performing complex PCI cases in the cath lab. We learned a great deal from each other, and she had a particular interest in left main stenting procedures. She was the first female interventional cardiologist in our lab and one of the most remarkable and elegant doctors I have ever known. She always greeted us with a kind smile. And as time passed, Dr. Young-Hak Kim from our department had the opportunity to pursue postdoctoral research training under her mentorship at Columbia University.



2009, Dr. Roxana Mehran, USA



2012, Dr. Roxana Mehran, USA



2012, Dr. Roxana Mehran, USA



2015, Dr. Roxana Mehran, USA(Left), Dr. David Joel Cohen, USA(Right)



2009, Dr. Roxana Mehran, USA



2008, Dr. Roxana Mehran, USA

Cost-Benefit, Benefit!

Dr. David J. Cohen (USA) currently serves as the Director of Clinical and Outcomes Research at the Cardiovascular Research Foundation (CRF) in New York and as the Director of Academic Affairs at St. Francis Hospital & Heart Center in Roslyn, New York. Dr. Cohen specializes in applying cost-effective methodologies to cardiovascular interventions, providing critical insights into their economic value. His research also emphasizes patient-centered outcomes, offering a deeper understanding of how treatments affect patients' quality of life and well-being. With over 500 scientific articles published in prestigious journals such as *the New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM)*, *The Lancet*, and *JAMA*, Dr. Cohen's work has significantly influenced the fields of interventional cardiology and health economics. His extensive contributions have solidified his reputation as a leading figure in cardiovascular research and clinical practice, bridging innovation with patient care and economic sustainability.

One unforgettable experience was performing a valve-in-valve (VIV) TAVR procedure together, during which we learned the technique of fracturing the pre-existing surgical valve for the first time. With all our effort, we inflated the balloon, and at the moment the valve fractured, the indentation on the balloon suddenly disappeared. Startled, we thought the aortic root might have ruptured. After a brief pause, we all burst into applause.



2014, Dr. David Joel Cohen, USA



2024, Dr. David Joel Cohen, USA(Left), Dr. Eberhard Grube, Germany(Right)



2017, RT. Jin Seok Roh, South Korea, Dr. Ho Jin Kim, South Korea, Dr. Seung-Jung Park, South Korea, Dr. David Joel Cohen, USA, Dr. Do-Yoon Kang, South Korea, Dr. Duk-Woo Park, South Korea, and RN. Ju Hee Kim, South Korea(from the Left)



2015, Dr. Valentin Fuster, USA



2015, Dr. Valentin Fuster, USA(Right), Dr. Pawel E. Buszman, Poland(Left)

Dr. Valentin Fuster (USA) is a renowned Spanish-American cardiologist, currently serving as President of Mount Sinai Heart and Physician-in-Chief of The Mount Sinai Hospital, as well as leading Spain's National Center for Cardiovascular Research (CNIC). His research has advanced the understanding and treatment of cardiovascular diseases, particularly atherosclerosis, thrombosis, and platelets' role in myocardial infarction, contributing to the development of drug-eluting stents. With over 1,000 scientific articles and more than 319,000 citations. He served as Editor-in-Chief of *JACC* from 2014 to 2024, during which time he offered me the honor of being Deputy Editor. In 2015, Dr. Fuster graciously accepted my invitation to attend the TCTAP meeting. At that time, the abstracts from our TCTAP meeting were being published as a *JACC supplement*, making his attendance a significant source of support and influence for our cardiology community. Dr. Pawel E. Buszman (Poland) is a full professor at the Medical University of Silesia, Katowice. He is a pioneer in interventional cardiology and has introduced innovative methods for treating heart and vascular diseases in Poland.



Crazy Left Main Stenting

Dr. Seung-Jung Park (South Korea) is a Chair Professor at the University of Ulsan, Asan Medical Center in Seoul, Korea. He advanced left main (LM) stenting as an alternative to CABG, demonstrated that IVUS-guided stenting leads to better outcomes, and emphasized the utilization of Fractional Flow Reserve (FFR) for optimizing patient care. He conducted a groundbreaking study on preventive PCI for non-ischemic vulnerable plaques, known as the PREVENT study. With over 724 papers, he has led landmark trials such as MAINCOMPARE, DES-LATE, PRECOMBAT, BEST, DECISION CTO, OCTIVUS, POST-PCI and PREVENT, which were primarily published in *NEJM* and *The Lancet*. He is the founder of the CardioVascular Research Foundation (CVRF) and TCTAP. His contributions have earned numerous prestigious awards, including the Andreas Grüntzig Ethica Award at EuroPCR (2005), the Career Achievement Award at TCT (2008), the Asan Medical Award (2011) and the Ho-Am Prize in Medicine (2020).

Dr. Park was a pioneer and is the leader in the treatment of Left Main Intervention. (*Gary S. Mintz*) It is a major achievement. Let's say having one article once for a person. But something major four times? Only very few people do that, so Dr. Park is a major contributor. (*Marie-Claude Morice*) First, Dr. Park, as a leader with regard to technique, certainly has been a pioneer in helping us to innovate new ways to manage complex coronary disease. (*Martin Bert Leon*) Dr. Park has actually now become one of the world's foremost proponents on how to use fractional flow reverse. There's no room for error in treating the left main, and more than 30 years ago, it was demonstrated that coronary artery bypass graft surgery, compared to medical therapy, is the standard of care. But this was met with a lot of skepticism by the general medical community and surgeons in particular. It is extremely difficult to get an article published in the New England Journal. It might be, you know, at most 5 out of 100 papers that get submitted to the New England Journal, whatever gets published. And these are only the best of the best. (*Gregg W. Stone*)



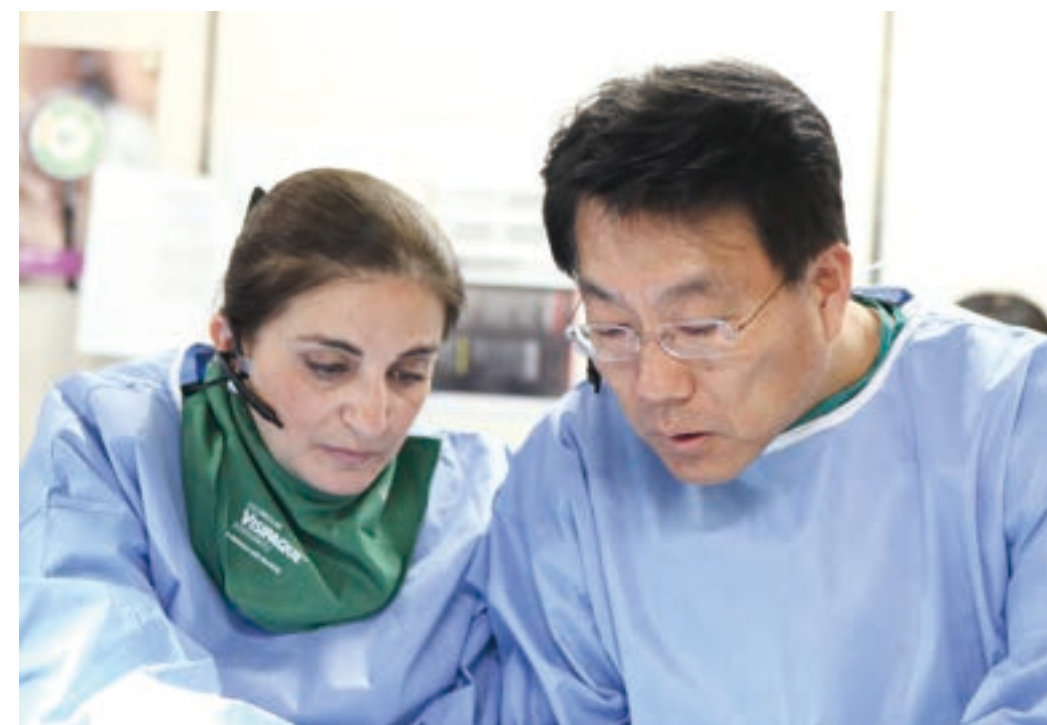
2024, Dr. Seung-Jung Park, South Korea



2011, Dr. Seung-Jung Park, South Korea(Right), Dr. Gregg W. Stone, USA(Left)



2011, Dr. Seung-Jung Park, South Korea(Middle),
Dr. Alain G. Cribier, France(Left),
Dr. Young-Hak Kim, South Korea(Right)



2010, Dr. Seung-Jung Park, South Korea(Right), Dr. Roxana Mehran, USA(Left)



2024, Dr. Duk-Woo Park, South Korea, Dr. Do-Yoon Kang, South Korea, Dr. David Joel Cohen, USA, Dr. Jung-Min Ahn, South Korea, Dr. Hansu Park, South Korea, Dr. Faisal Yousef Almajid, Kuwait, and Dr. Seung-Jung Park, South Korea(from the Left)



2008, Dr. Seong-Wook Park, South Korea



2010, Dr. Jae-Joong Kim, South Korea

Dr. Seong-Wook Park (South Korea) is a distinguished cardiologist at Asan Medical Center in Seoul. He had previously led the carotid stenting procedure and coronary brachytherapy in AMC cardiology. He is a co-founder of TCTAP. Dr. Park has held several key positions at Asan Medical Center, including serving as the hospital's president from January 2011 to December 2016. He is currently the President & CEO of Asan Healthcare System. Dr. Park has been recognized for his leadership within the medical community. Dr. Jae-Joong Kim (South Korea) is a professor in the department of cardiology at AMC, specializing in heart transplantation. He has performed the country's first heart transplantation as the chief of the Heart Transplant Team in 1992.



2017, Dr. Jae-Kwan Song, South Korea



2012, Dr. Jong-Min Song, South Korea

Dr. Jae-Kwan Song (South Korea) is a professor in the department of cardiology at AMC, specializing in valvular heart disease. He leads specialized clinics focusing on aortic valve stenosis, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, and valvular diseases. Dr. Jong-Min Song (South Korea) is a professor in the department of cardiology at AMC, specializing in valvular heart disease. He has served as the Director of the Heart Institute since September 2023. He specializes in valvular heart diseases, congenital heart diseases, aortic diseases, Marfan syndrome, and pulmonary hypertension. They were all key members over the past 30 years who played a central role in advancing the Department of Cardiology at Asan Medical Center.

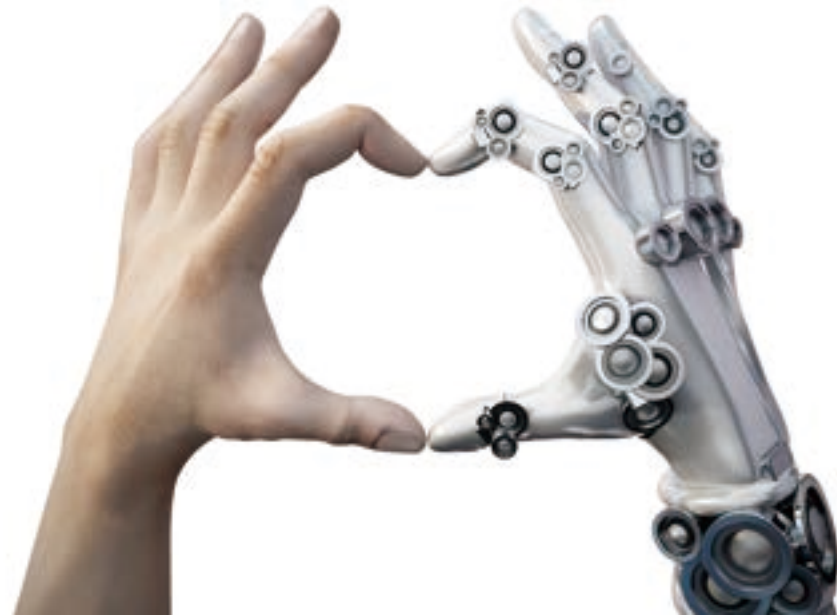


2017, Dr. Myeong-Ki Hong, South Korea



2017, Dr. Myeong-Ki Hong, South Korea(Middle), Dr. Akiko Maehara, USA(Left), Dr. Bon-Kwon Koo, South Korea(Right)

Dr. Myeong-Ki Hong (South Korea) is a Professor of Medicine at Severance Hospital, Yonsei University College of Medicine, and a leader in interventional cardiology. His groundbreaking research in image-guided coronary PCI, particularly using IVUS, has shaped the field. He has led landmark trials such as RESET, IVUS-XPL, and DETECT OCT, all of which were published in *The Lancet*, and has authored over 500 articles, advancing the clinical application of intravascular imaging.



