

Who we are & What we do



ESC

European Society
of Cardiology

“ There has been unimaginable progress in the ways we obtain and use evidence to advance the practice of cardiology. We know the risk factors for heart disease and we know how to treat it. But that is not enough.

We need to persuade and to inspire; to push harder; to do more... and to do it better. ”

Prof. Barbara Casadei, FESC

ESC President 2018 - 2020



Who we are?

The European Society of Cardiology (ESC) is a **volunteer-led, not-for-profit, medical society**. It is an independent, non-governmental organisation.

The ESC's members and decision-makers are healthcare professionals. They give their time and expertise freely, while continuing their daily, high-paced clinical and/or research work. ESC volunteers are world renowned experts. Their opinions are routinely sought and their papers regularly published and referenced.

The ESC is a source of high quality, evidence-based science that pushes the boundaries of cardiovascular medicine.

Ethical integrity

- The ESC operates a Declaration of Interest (DOI) policy. The 2,000 cardiologist volunteers are required to complete an annual DOI. This policy can be reviewed at <http://www.escardio.org/DOI>. We also adhere to the Alliance for Biomedical Research in Europe Code of Conduct.

ESC Board 2018 - 2020



Why the ESC exists

Despite huge advances in cardiovascular medicine, cardiovascular disease (CVD) remains the world's biggest killer.



17.9 million deaths globally
(31% of all deaths)*



80% of premature heart disease
and stroke is preventable*



210 billion €
CVD costs the EU economy an
estimated 210 billion Euros per year*



11 million new cases of CVD in
47 ESC member countries**

CVD includes all the diseases of the heart and circulation, including coronary heart disease, angina, heart attack, congenital heart disease and stroke. It's also known as heart and circulatory disease.

*World Health Organisation

**ESC Atlas of Cardiology

The ESC Mission

TO REDUCE THE BURDEN OF CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

Everything the ESC does aims to:

- Advance the prevention, diagnosis and management of diseases of the heart and blood vessels
- Improve scientific understanding of the heart and vascular system

Ultimately, our goal is to **advance cardiovascular science to help people live longer, healthier lives.**





The ESC Community

The ESC is a global organisation that caters for all cardiovascular specialists.

Our diversity is our strength



100,000

scientists, clinicians,
nurses & allied
professions

57

**National Cardiac
Societies**

from Europe and the
Mediterranean basin

47

**Affiliated Cardiac
Societies**

from around
the globe

29

**Subspecialty
Communities**

All cardiology subspecialties

The ESC covers the full spectrum of cardiology through its **29** subspecialty communities: **7** Associations, **15** Working Groups and **7** Councils. This gives us a unique perspective on all areas of cardiovascular science.

Through these networks, the ESC has its **finger on the pulse of cardiovascular medicine.**



“The joy of the ESC is that it brings together this large group of like-minded people who share a passion for cardiovascular disease and its prevention and are willing to walk the extra mile for patient care.”

Prof. Diederick Grobbee, FESC

The ESC's role in fighting cardiovascular disease

The ESC acts in the interests of patients by providing cardiologists with the support and tools they need to deliver the best possible care. This not only means saving lives, but ensuring a good quality of life for the growing number of people living with cardiovascular disease.

The ESC does this by:

- Disseminating evidence-based, scientific knowledge through **15 scientific journals**, **numerous books** and the world's leading cardiovascular congress.
- Harmonising standards of care through their internationally respected **ESC Clinical Practice Guidelines**.
- Shaping heart health policy and regulation by fostering partnerships and providing scientific expertise and independent data.
- Providing a wealth of ESC scientific content, easily accessible on the ESC website, used by some 400,000 visitors each month.



Supporting our members



Improving members' access to the latest science, best practices and networking

The ESC is a member organisation. Cardiologists and other healthcare professionals join the ESC and its subspecialty communities, to be part of a society that **represents their interests** within the health sector and gives them opportunities to **network**, access the **latest science** and use a broad array of services that support their ongoing **professional development**.

Healthcare professionals can choose 'ESC Professional Membership', ESC subspecialty memberships, or a combination of any memberships of their choice.



What we do

Leading congresses

Broad global reach and cutting-edge scientific programmes that change the way clinicians practice medicine

The ESC organises and co-organises **14 cardiology congresses**.

Its award-winning flagship event, ESC Congress, is the **largest and most influential cardiovascular assembly in the world**, attracting more than 32,000 participants from some 150 countries each year. It is the pivotal event in the cardiology calendar, allowing healthcare professionals to keep up to date on the latest science while networking with their peers from different countries.



What we do

Needs-driven education

Robust and independent education, built on a strong, evidence-based foundation

The ESC delivers a broad portfolio of independent education initiatives. It is leading a revolution in medical education by producing impactful, **needs-driven programmes**; analysing cardiology trends and surveying healthcare professionals on what they believe is preventing or promoting best patient outcomes.

ESC Education includes online learning (webinars, online courses with MCQs, clinical case portal...), face-to-face courses, including postgraduate programmes in collaboration with world-renowned universities and certification.

Grants are also available to support learning in centres of excellence throughout Europe.



What we do

Robust research

Unbiased, real-life data that illustrate what is happening in cardiology today

The ESC's key aims in this area include incubation, innovation, and management of world-class cardiovascular-related research programmes. It conducts research, drawing on expertise from ESC institutional members and international networks, including **21 Registries**, involving **150,000 patients** across **89 countries**.*

The 'ESC Atlas of Cardiology' collates data from more than 40 healthcare realities. It highlights the gaps and inequalities in cardiovascular medicine today and is an invaluable tool in the ESC's Advocacy programme.

The ESC is also a consortium partner in numerous EU funded research projects and provides grants to individuals to support excellence in research.

*As of July 2019





What we do

Advocating for heart health

Beyond science: Shaping an environment favourable to cardiovascular health

ESC Advocacy leverages the knowledge, network and influence of the cardiology profession to promote policy, regulation and research funding that advance cardiovascular science, support high quality healthcare, and encourage evidence-based decision making.



Collaborating with the ESC

Expert insight

The ESC can offer expert insight into the challenges facing our collective fight against cardiovascular disease through:

- Independent and robust data
- Unbiased consensus and recommendations from an international pool of key opinion leaders
- Expertise across the full spectrum of cardiology

A unique network

At the heart of the cardiology community

Through its extensive institutional and individual memberships, multi-healthcare stakeholder collaboration and industry partners, the ESC brings together all those who have a role in fighting CVD.



How the ESC works

- The ESC is governed by an elected Board of volunteers who are cardiovascular experts.
- Its activities are overseen by **dedicated committees** made up of more than **2,000 volunteers**.
- In all, some **5,000 cardiology experts** contribute to ESC activities. The success of the ESC is testament to the dedication of its volunteers.
- The ESC employs **staff** who support ESC volunteers in the development and management of its activities. ESC staff report to the Chief Executive Officer, who reports to the President and Management Group of the ESC Board.



www.escardio.org

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