Artificial Intelligence

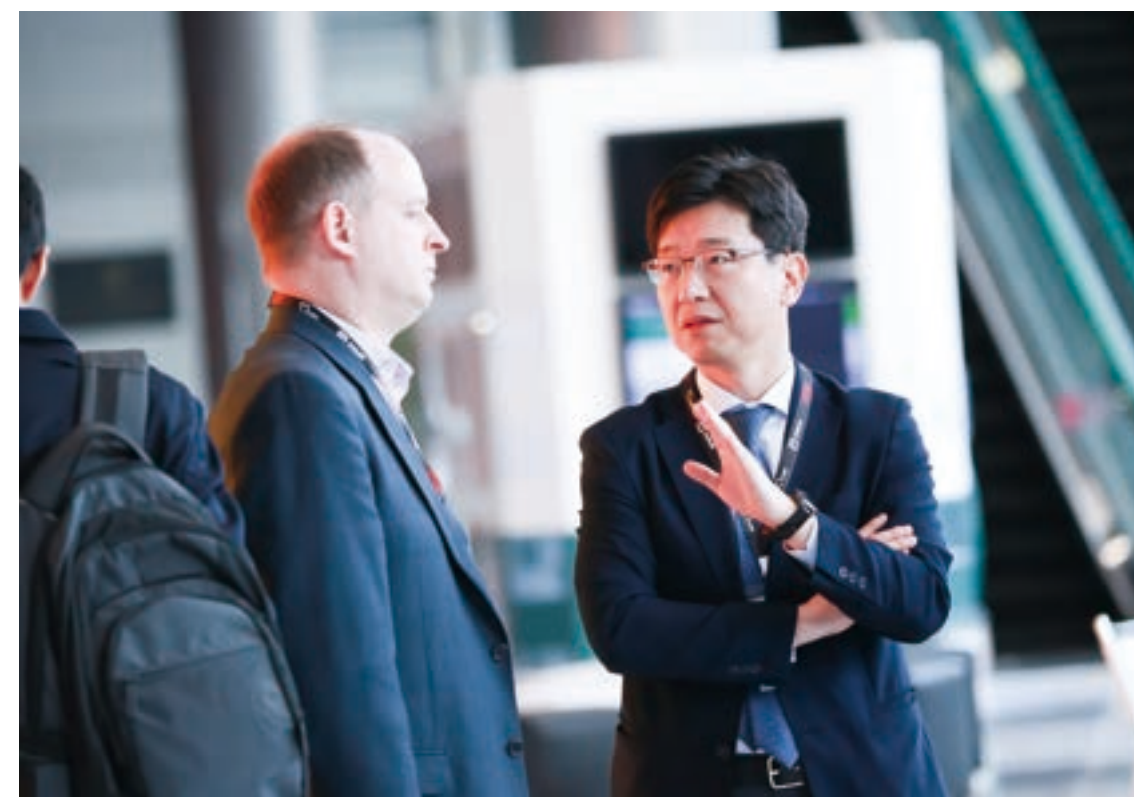
Dr. Young-Hak Kim (South Korea) is a Professor of Medicine at Asan Medical Center, University of Ulsan College of Medicine, and a prominent cardiologist. He co-authored the landmark PRECOMBAT study, published in *NEJM* in 2011, which compared stents and bypass surgery for left main coronary artery disease. With over 800 citations, this study highlights his impact on the field. He is currently leading efforts to integrate big data and artificial intelligence into clinical practice to advance patient care and medical research.



2015, Dr. Young-Hak Kim, South Korea



2012, Dr. Young-Hak Kim, South Korea(Left), Dr. Roxana Mehran, USA(Right)



2016, Dr. Young-Hak Kim, South Korea(Right), Dr. James Flaherty, USA(Left)



2016, Dr. Soo-Jin Kang, South Korea



2010, Dr. Gary S. Mintz, USA(Left), Dr. Soo-Jin Kang, South Korea(Right)

Dr. Soo-Jin Kang (South Korea) is a Professor of Internal Medicine at Asan Medical Center and an expert in IVUS imaging. She contributed to optimizing stent deployment strategies for left main coronary artery disease. She developed the “5-6-7-8” rule for minimal stent area (MSA) thresholds in LM bifurcation stenting and identified the correlation between IVUS-measured minimal lumen area of 4.8 mm^2 corresponds to a fractional flow reserve (FFR) of <0.80 in LM stenosis. She is now leading efforts to integrate artificial intelligence (AI) with IVUS imaging to drive innovation in the field.



NEJM, NEJM!

Dr. Duk-Woo Park (South Korea) is a Professor of Interventional Medicine at Asan Medical Center, University of Ulsan College of Medicine. His research focuses on revascularization strategies, PCI vs. CABG for left main and multivessel disease, antiplatelet therapies, and transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR). With over 550 peer-reviewed publications, he has contributed significantly to interventional cardiology. He has led landmark trials such as MAINCOMPARE, DES-LATE, ADAPT-TAVR, POST-PCI, and EPIC-CARD, all of which have been published in leading medical journals, including *the New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM)*, solidifying his reputation in the global cardiology community.



2019, Dr. Duk-Woo Park, South Korea



2018, Dr. Duk-Woo Park, South Korea, Dr. Pil Hyung Lee, South Korea, Dr. Sang-Cheol Cho, South Korea(from the Right)

In recognition of his contributions, he received the Douglas P. Zipes Distinguished Young Scientist Award from the American College of Cardiology in 2012, becoming the first Asian and youngest recipient at that time. He was appointed deputy editor of *the Journal of the American College of Cardiology, Asia* in 2021 and serves as the co-chair of the TCTAP conference.



2009, Dr. Nae Hee Lee, South Korea, Dr. Patrick W. Serruys, Ireland, Dr. Yoshinobu Onuma, Ireland, Dr. Duk-Woo Park, South Korea(from the Left)



2024, Dr. Duk-Woo Park, South Korea

A Trailblazer

Dr. Jung-Min Ahn (South Korea) is a Professor of Interventional Medicine at Asan Medical Center, University of Ulsan College of Medicine. His clinical expertise spans fractional flow reserve (FFR), transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR), and chronic total occlusion (CTO) interventions. He has authored over 500 publications in top peer-reviewed medical journals, including *The New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM)* and *The Lancet*. One of his most notable achievements is the landmark BEST trial, which compared the effectiveness of PCI and CABG in patients with multivessel coronary artery disease. Published in the *NEJM*, the study has been cited over 580 times. He also served as the principal investigator of the ASSURE-DES trial, which evaluated perioperative antiplatelet therapy in patients with drug-eluting stents undergoing non-cardiac surgery. Furthermore, he was the co-principal investigator of the FLASH trial, which demonstrated the noninferiority of Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based automated QCA compared to OCT-guided PCI. He serves as the co-chair of the TCTAP conference.



2018, Dr. Jung-Min Ahn, South Korea



2018, Dr. Jung-Min Ahn, South Korea(Right), Dr. Ziad A. Ali, USA(Left)



2019, Dr. Jung-Min Ahn, South Korea(Right),
Dr. Horst Sievert, Germany(Left)



2019, Dr. Jung-Min Ahn, South Korea(Left), Dr. Joo Myung Lee, South Korea(Right)



2018, Dr. Do-Yoon Kang, South Korea



2023, Dr. Do-Yoon Kang, South Korea

Dr. Do-Yoon Kang (South Korea) is an Associate Professor of Interventional Medicine at Asan Medical Center, University of Ulsan, specializing in optimizing PCI with advanced imaging and physiology and innovations in transcatheter valve interventions. He has contributed to major studies like POST-PCI, OCTIVUS, and EPIC-CARD and has published around 60 papers in top journals, including *NEJM* and *Circulation*. A leading expert in MitraClip procedures, he has extensive experience, particularly in Southeast Asia.



2019, Dr. Do-Yoon Kang, South Korea(Left), RT. Jun Ho Lim, South Korea(Right)



2016, Dr. Jung-Sun Kim, South Korea(Right), RT. Han Seong Bae, South Korea(Left)



2022, Dr. Dae-Hee Kim, South Korea

Dr. Jung-Sun Kim (South Korea) is a Professor of Division of Cardiology, Yonsei University College of Medicine. He has played a pivotal role in percutaneous mitral valve repair (MitraClip) procedures. Dr. Dae-Hee Kim (South Korea) is a Professor of Asan Medical Center and the University of Ulsan College of Medicine. His expertise lies in multimodality cardiac imaging, including echocardiography, computed tomography (CT), and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), with a particular focus on valvular heart diseases. He has an extensive publication record and his work has garnered over 7,200 citations, reflecting his significant impact on the field.





2009, Dr. James Flaherty, USA



2015, Dr. Ho Lam, Hong Kong, China



2024, Dr. Faisal Yousef Almajid, Kuwait



2014, Dr. Euihong Ko, Japan

Dr. James D. Flaherty (USA) is a professor of medicine at the Feinberg School of Medicine and serves as a distinguished interventional cardiologist at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. He specializes in TAVR and complex PCI. Dr. Ho Lam (Hong Kong, China) is interventional cardiologist serving as Consultant at Tuen Mun Hospital. He specializes in TAVR and complex PCI. Dr. Faisal Yousef Almajid (Kuwait) is a senior specialist in interventional cardiology and structural heart disease at Farwaniya Hospital. Dr. Euihong Ko (Japan) is a distinguished interventional cardiologist, currently serving at Kokura Memorial Hospital in Fukuoka. He specializes in TAVR, conducts research on the association between aortic valvular complex calcification burden and outcomes. All of them are distinguished cardiologists who have trained in interventional cardiology and are alumni of Asan Medical Center in Seoul, South Korea.



2017, Dr. Antonio Colombo, Italy, Dr. Cheol Hyun Lee, South Korea, RT. Tae Jung Moon, South Korea(from the Right)



2024, Dr. Hansu Park, South Korea



2024, Dr. Soo Yeon An, South Korea



2024, Dr. Eun-Seok Shin, South Korea(Left), Dr. Hyun Sook Kim, South Korea(Right)

Dr. Cheol Hyun Lee (South Korea) is a professor in the Department of Cardiology at Keimyung University Dongsan Medical Center. Dr. Eun-Seok Shin (South Korea) is a professor in the Department of Internal Medicine at Ulsan University Hospital. She specializes in the advancement of IVUS, OCT, and drug-coated balloons for coronary interventions. Dr. Hyun Sook Kim (South Korea) is a cardiologist affiliated with Hallym University Sacred Heart Hospital, specializing in valvular interventions, aortic aneurysms, and peripheral vascular interventions. Dr. Hansu Park and Dr. Soo Yeon Ahn are third-year interventional cardiology fellows at AMC. I firmly believe that nothing could be accomplished without the passionate dedication of those working tirelessly behind the scenes.



“FFR Is Money!”

FFR-guided PCI Not Only Improved Clinical Outcomes But Also Reduced Healthcare Costs. Dr. David J. Cohen has conducted extensive research on the cost-effectiveness of Fractional Flow Reserve (FFR) measurements in guiding percutaneous coronary interventions (PCI).

The original FAME trial compared FFR-guided PCI to angiography-guided PCI in patients with multivessel coronary artery disease. His economic evaluation demonstrated that FFR-guided PCI not only improved clinical outcomes but also reduced healthcare costs. The study found that the mean cost of a stent procedure was reduced by almost \$2,400 when decision-making was guided by FFR, making it a cost-effective strategy.

In the FAME 2 trial, which compared FFR-guided PCI with best medical therapy in patients with stable coronary artery disease, His cost-effectiveness analysis revealed that while initial costs were higher for FFR-guided PCI, the difference narrowed over time due to reduced rates of urgent revascularization. The incremental cost-effectiveness ratio was estimated at \$36,000 per quality-adjusted life year (QALY), indicating that FFR-guided PCI is economically justified in this patient population.

The FAME 3 trial compared FFR-guided PCI using contemporary drug-eluting stents to coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG) in patients with three-vessel coronary artery disease. While the primary results showed that PCI did not meet the non-inferiority threshold compared to CABG for major adverse cardiac events, cost-effectiveness analyses indicated that FFR-guided PCI was more cost-effective than CABG at three years. This finding suggests that, despite higher initial costs, FFR-guided PCI may offer economic advantages over time in selected patient populations.

Dr. Cohen’s work has been pivotal in showing that FFR-guided PCI strategies improve clinical practice by enhancing both economic and clinical efficiency in managing coronary artery disease.

FFR, FFR!

Dr. Nico Pijls (Netherlands) is a Professor of Cardiology at Catharina Hospital in Eindhoven, Netherlands, and a Knight in the Order of the Netherlands Lion. A pioneer in interventional cardiology, he developed and advanced Fractional Flow Reserve (FFR), leading landmark studies such as DEFER and FAME, which have shaped clinical guidelines. With over 374 publications and 37,427 citations, his work has had a profound impact on cardiovascular research. FFR-guided PCI has now become the gold standard treatment for PCIs, classified as Class 1A in both ACC/AHA and ESC guidelines. He has been honored with the Andreas Grüntzig Ethica Award (2002), the title of Knight in the Order of the Netherlands Lion (2018) and the TCTAP “Master of the Masters” Award (2024).

Nico, I would like to take this opportunity at this award ceremony to thank you for this extraordinary and unique, human, and scientific adventure spanning almost 40 years. I'd like to insist on the fact that it is you who deserves the credit for crystalizing the concept of fractional flow reserve and theorizing its validity. Our magic recipe has been to collaborate openly and synergistically since day one. Nico, I hope you will have the chance to celebrate this award, with the many colleagues and friends who have joined us and have accompanied us on the journey of coronary physiology, many of whom are probably present at TCTAP. *(Bernard De Bruyne)* You often mention that the most valuable part of your career are the more than 20 PhD fellows that you've guided as a professor at a technical university here in Eindhoven. I was one of them to significant careers. But you've also molded these people and made them better people in their daily life. I truly believe that. And this is all recognized because of you. *(Pim Tonino)*



2012, Dr. Nico Pijls, Netherlands(Left), Dr. Hyun Woo Park, South Korea(Right)

Your impact on the field of interventional cardiology has been immense. Whether it's your early work with videodensitometry, or the derivation and validation of fractional flow reserve, or your latest work with absolute coronary flow. But to me, your true legacy is the impact that you've had on so many trainees and colleagues. Your generosity, collaboration, and friendship are unsurpassed. *(William F. Fearon)* I would like to contribute to that since I have known him a long time, and his work as the major translation from the basic experimental fluid dynamic equations into the clinical realm of applied clinical coronary pathophysiology that has moved beyond the angiogram. So, it's a major milestone, and I'm deeply indebted to Nico and greatly honored to have great fond memories of him coming to Texas to work out the equations that are the basis of his fantastic advance. *(Lance Gould)* You, a cardiologist and also a biomedical engineer, invented fractional flow reserve by linking hemodynamics with coronary physiology. Through an analysis involving some 40 mathematical equations. Equally impressive, you managed to get that theory, along with its detailed validation, published into *Circulation* in 1993, and I am proud to have worked with you on that foundational paper. Indeed, you are a cardiology master, but you're also a damn good engineer. Congratulations. *(Richard Kirkeeide)* Dear Nico, as a friend and colleague for more than 30 years, it is a great pleasure and honor to congratulate you with your truly deserved title, Master of Masters. We've been working closely together, and we were both satisfied with this cooperation for more than 30 years. I really hope to work with you together in the future, and I wish you all the best. *(Jacques Koolen)* I think you are someone who really made a difference in our cardiological interventional field. And I'm very pleased to call you, I think, a dear colleague and a friend for many, many years. Even though you are so called retired, you still take a deep interest in the science that you also shaped. But what I'm envying most is that you look the same today as when we met, maybe 25 or 30 years ago. Well, I have changed a lot and lost a lot of hair, but you never lost your enthusiasm. *(Gerald Werner)*



2008, Dr. Nico Pijls, Netherlands(Middle), Dr. Ik-Kyung Jang, USA(Left), Dr. Young Dae Kim, South Korea(Right)

One vivid memory I have is of Nico's attendance at our TCTAP meeting starting in 2008, even before we began using FFR at Asan Medical Center (AMC). One day, during a PCI case, I encountered an 80% proximal RCA stenosis and was about to place a stent when an observing physician asked, 'Why aren't you doing FFR?' Out of curiosity, I performed FFR, which showed a value of 0.86. I was truly surprised that an 80% severe stenotic lesion had a negative FFR. Additionally, follow-up tests, including treadmill exercise, a thallium scan, and a stress echo, were all negative. After encountering this mismatched case, we began using FFR at AMC in 2009. We then conducted extensive computational simulation studies on its flow dynamics, discovering that factors such as lesion eccentricity, length, and roughness significantly influence coronary flow. Over time, through data collection (IRIS FFR registry) and research, we became firm FFR believers.

Since 2009, we have actively implemented FFR in our practice, resulting in a 40% reduction in unnecessary PCI and, believe it or not, approximately a 60% reduction in CABG surgeries. It also took a long time to convince the surgeons as well. Costs decreased, and patient outcomes improved. It took us 15 years, and 30 years from Nico's initial concept, to fully realize its impact. Nico truly deserves the title of 'Master of Masters,' and I am profoundly grateful for his pioneering contributions.



2008, Dr. Nico Pijls, Netherlands



2024, Dr. Nico Pijls, Netherlands



2014, Dr. William F. Fearon, USA



2014, Dr. William F. Fearon, USA

Dr. William F. Fearon (USA) is a Professor of Medicine at Stanford University Medical Center, known for his pioneering work in coronary physiology, particularly the development and validation of Fractional Flow Reserve (FFR). As the principal investigator of landmark trials like the FAME series, he played a crucial role in the global adoption of FFR in clinical practice. With over 300 peer-reviewed publications, his leadership in the FAME 3 trial has provided valuable insights into the effectiveness of FFR-guided PCI versus CABG, influencing clinical decision-making and patient management for multivessel coronary artery disease.



2023, Dr. Nils Johnson, USA

Dr. Nils Johnson (USA) is a Professor in the Department of Cardiology at McGovern Medical School, UTHealth Houston, with a focus on coronary physiology, particularly linking non-invasive perfusion imaging and intracoronary hemodynamics. He has led major international trials such as CONTRAST and DEFINE-FLOW. His current research includes quantitative FFR pullbacks (PPG registry) and studying aortic valve physiology through the SAVI-AoS initiative. He has published over 140 papers and received numerous awards, including the Rombach Award (2005), Young Clinical Investigator Award from AHA (2009), and Young Author Achievement Award from ACC (2011).



2023, Dr. Nils Johnson, USA(Right), Dr. Jung-Min Ahn, South Korea(Left)

A memory lingering in my mind: Nils was the most handsome doctor I've ever known. When I first met him, I thought a movie star, Leonardo DiCaprio, had walked in!



2018, Dr. Javier Escaned, Spain

Dr. Javier Escaned (Spain) is the Head of the Interventional Cardiology Section at Hospital Clínico San Carlos, specializing in intracoronary imaging and coronary physiology. With over 550 published scientific articles, he has made significant contributions to interventional cardiology. As a principal investigator, he has led landmark studies like ADVISE II, DEFINE FLAIR, and SYNTAX II. In 2022, he was honored with the Silver Medal and the Andreas Grüntzig Award from the European Society of Cardiology in recognition of his exceptional contributions to the field.



2024, Dr. Carlos Collet, Belgium

Dr. Carlos Collet (Belgium) is a distinguished interventional cardiologist at OLV Hospital Aalst, Belgium, specializing in cardiac CT, IVUS, OCT, and coronary physiology. With over 300 peer-reviewed articles, he has made significant contributions to cardiac imaging and physiology.



2023, Dr. Bon-Kwon Koo, South Korea

Dr. Bon-Kwon Koo (South Korea) is a Professor of Cardiology at Seoul National University Hospital, South Korea, specializing in image- and physiology-guided PCI. He led the landmark FLAVOUR trial, comparing FFR-guided and IVUS-guided PCI, published in *NEJM*. He played a key role in introducing the concept of FFR to South Korea and promoting its widespread recognition. Dr. Joo Myung Lee (South Korea) is a Professor of Internal Medicine at Samsung Medical Center, Sungkyunkwan University. His research focuses on coronary physiology and microvascular dysfunction. He contributed significantly to the RENOVATE-COMPLEX-PCI study, published in *NEJM* in 2023. Dr. Joo-Yong Hahn (South Korea) is a Professor of Medicine at Sungkyunkwan University, Samsung Medical Center. He has led major clinical trials, including the SMART-DATE trial and the RENOVATE-COMPLEX-PCI study, published in *The Lancet* and *NEJM*.



2015, Dr. Joo Myung Lee, South Korea



2024, Dr. Joo-Yong Hahn, South Korea





2009, Dr. Alaide Chieffo, Italy

Dr. Alaide Chieffo (Italy) is the Director of Research at the Interventional Cardiology Unit of San Raffaele Hospital in Milan, Italy, and a Professor at Vita-Salute San Raffaele University. With over 420 publications and more than 17,484 citations, she has made significant contributions to interventional cardiology. In 2008, she first attended our meeting alongside Dr. Antonio and has been consistently supporting us ever since. I would like to thank her once again. Back then, to the best of my memory, she was the most beautiful doctor. Dr. Issam D. Moussa (USA) is the Medical Director of the Carle Heart & Vascular Institute. His work has significantly advanced the understanding and management of cardiovascular diseases, particularly in the integration of artificial intelligence into clinical practice.

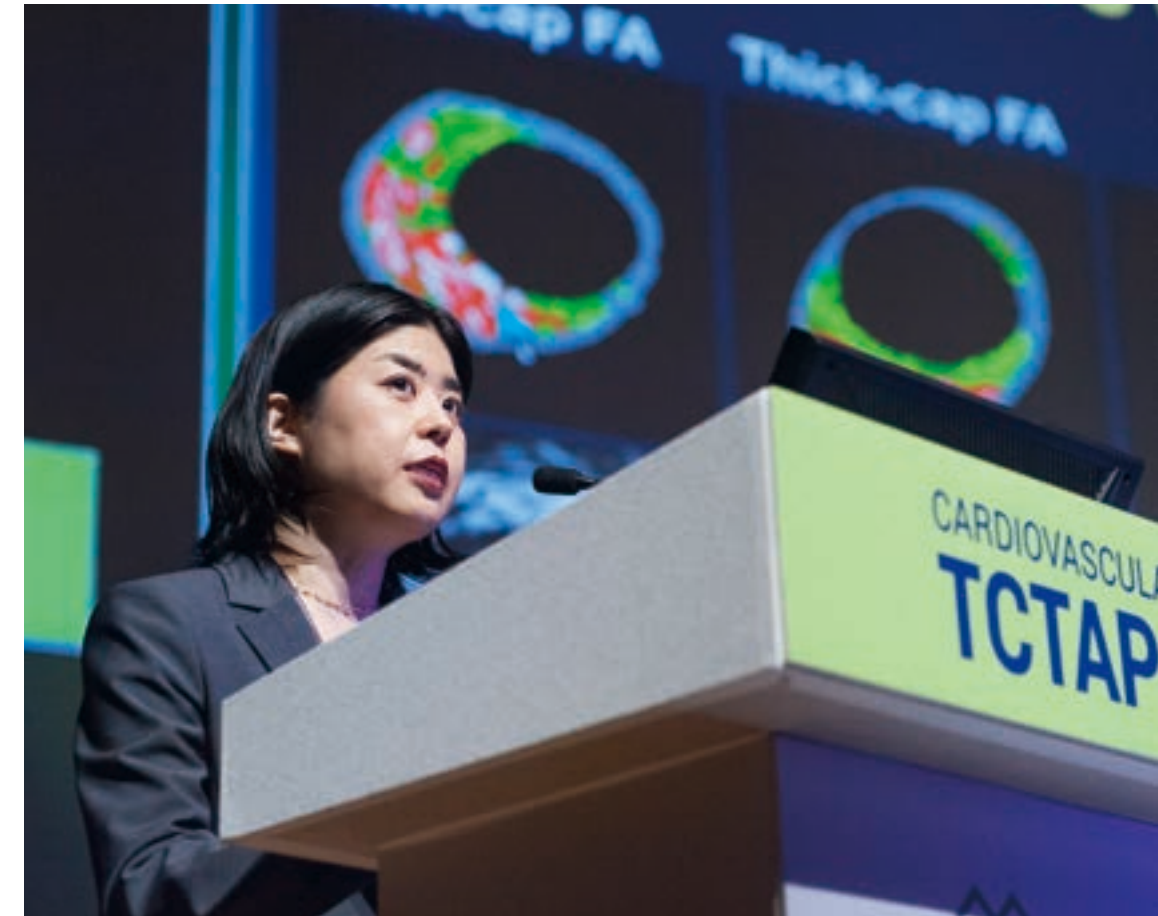


2010, Dr. Alaide Chieffo, Italy(Right), Dr. Issam D. Moussa, USA(Left)



2012, Dr. Alaide Chieffo, Italy

Dr. Akiko Maehara (USA) is a Professor of Medicine at Columbia University and Director of the Intravascular Imaging and MRI Core Laboratories at the Cardiovascular Research Foundation (CRF). Her pioneering work in intravascular imaging techniques, including IVUS, OCT, and near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS), has advanced the assessment and treatment of coronary artery disease. Dr. Maehara's contributions have significantly enhanced the understanding of coronary plaque morphology and the optimization of percutaneous coronary interventions. With over 300 publications and more than 32,000 citations, she has had a significant impact on cardiovascular medicine. She received the Katherine D. Stultz Award from Stanford University in 1999. A memory that lingers in my mind, she has been a dedicated supporter of the TCTAP meeting since 2010, offering insightful lectures and meaningful contributions. I am deeply grateful for her friendship and invaluable support.



2014, Dr. Akiko Maehara, USA



2016, Dr. Akiko Maehara, USA



2015, Dr. Akiko Maehara, USA



2017, Dr. Akiko Maehara, USA(Right), Dr. William F. Fearon, USA(Left)



2012, Dr. Adnan Kastrati, Germany



2019, Dr. Chuck Simonton, USA

Dr. Adnan Kastrati (Germany) is the Chief Physician and Deputy Director at the German Heart Center Munich, specializing in acute coronary syndrome, DES, and antithrombotic therapies. As the leader of the "ISARESEARCH" program, he has authored over 800 publications, contributing significantly to cardiovascular medicine. Dr. Chuck Simonton (USA) has served as Vice President and Chief Medical Officer at Abiomed, focusing on advancing medical devices. He led programs resulting in FDA approvals for carotid stents, MitraClip, and Absorb BVS, and contributed to significant trials like EXCEL and COAPT.



2016, Dr. Chuck Simonton, USA, Dr. Alan C. Yeung, USA, Dr. Akiko Maehara, USA, Dr. Antonio Colombo, Italy (from the Left)



2019, Dr. Yoshinobu Onuma, Ireland

Dr. Yoshinobu Onuma (Ireland) is a Professor of Interventional Cardiology at the National University of Ireland, Galway. Known for his expertise in both non-invasive and invasive coronary imaging, he has contributed to advancements in quantitative coronary angiography, bifurcation analyses, and the development of the SYNTAX Score and multi-slice CT with over 500 publications.



2024, Dr. Yoshinobu Onuma, Ireland(Middle), Dr. Takashi Akasaka, Japan(Left), Dr. Youngkeun Ahn, South Korea(Right)

Dr. Takashi Akasaka (Japan) is a Professor at Wakayama Medical University, specializing in OCT and coronary physiology. With over 1,000 publications and more than 32,000 citations, his work has significantly advanced coronary imaging and physiology. Dr. Youngkeun Ahn (South Korea) is a Professor at Chonnam National University Hospital, specializing in acute myocardial infarction, heart failure, and innovative therapies.



2014, Dr. Hyo-Soo Kim, South Korea



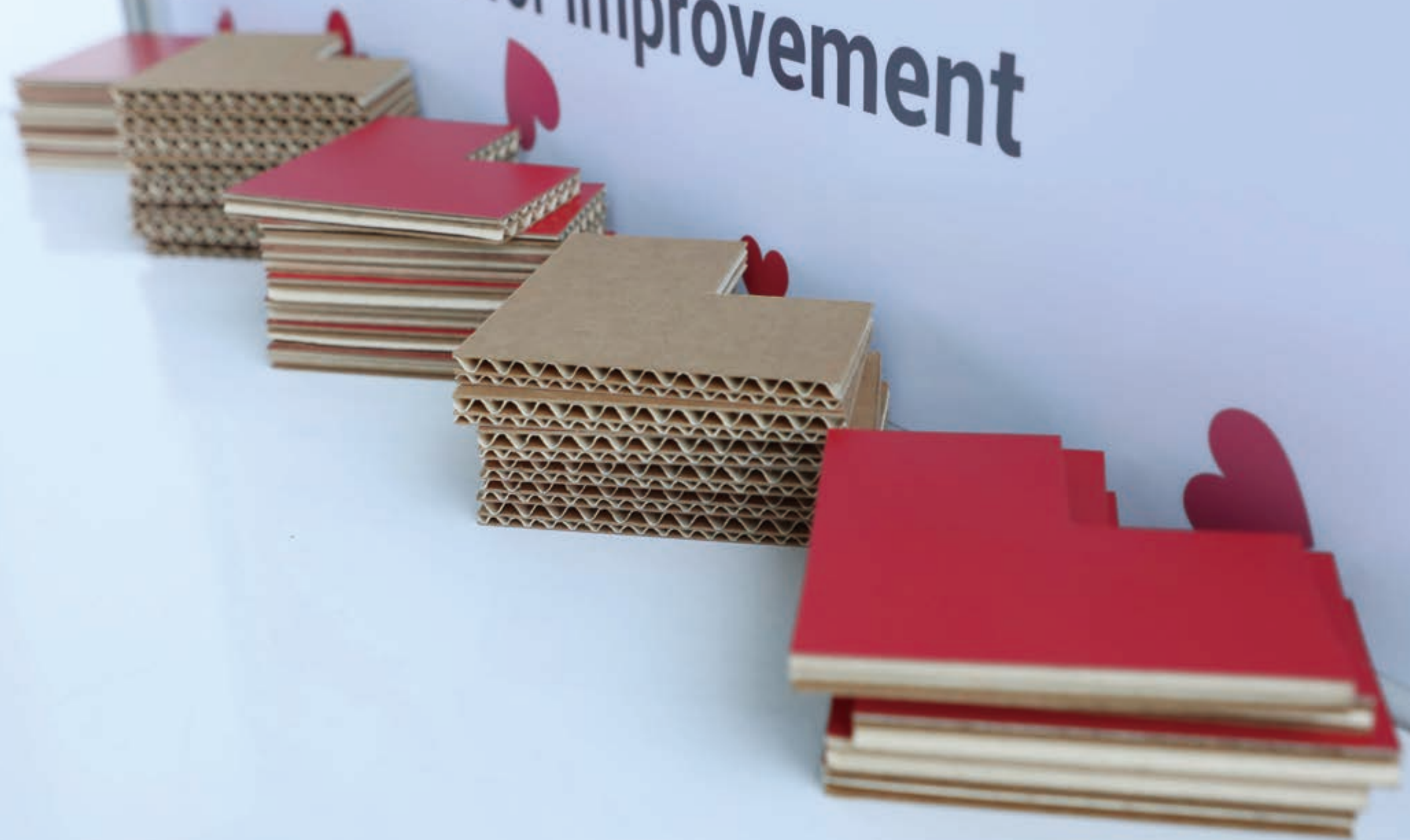
2014, Dr. Kyung Woo Park, South Korea



2018, Dr. Kyung Woo Park, South Korea

Dr. Hyo-Soo Kim (South Korea) is a professor at Seoul National University College of Medicine, a pioneer in TAVR in Korea, and the developer of the “Magic Cell” program for heart tissue regeneration using stem cell biology. He has led landmark trials like the HOST-EXAM and HOST-REDUCE-POLYTECH-ACS studies, published in *The Lancet*. Dr. Kyung Woo Park (South Korea) is a Professor at Seoul National University Hospital, specializing in cardiovascular interventions, particularly in PCI using drug-eluting stents (DESS) and advancements in antiplatelet therapy. He led landmark trials like the HOST-ASSURE and HOST-EXAM studies, published in *The Lancet*, which explored antiplatelet therapies.

... suggestions for improvement





2023, Dr. Tullio Palmerini, Italy

Dr. Tullio Palmerini (Italy) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences at the University of Bologna. His research focuses on the efficacy of newer-generation DESs, antithrombotic therapy, and the influence of gender on acute coronary syndrome treated with PCI. He has authored or co-authored over 176 publications in prestigious international journals, including *The Lancet*, *JAMA*, *Circulation*, and *JACC*.



2010, Dr. Davide Capodanno, Italy

Dr. Davide Capodanno (Italy) is a Professor of Cardiology at the University of Catania, with primary research interests in antithrombotic therapy, trial design, and biostatistics in cardiology research. He has authored over 500 manuscripts published in peer-reviewed journals and 17 textbook chapters. Currently, he serves as Editor-in-Chief of *EuroIntervention* and Associate Editor of *the European Heart Journal*.



2023, Dr. Sripal Bangalore, USA

Dr. Sripal Bangalore (USA) is a Professor of Medicine at NYU School of Medicine. He is the principal investigator of the ISCHEMIA-CKD trial and has authored over 400 articles in top medical journals, including *NEJM*, *The Lancet*, and *JAMA*. Dr. Bangalore received the Douglas P. Zipes Distinguished Young Scientist Award from the American College of Cardiology in 2016 for his significant contributions to interventional cardiology.



2024, Dr. Shamir R. Mehta, Canada

Dr. Shamir R. Mehta (Canada) is a Professor at McMaster University and the Principal Investigator of the COMPLETE trial, which demonstrated the benefits of complete revascularization in STEMI patients with multivessel disease, published in *NEJM*. He has been involved in pivotal studies like PCI-CURE, CURRENT-OASIS 7, RIVAL, and TIMACS with over 230 publications.



2023, Dr. George D. Dangas, USA

Dr. George D. Dangas (USA) is a Professor of Medicine and Surgery at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, known for his expertise in minimally invasive cardiac and vascular interventions. With over 500 publications, including the textbook *Interventional Cardiology Principles & Practice*, he has made significant contributions to the field.



2024, Dr. Mamas Mamas, UK

Dr. Mamas Mamas (UK) is a Professor of Cardiology at Keele University, specializing in using large-scale electronic healthcare data to improve the diagnosis, treatment, and outcomes of cardiovascular diseases. His research covers interventional cardiology, cardio-oncology, and multimorbidity. With over 850 peer-reviewed manuscripts, he is recognized as one of the top 100 health pioneers in the UK. He also serves as the Senior Clinical Editor at TCTMD.



2023, Dr. Kentaro Hayashida, Japan



2016, Dr. Kentaro Hayashida, Japan(Left),
Dr. Alain G. Cribier, France(Right)



2016, Dr. Sung Han Yoon, USA, Dr. Kentaro Hayashida, Japan, Dr. Alain G. Cribier, France(from the Left)

Dr. Kentaro Hayashida (Japan) is an Assistant Professor of Cardiology at Keio University School of Medicine in Tokyo, Japan, and a leader in advancing TAVI procedures. Performing around 200 cases annually, he focuses on minimally invasive techniques and has developed criteria to predict vascular complications, improving patient outcomes. Internationally recognized, he serves as a prominent TAVR proctor, training and mentoring interventional cardiologists worldwide.



2024, Dr. Tsuyoshi Kaneko, USA



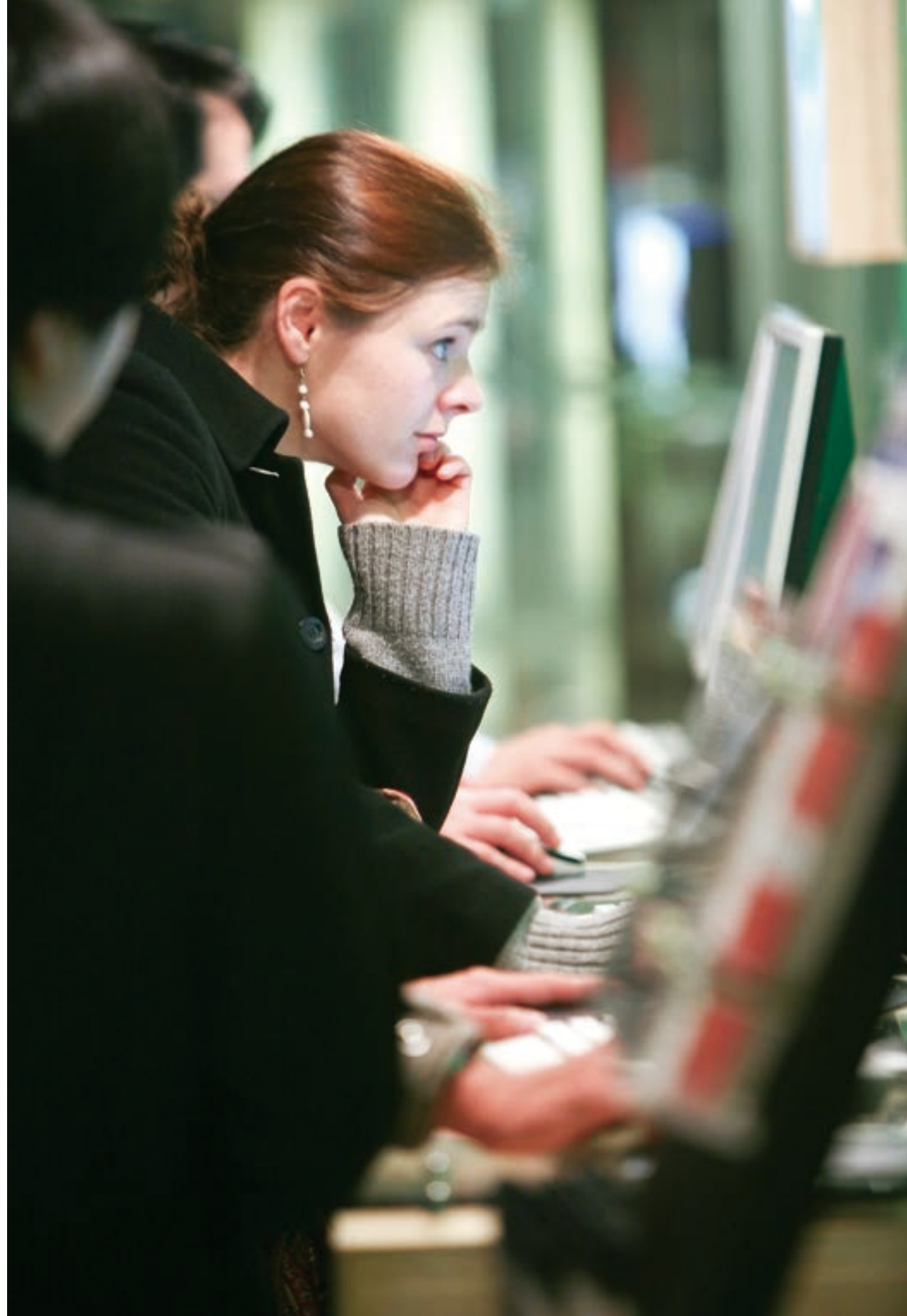
2024, Dr. Didier Tchetché, France



2023, Dr. David Hildick-Smith, UK

Dr. Tsuyoshi Kaneko (USA) is the Chief of Cardiac Surgery at Washington University in St. Louis and Barnes-Jewish Hospital, holding the John M. Shoenberg Chair in Cardiovascular Disease. An innovator in transcatheter valve therapies and minimally invasive surgery, he has authored over 200 manuscripts and 10 book chapters, significantly advancing cardiac surgery. Dr. Didier Tchetché (France) is the Head of the Structural Heart Disease Program at Clinique Pasteur in Toulouse, France. With over 5,000 TAVR procedures performed.

Dr. David Hildick-Smith (UK) is a Professor of Interventional Cardiology at the University of Sussex and Consultant Cardiologist at the Sussex Cardiac Centre. An expert in structural heart disease, he has advanced TAVR, mitral interventions, and closure techniques. He has authored over 400 peer-reviewed publications.



2009, TCTAP, "Anna Scott from Notting Hill", Photo by HS Kim



2018, Dr. Kambis Mashayekhi, Germany



2023, Dr. Kambis Mashayekhi, Germany(Left),
Dr. Hsien-Li Kao, Taiwan(Right)



2024, Dr. Scott Harding, New Zealand

Dr. Kambis Mashayekhi (Germany) is the Head of Cardiology at the MediClin Heart Center in Lahr, Germany. Performing over 350 CTO PCI procedures annually, he has published more than 100 peer-reviewed articles. Recognized as a global expert, he was elected President of the EuroCTO Club for the 2023-2026 term. Dr. Scott Harding (New Zealand) is a Professor at Wellington and Wakefield Hospitals in New Zealand, specializing in complex coronary diseases, including CTO, and has performed over 1,000 interventions. He has authored over 100 peer-reviewed papers.



2018, Dr. Gerald Werner, Germany



2019, Dr. Gerald Werner, Germany



2023, Dr. Dimitrios Karpaliotis, USA

Dr. Gerald Werner (Germany) is a Professor at Friedrich-Schiller University in Jena, Germany, known for his groundbreaking work in coronary imaging and the treatment of CTOs. He was one of the first to describe intramural coronary hematoma and subintimal vessel pathways during CTO recanalization. With over 150 peer-reviewed publications, his contributions have significantly advanced cardiovascular medicine. Dr. Dimitrios Karpaliotis (USA) is an interventional cardiologist at Morristown Medical Center, specializing in CTO PCI techniques.



2023, Dr. Samir R. Kapadia, USA(Left), Dr. David Joel Cohen, USA(Right)

Dr. Samir R. Kapadia (USA) is a Professor at the Lerner College of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University, specializing in complex PCI and minimally invasive treatments for valvular heart diseases, including TAVR and MitraClip. With over 1,000 TAVR procedures performed and more than 1,000 published manuscripts, Dr. Kapadia is recognized as one of the top 0.1% most highly cited researchers in interventional cardiology.



2024, Dr. Dominick J. Angiolillo, USA

Dr. Dominick J. Angiolillo (USA) is a Professor of Medicine at the University of Florida, specializing in acute coronary syndromes, thrombosis, and antiplatelet therapy. With over 650 peer-reviewed articles and 60,000 citations, he is recognized among the top 1% of most-cited researchers.



2015, Dr. Susheel Kodali, USA



2010, Dr. Juan F. Granada, USA(Left), Dr. Ajay J. Kirtane, USA(Right)

Dr. Susheel Kodali (USA) is the Director of the Structural Heart & Valve Center at NewYork-Presbyterian/ Columbia and a Professor of Medicine at Columbia University. A pioneer in TAVR, he played a key role in the groundbreaking PARTNER trials, shaping structural heart disease interventions. Dr. Juan F. Granada (USA) is an Assistant Professor at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, known for developing and validating endovascular imaging and device technologies in clinical use worldwide. In September 2017, he became the President and CEO of CRF. Dr. Ajay J. Kirtane (USA) is a Professor at Columbia University Irving Medical Center, specializing in complex coronary and peripheral vascular interventions. He has authored over 350 manuscripts and contributed to the textbook *Coronary Stenting*.



CABG, CABG!

Dr. David Paul Taggart (UK) is a Professor of Cardiovascular Surgery at the University of Oxford, renowned for his transformative contributions to Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting (CABG) and arterial revascularization. He served as the principal investigator of the ART (Arterial Revascularization) trial, published in *NEJM* in 2016, and has been involved in major studies like the EXCEL trial. With over 340 peer-reviewed papers, his research and leadership have significantly advanced cardiovascular surgery, improving surgical techniques and outcomes for coronary artery disease patients.

One vivid memory is of Dr. Taggart attending the TCTAP meeting for over two decades and engaging in debates with interventional cardiologists. Through trials like MAINCOPRE, PRECOMBAT, SYNTAX, BEST, and EXCEL, he consistently led discussions on the efficacy of PCI versus CABG for left main and multivessel disease. His sharp analysis and data-driven arguments were captivating, and I had the privilege of participating in a debate on left main disease, where he always emerged victorious. His invaluable contributions and dedication to TCTAP are deeply appreciated.



2013, Dr. David Paul Taggart, UK



2005, Dr. David Paul Taggart, UK



2019, Dr. David Paul Taggart, UK



2016, Dr. David Paul Taggart, UK(Right), Kyeong Hwa Kim, South Korea(Left)



2009, Dr. Nicolaus J. Reifart, Germany



2009, Dr. Sun-Yang Min, South Korea, Dr. Nicolaus J. Reifart, Germany, Dr. Soon Jun Hong, South Korea, Dr. Won-Jang Kim, South Korea(from the Left)

Dr. Nicolaus J. Reifart (Germany) served as the Chief Physician of the Cardiology Department at Petrus Hospital in Wuppertal until 2020, specializing in chronic total occlusion (CTO) PCI. As a founding member and the first president of the Euro CTO Club, he has been instrumental in promoting best practices and advancing education in this specialized field. Dr. Soon Jun Hong (South Korea) is an interventional cardiologist at Korea University Anam Hospital in Seoul, South Korea. His expertise includes combination therapy, PCI, AMI, and extracorporeal membrane oxygenation. Dr. Sun-Yang Min (South Korea) is a cardiologist at the Health Screening and Promotion Center of Asan Medical Center.



2011, Dr. John Robert Laird, Jr., USA

Dr. John Robert Laird, Jr. (USA) is the Vice President and Chief Medical Officer for the Peripheral Vascular Health operating unit at Medtronic and an internationally renowned interventional cardiologist with over 30 years of experience. He specializes in carotid artery disease, aortic aneurysms, and PAD. Dr. Seong-Wook Park (South Korea) is currently the President & CEO of Asan Healthcare System and a co-founder of TCTAP. Dr. Seung-Whan Lee (South Korea) is a professor of cardiology at AMC. He has co-authored the DECISION-CTO trial provided valuable insights into the management of CTO.



2006, Dr. John Robert Laird, Jr., USA(Right), Dr. Seong-Wook Park, South Korea(Left)



2010, Dr. John Robert Laird, Jr., USA(Right), Dr. Seung-Whan Lee, South Korea(Middle), Dr. Jon Suh, South Korea(Left)



2013, Dr. Richard R. Heuser, USA



2012, Dr. Imad Sheiban, Italy



2006, Dr. Jacques J. Koolen, Netherlands

Dr. Richard R. Heuser (USA) was a former Professor of Medicine at the University of Arizona College of Medicine and a prolific inventor with 24 patents for catheters, stents, and other medical devices. He passed away in May 2024 at the age of 73. My deepest condolences and tribute go to his remarkable contributions to interventional cardiology. Dr. Imad Sheiban (Italy) is the Director of Interventional Cardiology at Pederzoli Hospital in Verona, specializing in complex PCI, particularly for left main, bifurcation, and diffuse coronary artery diseases. Dr. Jacques J. Koolen (Netherlands) is the Head of the Department of Cardiology at Catharina Hospital in Eindhoven, specializing in optimizing stent deployment by comparing QCA, IVUS, and FFR.



2012, Dr. Horst Sievert, Germany(Right), Dr. Won-Jang Kim, South Korea(Left)



2024, Dr. Horst Sievert, Germany

Dr. Horst Sievert (Germany) is the Director of the CardioVascular Center Frankfurt at Sankt Katharinen Hospital, Germany. A pioneer in interventional cardiology, he was the first to perform percutaneous left atrial appendage closure. He has authored more than 400 publications and contributed to over 100 books. His numerous accolades include the TCT Geoffrey O. Hartzler Master Clinical Operator Award and the Bleifeld Memorial Award (2013). Dr. Won-Jang Kim (South Korea) is an Assistant Professor of Cardiology at CHA Ilsan Medical Center, affiliated with CHA University, in South Korea. He specializes in TAVR and non-invasive imaging techniques.



The Boss, “Vito Corleone”

Dr. Costantino R. F. Costantini (Brazil) is a trailblazer in cardiovascular medicine, renowned for his groundbreaking contributions to the field. In 1979, he performed the first coronary angioplasty in Latin America in Curitiba, Brazil, a historic achievement that revolutionized cardiological care in the region. Since 2000, he has organized the annual symposium “CardioInterv,” now one of the most significant scientific events in Latin America. This prestigious gathering unites leading national and international specialists to discuss cutting-edge advancements in cardiology and features live case demonstrations, driving innovation and collaboration. In recognition of his visionary work, Dr. Costantini was awarded the *Prêmio Personalidades TOPVIEW 2024* in the Health Personality category, underscoring his transformative impact on cardiology in Brazil. His unwavering dedication to advancing cardiovascular medicine, coupled with his commitment to patient care and medical education, has firmly established him as a global leader and a true pioneer in the field.

A vivid memory from about 15 years ago takes me back to Curitiba, Brazil, where I had the privilege of visiting Dr. Costantino. Together, we performed a left main (LM) stenting case in the cath lab and had insightful discussions about the utility of IVUS, showcasing his remarkable understanding even back then. The passionate and focused atmosphere in the cath lab left a lasting impression on me. That evening, I had the honor of dining with Dr. Costantino and his family at their home. Experiencing Costantino’s warm generosity and charisma, I couldn’t help but think of him as being exactly like Vito Corleone, the iconic boss from *The Godfather*, one of my favorite movies. These cherished memories remain vivid, and I hold deep respect and admiration for him.



2012, Dr. Costantino R. F. Costantini, Brazil



2010, Dr. William A. Gray, USA



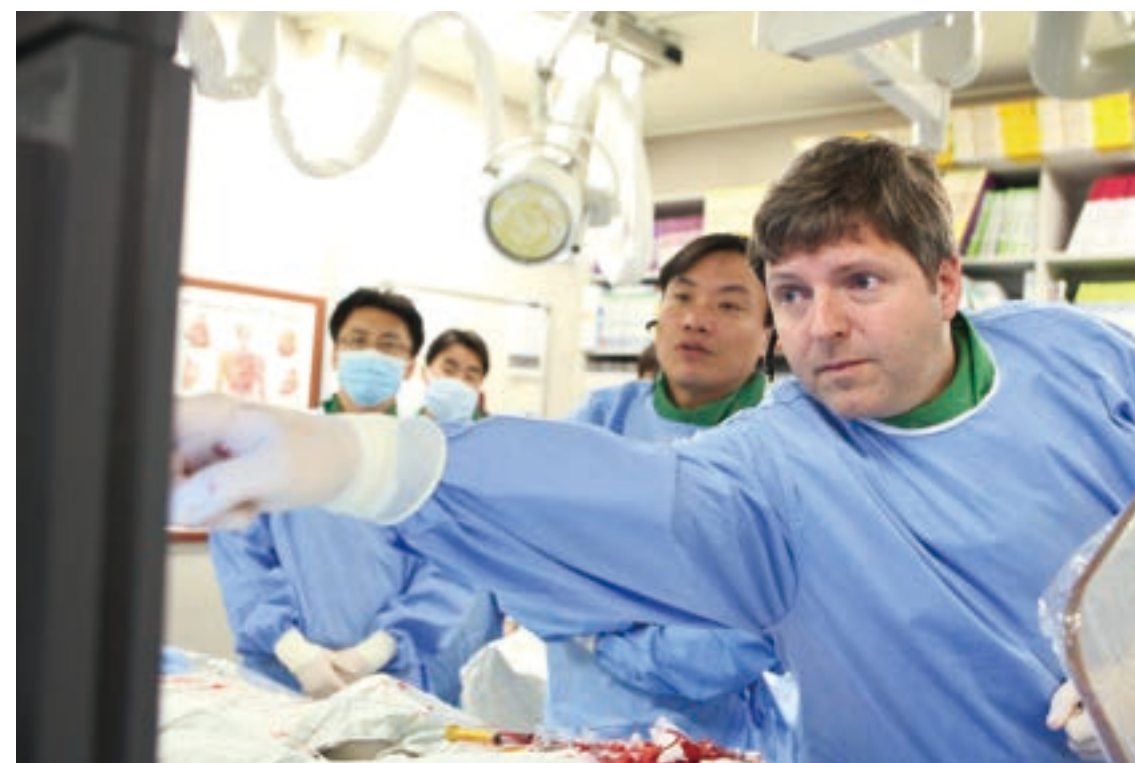
2024, Dr. William A. Gray, USA

Dr. William A. Gray (USA) is the System Chief of Cardiovascular Services at Main Line Health and President of the Lankenau Heart Institute in Pennsylvania. Specializing in cardiac and structural interventions, including PAD diagnosis and non-surgical treatments like carotid stenting and left atrial appendage occlusion, he has led over 50 clinical trials. He has attended TCTAP for nearly 20 years, and his dedication and support are deeply appreciated. These two photos are 15 years apart.



2012, Dr. Mark W. Burket, USA(Right), Dr. Young-Guk Ko, South Korea(Left)

Dr. Mark W. Burket (USA) is a Professor of Medicine at the University of Toledo, specializing in treating peripheral vascular and venous diseases, including varicose veins. Dr. Young-Guk Ko (South Korea) is a Professor at Yonsei University's Severance Hospital, specializing in endovascular aneurysm repair (EVAR), thoracic endovascular aortic repair (TEVAR), and peripheral interventions.



2010, Dr. Dierk Scheinert, Germany(Right), Dr. Seung Hyuk Choi, South Korea(Left)

Dr. Dierk Scheinert (Germany) is a Professor of Angiology at the University of Leipzig Medical Center, Leipzig, Germany. His research interests encompass the developing and refining minimally invasive techniques for endovascular treatment of Peripheral Artery Disease. Dr. Seung Hyuk Choi (South Korea) is a Professor of Medicine at Sungkyunkwan University School of Medicine. He specializes in TAVR and peripheral artery interventions.





2006, Dr. In-Ho Chae, South Korea



2013, Dr. Donghoon Choi, South Korea



2012, Dr. Bong-Ki Lee, South Korea

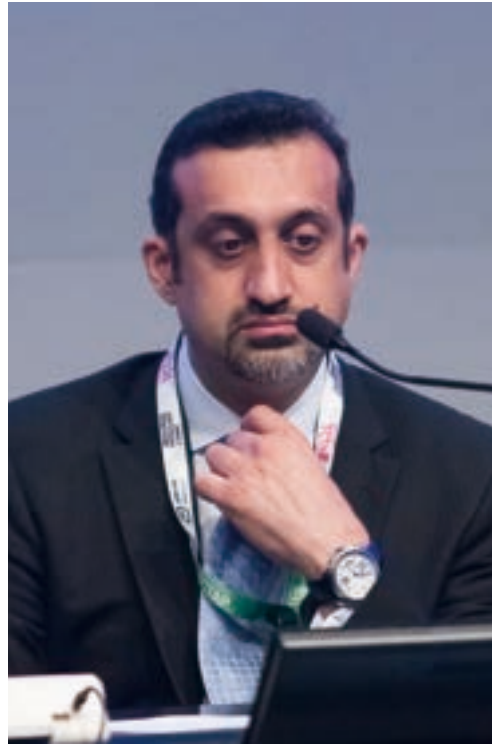


2018, Dr. Byeong-Keuk Kim, South Korea

Dr. In-Ho Chae (South Korea) is a professor in the Department of Internal Medicine and Chief of the Cardiovascular Center at Seoul National University Bundang Hospital. He specializes in TAVR, aortic aneurysms and peripheral vascular intervention. Dr. Donghoon Choi (South Korea) is a Professor of Cardiology at Yonsei University College of Medicine, specializing in the management of aortic aneurysms and dissections, as well as the treatment of peripheral artery diseases. Dr. Bong-Ki Lee (South Korea) is a Professor of Cardiology at Kangwon National University School of Medicine. He specializes in complex coronary intervention. Dr. Byeong-Keuk Kim (South Korea) is a Professor of Cardiology at Yonsei University College of Medicine, specializing in CTO interventions. He has co-authored several landmark studies, including the RACING trial and the OCCUPI trial, both published in *The Lancet*.



2018, Dr. Lawrence A. Garcia, USA



2015, Dr. Ravish Sachar, USA



2008, Dr. Krishna Rocha-Singh, USA



2016, Dr. Jian'an Wang, China

Dr. Lawrence A. Garcia (USA) practices at The Vascular Care Group in Wellesley, Massachusetts, and is an internationally recognized expert in peripheral vascular disease. Dr. Ravish Sachar (USA) is the Physician-in-Chief at North Carolina Heart and Vascular Hospital, specializing in carotid artery disease, PAD, and critical limb ischemia. Dr. Krishna Rocha-Singh (USA) is the Associate Medical Director at the Prairie Heart Institute. He has contributed to endovascular therapies for Peripheral Arterial Disease. He served as a co-principal investigator for the REALITY study.

Dr. Jian'an Wang (China) is a distinguished cardiologist renowned for his contributions to interventional cardiology and cardiovascular research. He currently serves as the Chair of the Heart Center at the Second Affiliated Hospital of Zhejiang University School of Medicine, where he is also a professor and associate dean. He has been instrumental in establishing one of Asia's largest valvular heart disease programs. In December 2020, Dr. Wang was appointed as the inaugural Editor-in-Chief of *JACC: Asia*.





2007, Dr. James R. Margolis, USA(Right), Dr. Joo-Young Yang, South Korea(Left)

Dr. James R. Margolis (USA) dedicated over five decades to cardiovascular medicine, specializing in interventional cardiology. Based in Coral Gables, Florida, he was affiliated with multiple institutions, including HCA Florida Aventura Hospital. As a pioneer in PCI, he advanced minimally invasive techniques. He passed away on January 6, 2023, leaving a lasting legacy. For over 20 years, he was a valued contributor to the TCTAP meeting. We extend our deepest condolences and gratitude for his contributions to the field.



2007, Dr. James R. Margolis, USA

A memory that lingers in my mind is of Dr. James R. Margolis, who served as the Program Director of the Interventional Cardiology International Symposium, an annual conference held in Snowmass Village, Colorado. It beautifully reflected his dual passions for medical innovation and skiing, bringing together leading figures in interventional cardiology from around the world. Jim invited me to the Snowmass meeting in 2000, where the Korean Session was first created. For the next 15 years, I attended the meeting almost every year, and it deepened my love for skiing.

One day, I stood at the top of the Snowmass summit, 3,000 meters above sea level. Everything around me was covered in pristine white snow, and I could see the distant mountains and tiny houses far below. As I skied down the wide, empty slope, I was deeply moved by the breathtakingly vast landscape unfolding before me. It was a completely different world from the one I am living in now. That night, on the way down the mountain after having dinner at Jim's cabin, I was awestruck once again as I gazed up at a sky filled with countless sparkling stars. I had never seen so many stars shining so brilliantly. Vincent van Gogh's "The Starry Night" suddenly came to mind. On a quiet, peaceful night, a troubled soul painted swirling, midnight-blue stars, and I felt a bit melancholic. I walked down the snow-covered mountain path, thinking of Don McLean's sorrowful song Vincent— *'Starry, starry night, for one as beautiful as you, this world was never meant.'*

These beautiful memories of Snowmass have become unforgettable treasures for me. Now, returning to Snowmass with my daughter has become a cherished item on my bucket list.



2009, Aspen, "Winter Whispers in Snowmass", Photo by SJ Park



2010, Dr. Bernhard Meier, Switzerland

Dr. Bernhard Meier (Switzerland) served as a Senior Consultant at the University Hospital Inselspital Bern, Switzerland. In 1977, he assisted Dr. Andreas Grüntzig in performing the world's first coronary angioplasty. His pioneering work earned him prestigious honors, including the Ethica Award (2009), the Geoffrey O. Hartzler Master Clinical Operator Award at TCT (2013), and Lifetime Achievement Awards in the USA and Germany (2014). Dr. Nae Hee Lee (South Korea) and Dr. Jon Suh (South Korea) specialize in CTO PCI.



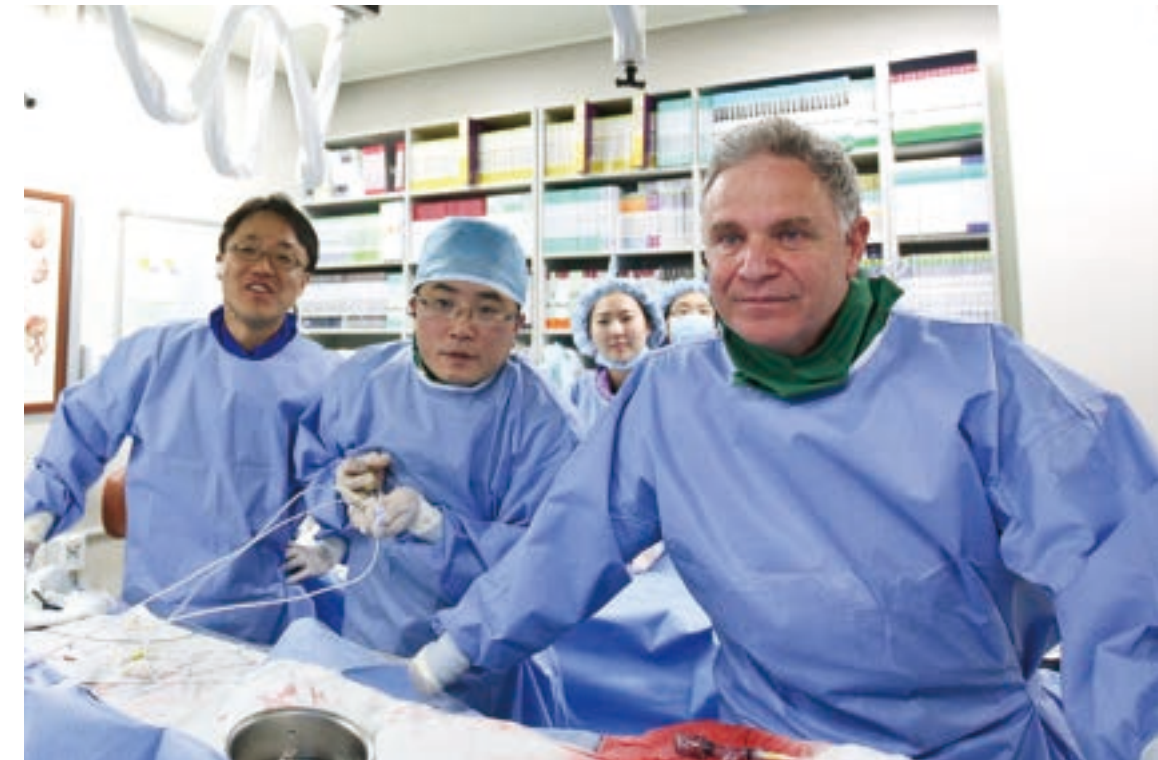
2010, Dr. Bernhard Meier, Switzerland(Right), Dr. Nae Hee Lee, South Korea(Middle), Dr. Jon Suh, South Korea (Left)



2008, Dr. Bernhard Meier, Switzerland(Left), Dr. Martin Bert Leon, USA(Right)



2011, Dr. Ron Waksman, USA



2011, Dr. Ron Waksman, USA(Right), Dr. Jae Sik Jang, South Korea(Middle), Dr. Duk-Woo Park, South Korea(Left)

Dr. Ron Waksman (USA) is the Associate Director of Cardiology at MedStar Washington Hospital Center, with nearly three decades of expertise in advanced interventional cardiology technologies. He has authored over 310 manuscripts and 20 book chapters and serves as the director of the annual CRT meeting. He provided significant support during TCTAP's early days. Dr. Jae Sik Jang (South Korea) is a renowned cardiologist at Dongguk University Ilsan Hospital, specializing in PCI for STEMI and multivessel coronary artery disease.



2017, Dr. Maurice Buchbinder, USA



2011, Dr. David E. Kandzari, USA(Right),
Dr. Won-Jang Kim, South Korea(Middle),
Dr. Haegeun Song, South Korea(Left)



2017, Dr. Corrado Tamburino, Italy(Right), Dr. Pil Hyung Lee, South Korea(Left)

Dr. Maurice Buchbinder (USA) is a distinguished interventional cardiologist in San Diego, California, contributing to the development of numerous interventional devices. A long-time supporter of the TCTAP meeting, he has been involved since its early days. Dr. David E. Kandzari (USA) is the Chief of the Piedmont Heart Institute and has been instrumental in advancing renal denervation. He has authored and co-authored more than 350 studies and book chapters. Dr. Corrado Tamburino (Italy) is a Professor of Cardiology at the University of Catania and a pioneer in Italian cardiology. His research includes advanced coronary interventions and structural heart treatments, such as Italy's first TAVI, MitraClip, Parachute, and Cardioband with over 460 publications. Dr. Pil Hyung Lee (South Korea) is an Associate Professor at Asan Medical Center, specializes in CTO PCIs.



2019, Dr. Satoru Otsuji, Japan

Dr. Satoru Otsuji (Japan) is a Senior Consultant Cardiologist at Higashi Takarazuka Satoh Hospital in Japan, renowned internationally for his expertise in CTO PCI. Dr. Andrejs Erglis (Latvia) is the Chief of the Latvian Centre of Cardiology at Pauls Stradiņš Clinical University Hospital in Riga, Latvia. His primary focus is on advancing left main and structural heart disease interventions. Dr. Sunao Nakamura (Japan) is an interventional cardiologist at Kawasaki Saiwai Hospital in Kawasaki, Japan, widely recognized for his extensive expertise and significant contributions to complex PCI.



2023, Dr. Andrejs Erglis, Latvia(Left), Dr. Chang-Wook Nam, South Korea(Right)



2009, Dr. Sunao Nakamura, Japan(Right), Dr. Seung-Jin Oh, South Korea(Left)



2008, Kurashiki, "A Pint of History", Photo by SJ Park



2010, Dr. Osamu Katoh, Japan



2016, Dr. Etsuo Tsuchikane, Japan



2015, Dr. Toshiya Muramatsu, Japan

Dr. Osamu Katoh (Japan) is a distinguished interventional cardiologist in Japan, renowned for his groundbreaking contributions to CTO PCI. Dr. Etsuo Tsuchikane (Japan) is a distinguished interventional cardiologist in Japan, renowned for advancing the retrograde approach for CTO-PCI. Dr. Toshiya Muramatsu (Japan) is the Chief Director of the Cardiovascular Intervention Center at Tokyo General Hospital, renowned for his expertise in advancing CTO PCI techniques.



2015, Dr. Yasushi Asakura, Japan

Dr. Yasushi Asakura (Japan) is the Co-Director of Cardiovascular Medicine at the Aqur Rehabilitation Hospital in Japan, renowned for his expertise in CTO-PCI. Dr. Takeshi Kimura (Japan) is a Professor in the Department of Cardiovascular Medicine at the Graduate School of Medicine, Kyoto University. A prominent Japanese interventional cardiologist, he has made significant contributions to the fields of IVUS and stent optimization, with an impressive record of over 352 scientific publications. One of his early landmark studies published in *NEJM* in 2001 titled “A Randomized Trial Comparing Coronary-Stent Placement and Balloon Angioplasty in the Treatment of Coronary Artery Disease.”



2009, Dr. Takeshi Kimura, Japan



2010, Dr. Hiroyoshi Yokoi, Japan(Right), Dr. Donghoon Choi, South Korea(Left)

Dr. Hiroyoshi Yokoi (Japan) is the Director of the Cardiovascular Medicine Center at Fukuoka Sanno Hospital in Fukuoka, Japan. He has extensive experience in performing complex endovascular procedures, including treatments for superficial femoral artery disease and chronic total occlusions.



2024, Dr. Hiroyoshi Yokoi, Japan(Left), Dr. Ziad A. Ali, USA(Middle)

Dr. Ziad A. Ali (USA) is the Director of the DeMatteis Cardiovascular Institute, specializing in intravascular imaging, coronary physiology, and interventional techniques. With over 350 publications, he contributed to the landmark ILUMIEN III: OPTIMIZE PCI trial, published in *The Lancet*.



2024, Dr. Yoshinobu Murasato, Japan



2019, Dr. Gaku Nakazawa, Japan



2014, Dr. Yutaka Hikichi, Japan(Left), Dr. Young Joon Hong South Korea(Right)

Dr. Yoshinobu Murasato (Japan) is the Director of the Department of Cardiology at the National Hospital Organization Kyushu Medical Center in Fukuoka, Japan. He has contributed to the understanding of optimal kissing balloon inflation after single-stent deployment in coronary bifurcation models. Dr. Gaku Nakazawa (Japan) is a Professor and Director of the Department of Cardiovascular Medicine at Kindai University Hospital in Osaka, Japan. He has conducted extensive research on intracoronary imaging techniques. Dr. Yutaka Hikichi (Japan) is a distinguished cardiologist affiliated with Saga-Ken Medical Center Koseikan in Saga, Japan. He has conducted research on the impact of stent geometry and techniques on outcomes in bifurcation stenting. Dr. Young Joon Hong (South Korea) is an Associate Professor at Chonnam National University Hospital, specializing in coronary interventions.



Dr. Vincent On-Hing Kwok (Hong Kong, China) is the Director of the Cardiology Centre at the Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital. He has made significant contributions to advancing the field of cardiology.

2024, Dr. Vincent On-Hing Kwok, Hong Kong, China



2009, Dr. Rosli Mohd Ali, Malaysia

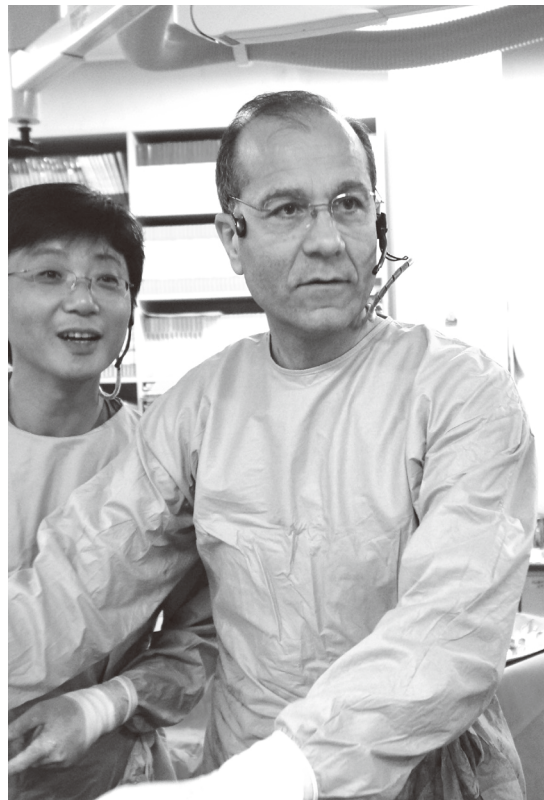


2009, Dr. Junbo Ge, China



2014, Dr. Shao-Liang Chen, China

Dr. Rosli Mohd Ali (Malaysia) is a highly respected and accomplished consultant cardiologist at Cardiac Vascular Sentral Kuala Lumpur (CVSKL). He specializes in complex PCI and TAVR. Dr. Junbo Ge (China) is the Director of Cardiology at Zhongshan Hospital, affiliated with Fudan University in Shanghai. A pioneer in interventional cardiology in China, he has performed numerous complex PCI procedures and introduced innovative techniques to the field. Dr. Shao-Liang Chen (China) is the Chief Director of the Cardiology Department of Nanjing First Hospital at Nanjing Medical University. He developed the Double Kissing Crush (DKCRUSH) technique.



2008, Dr. Gian Battista Danzi, Italy(Right), Dr. Young Jin Choi, South Korea(Left)

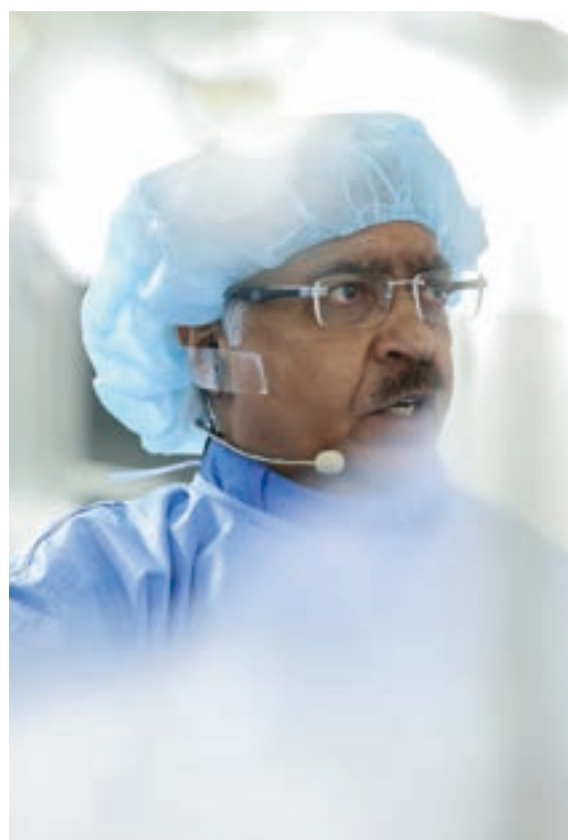


2009, Dr. Thierry Lefevre, France



2023, Dr. Yves R. Louvard, France(Middle), Dr. Fahim Haider Jafary, Singapore(Left), Dr. Seung-Jung Park, South Korea(Right)

Dr. Gian Battista Danzi (Italy) is the Director of Cardiology at Ospedale di Cremona and a highly regarded interventional cardiologist. Dr. Thierry Lefevre (France) is the Head of the Interventional Cardiology Department at the Institut Cardiovasculaire Paris Sud and Jacques Cartier Private Hospital in Massy, France. He has contributed to the advancement of complex procedures, particularly in the treatment of bifurcation lesions. Dr. Yves R. Louvard (France) serves at Jacques Cartier Private Hospital in Massy, France, and is regarded for his expertise in complex PCI procedures, particularly in managing bifurcation lesions.



2017, Dr. Ashok Seth, India



2007, Dr. Robaayah Zambahari, Malaysia



2011, Dr. Hsien-Li Kao, Taiwan

Dr. Ashok Seth (India) is the Chairman of Fortis Escorts Heart Institute in New Delhi, India. Renowned for advancing complex PCIs and innovative procedures, he has performed over 20,000 angioplasties and authored more than 500 peer-reviewed publications. Dr. Robaayah Zambahari (Malaysia) is the Chief Executive Officer of the National Heart Institute in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. She has been actively involved in outreach and education programs to raise awareness of cardiovascular risks and encourage healthier lifestyles.

Dr. Hsien-Li Kao (Taiwan) is a professor and attending physician at National Taiwan University Hospital. A distinguished cardiologist, he has been deeply involved in advancing complex coronary interventions and structural heart disease treatments, with a particular focus on achieving successful outcomes in contemporary CTO PCI and driving innovations in medical devices. Over the past 30 years, Dr. Kao has been a cherished friend and a highly respected mentor.



2008, Dr. Teguh Santoso, Indonesia



2012, Dr. Chiung-Jen Wu, Taiwan



2023, Dr. Wei-Hsian Yin, Taiwan(Left), Dr. Wen-Lieng Lee, Taiwan(Right)

Dr. Teguh Santoso (Indonesia) is a Professor at Universitas Indonesia and a leading expert in interventional cardiology. A key figure in advancing the field in Indonesia and the Asia-Pacific, he has been a dedicated TCTAP contributor for over 20 years. Dr. Chiung-Jen Wu (Taiwan) is an Associate Professor and Director of the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory at Kaohsiung Chang Gung Memorial Hospital in Taiwan, renowned for his pioneering work in transradial coronary interventions. Dr. Wei-Hsian Yin (Taiwan) is a Professor at National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, specializing in structural heart disease interventions mainly in the advancement of TAVR.



2023, TCTAP, "A Break", Photo by HS Kim



2018, Dr. John Graydon Webb, Canada



2019, Dr. Vinayak Bapat, USA



2019, Dr. Jian (James) Ye, Canada

Dr. John Graydon Webb (Canada) is the McLeod Professor of Heart Valve Intervention at UBC, St. Paul's Hospital, in Vancouver, and a pioneer in interventional cardiology, performing several world-first TAVR and transcatheter mitral valve procedures. Dr. Vinayak Bapat (USA) is the Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery at the Minneapolis Heart Institute and a pioneer in valve therapies, performing the first-in-man transcatheter mitral valve implantation with Edwards' FORTIS device.

Dr. Jian (James) Ye (Canada) is a Clinical Professor of Surgery at the University of British Columbia and a pioneer in interventional cardiology, performing the first successful transapical TAVR and advancing transcatheter mitral valve techniques.



2013, Dr. Saibal Kar, USA



2008, Dr. Raj Makkar, USA

Dr. Saibal Kar (USA) is a distinguished interventional cardiologist in Thousand Oaks, California, specializing in structural heart interventions, including mitral and tricuspid valve repair and left atrial appendage occlusion. Dr. Raj Makkar (USA) is the Vice President of Cardiovascular Innovation at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and a global leader in structural heart interventions. Renowned for his expertise in TAVR and MitraClip procedures, he has published over 500 manuscripts in top journals like *NEJM* and *The Lancet*.



2015, Dr. Philippe Genereux, USA

Dr. Philippe Genereux (USA) is the Medical Director of the Structural Heart Program at Morristown Medical Center's Gagnon Cardiovascular Institute in New Jersey. A leader in structural heart disease research, he is spearheading significant clinical trials, including the EARLY TAVR and PROGRESS trials, which are shaping the future of TAVR. With over 350 articles published in peer-reviewed cardiology journals, he is recognized among the top 1% of researchers in clinical medicine.



2023, Dr. Adrian P. Banning, UK

Dr. Adrian P. Banning (UK) is a Professor of Interventional Cardiology at the University of Oxford and a Senior Interventional Cardiologist at John Radcliffe Hospital. A pioneer in interventional cardiology, he has advanced TAVR, performing over 150 procedures annually, as well as drug-eluting stents (DES) and intravascular ultrasound (IVUS). He has led landmark trials such as TAXUS, Endeavour, SYNTAX, EXCEL, SYNTAX II, and NOBLE, optimizing strategies for complex coronary artery disease, with over 450 scientific papers to his name.



2024, Dr. Adrian P. Banning, UK, Dr. Gary S. Mintz, USA, Dr. Spencer B. King III, USA(from the Left)



2024, Dr. Nicolas Van Mieghem, Netherlands



2023, Dr. Pieter Smits, France



2023, Dr. Nicolas Van Mieghem, Netherlands

Dr. Nicolas Van Mieghem (Netherlands) is the Medical Director of Interventional Cardiology at the Thoraxcenter, Erasmus University Medical Center, Rotterdam. His expertise lies in structural heart interventions. Dr. Pieter Smits (France) is the Director of Interventional Cardiology at Maastad Hospital in Rotterdam, Netherlands. He has led major trials like COMPARE, COMPARE II, COMPARE-ACUTE, COMPARE-ABSORB, COMPARE 60/80 HBR, and MASTER-DAPT, contributing to over 250 publications.



2023, Dr. Pieter Smits, France(Left), Dr. Hsien-Li Kao, Taiwan(Right)



2019, Dr. Michael Haude, Germany

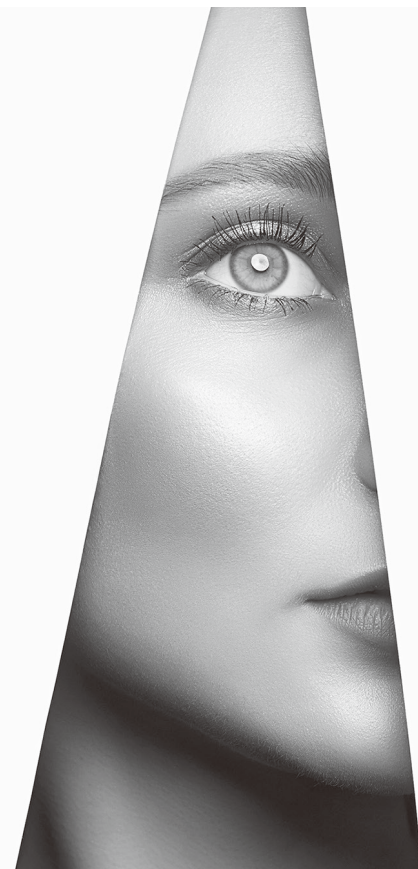


2024, Dr. Bruno Scheller, Germany



2024, Dr. Philippe Garot, France

Dr. Michael Haude (Germany) is the Director of Medical Clinic I at Lukaskrankenhaus, Rheinland Klinikum Neuss, Germany. Specializing in complex PCI, TAVR, and percutaneous valve interventions. Dr. Philippe Garot (France) leads the Interventional Cardiology Department at the Institut Cardiovasculaire Paris Sud in Massy, France. An expert in complex PCI, TAVR, and left atrial appendage closure, he has published over 120 peer-reviewed articles in top journals like *The Lancet* and *The NEJM*. Dr. Bruno Scheller (Germany) is a professor at Saarland University in Homburg, Germany, renowned for his work on drug-coated balloons for coronary and peripheral artery diseases. He has over 400 publications, including in *NEJM* and *The Lancet*, with 14,000 citations. He has performed more than 20,000 coronary and structural interventions.





2009, Dr. Giulio Guagliumi, Italy

Dr. Giulio Guagliumi (Italy) is the Director of Innovation in Interventional Cardiology at IRCCS Ospedale Galeazzi-Sant'Ambrogio in Milan, Italy, specializing in coronary atherosclerosis and stent optimization using OCT imaging. With over 290 publications in top journals like *The NEJM* and *The Lancet*. Dr. John McB. Hodgson (USA) is a Tenured Professor of Medicine at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, and the developer of 'TeachIVUS' and 'TeachFFR,' tools designed to enhance physician training in cardiac imaging and physiology. Dr. Stephen G. Ellis (USA) is a staff cardiologist at the Cleveland Clinic, recognized for his work on DES development and as a principal investigator in the TAXUS IV and V trials.



2013, Dr. John McB. Hodgson, USA



2016, Dr. Stephen G. Ellis, USA



2009, Dr. Marco Valgimigli, Switzerland



2009, Dr. Matthew Price, USA



2019, Dr. John Ormiston, New Zealand

Dr. Marco Valgimigli (Switzerland) is the Director of Cardiovascular Research at the Istituto Cardiocentro Ticino in Lugano, Switzerland, specializing in coronary and structural interventions as well as antithrombotic therapies. He has led landmark studies such as STRATEGY, ADVANCE, and PRODIGY and has co-authored over 700 peer-reviewed manuscripts. Dr. Matthew Price (USA) is the Director of the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory at Scripps Clinic, La Jolla, California, specializing in high-risk PCI, structural heart interventions, and antiplatelet therapy. As the principal investigator of the GRAVITAS trial, he has authored over 140 peer-reviewed manuscripts. Dr. John Ormiston (New Zealand) a professorship in Cardiology at the University of Auckland, New Zealand. He has contributed to the evaluation of groundbreaking technologies, including bioresorbable scaffolds, TAVR, and renal denervation.

Dr. Alexandra J. Lansky (USA) is a Professor of Medicine (Cardiology) at Yale School of Medicine, specializing in coronary artery disease, interventional procedures, and gender-specific cardiovascular health. With over 570 peer-reviewed manuscripts, she is a leading contributor to cardiovascular research. Dr. Angela Hoye (UK) is a Consultant Interventional Cardiologist at Castle Hill Hospital, Hull, UK, specializing in complex PCI, including CTO and ACS with research cited over 10,000 times.



2009, Dr. Alexandra J. Lansky, USA



2012, Dr. Angela Hoye, UK



2023, Dr. Fahim Haider Jafary, Singapore



2018, Dr. Hany Ragy, Egypt(Left),
Dr. Mohamed Sobhy, Egypt(Right)



2024, Dr. Francisco Jose Ayala Riquelme, Chile

Dr. Fahim Haider Jafary (Singapore) is a Senior Consultant in Cardiology at Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Singapore, specializing in complex PCI with intracoronary imaging, atherectomy, and cardiac support. He has published over 50 peer-reviewed articles. Dr. Hany Ragy (Egypt) is a Consultant Cardiologist and Head of the Cardiology Unit at the National Heart Institute in Cairo, Egypt. Performing around 700 PCI procedures annually, he plays a key role in advancing primary PCI for STEMI patients. Dr. Mohamed Sobhy (Egypt) is a Professor of Cardiology at Alexandria University, Egypt, and has played a key role in advancing interventional cardiology in Egypt and the Middle East.

Dr. Francisco Jose Ayala Riquelme (Chile) is a Consultant Cardiologist at Hospital Clínico Universidad de Chile, recognized for his patient-centered care and consistent attendance at the TCTAP meeting every year since 2011.



2023, Dr. Aiste Zebrauskaite, Lithuania



2023, Dr. Aiste Zebrauskaite, Lithuania

Dr. Aiste Zebrauskaite (Lithuania) is an interventional cardiologist at the Hospital of the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences Kaunas Clinics, renowned for her expertise in complex PCIs, including IVUS-guided covered stent implantation for coronary artery perforations and the Shockwave technique for severe calcific disease.



