

## BigData@Heart Stakeholder Event

7<sup>th</sup> July 2020 (14:00-16:00 CEST) – virtual meeting

### Short Bios



**Prof Dr Stephan Achenbach**

*President Elect ESC*

*Chairman of Cardiology Universitaetsklinikum Erlangen, Germany*

ESC, Universitaetsklinikum Erlangen

**Prof. Dr. med. Stephan Achenbach** is the Chairman of the Department of Cardiology and Professor of Medicine at the University of Erlangen, Germany. The main clinical interests of Stephan Achenbach are Interventional Cardiology, General Cardiology as well as Cardiac Imaging. His research is focused on cardiac intervention and cardiac imaging, mainly computed tomography, with an emphasis on imaging of coronary atherosclerosis and imaging to support coronary and structural interventional procedures.

Stephan Achenbach was the Founding President of the Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography. He is President Elect and Board Member of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) and was Chairperson of the ESC Congress Programme Committee 2016-2018. As such, he was in charge of the ESC Congress 2017 in Barcelona and 2018 in Munich with approximately 30 000 attendees.

Stephan Achenbach has received several awards, including the Jan Brod Award for Clinical Research of the Medical School of Hannover, Germany (1999), the Thomas C. Cesario Distinguished Visiting Professorship Award, University of California Irvine School of Medicine (2007), the Simon Dack Award, American College of Cardiology (2009), the Gold Medal of the Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography (2015) and the Sir Godfrey Hounsfield Award of the British Institute of Radiology (2016). He was selected by AuntMinnie.com as the “Most Influential Radiology Researcher” in 2017, and he has repeatedly received the Best Teaching Award, Clinical Medicine, University of Erlangen-Nürnberg (2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019).



**Prof Dr Stefan D. Anker** MD, PhD, FESC

*Professor of (Tissue)Homeostasis in Cardiology & Metabolism*  
Charité Berlin

**Stefan D. Anker** is Professor of (Tissue)Homeostasis in Cardiology & Metabolism (W3) at Charité Berlin (from June 2017). Dr. Anker studied medicine at Charité Berlin and completed his clinical training in Germany and the UK. He obtained his M.D. from Charité Medical School, Berlin, Germany (1993), and his Ph.D. (1998) at National Heart & Lung Institute of Imperial College London. He was Professor of Cardiology & Cachexia Research (W2) at Charité (2002-14), and Professor of Innovative Clinical Trials (W3) in Göttingen (2014-17).

Dr. Anker has authored more than 900 original papers, reviews, and editorials that are well cited (total citations: >85,000, h-index: 128, papers with ≥ 200 citations: 91; source: Scopus, 25 June, 2020).

For his work Dr. Anker has won several prizes, including the 2018 Copernicus Prize of German DFG & Polish FNP. He obtained a number of fellowships & grants, incl. 2 from NIH (WARCEF EU), 2 EU-FP7 & 2 IMI/Horizon2020 grants. He was co-ordinator for “SICA-HF” (EU-FP7). He received grants for several IITs (three currently running) for >20 Mill EUR (from DZHK Germany & several industries).

Dr. Anker was Vice President of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC, 2016-18), serving on the board 2012-2018. Dr. Anker serves in the board of the Heart Failure Association (HFA) of the ESC since 2006; he was HFA President (2012-14). He is founding Editor-in-Chief of the journal ESC Heart Failure (open access, IF-2018: 3.40). Dr. Anker worked in several ESC Guideline task forces (e.g. ESC HF GL 2012 & 2016).

Dr. Anker is the founding president of the International Society on Sarcopenia, Cachexia and Wasting Disorders since 2008 (SCWD – see [www.cachexia.org](http://www.cachexia.org)). Dr. Anker is founding Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Cachexia, Sarcopenia and Muscle since 2010 (JCSM, 2018-IF: 10.75, see [www.jcsm.info](http://www.jcsm.info)).

Dr. Anker was and is member of >30 international clinical trial steering committees, chairing or co-chairing several currently (FAIR-HF2, EMPEROR-HFpEF, RELIEVE-HF, REVIVE-HF, DIAMOND-HF, Fair-HFpEF) as well as in the past (incl. FAIR-HF, TIM-HF, ACT-ONE, AUGMENT-HF, BACH & IMPERIAL-HFpEF). He served in a number of DMC’s (chairing 4) and end-point committees (chairing 4).



**Prof Dr Folkert W. Asselbergs**

*Professor of Cardiovascular Genetics, Consultant Cardiologist*

University Medical Center Utrecht

*Professor of Precision medicine*

University College London

**Prof. Dr. Folkert W. Asselbergs** is a professor in cardiovascular genetics and consultant cardiologist at the Department of Cardiology, UMC Utrecht, Prof of Precision medicine at the Institute of Cardiovascular Science and Institute of Health Informatics, University College London, Director BRC Clinical and Research Informatics Unit, UCLH, Chair Center for Circulatory Health, UMC Utrecht, and chair data infrastructure Dutch Cardiovascular Alliance ([www.dcvalliance.nl](http://www.dcvalliance.nl)).

Professor Asselbergs published more than 360 scientific papers in the field of cardiovascular disease. His research program focuses on precision medicine using real-world data from electronic health records and registries and -omics research for drug target discovery, pharmacogenetics and stratified medicine.

Prof Asselbergs is the scientific coordinator of IMI BigData@Heart that aims to deliver clinically relevant disease phenotypes and outcomes, scalable insights from real-world evidence and insights driving drug development and personalised medicine through advanced big-data analytics.

He (co-) founded several consortia such as igenetrain ([www.igenetrain.net](http://www.igenetrain.net)), genius-chd ([www.genius-chd.org](http://www.genius-chd.org)), and CAPACITY-COVID (<https://capacity-covid.eu>).



**Prof Dan Atar**

*Professor of Cardiology and Head of Research*

Oslo University Hospital

**Dan Atar**, MD is Head of Research at Oslo University Hospital Ullevål, Dept. of Medicine, Oslo, Norway, and holds a full Professorship in Cardiology at the University of Oslo, Norway, along with a Visiting Associate Professorship at the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, USA.

Dan Atar trained in Denmark, Switzerland, and the United States before receiving his board certification in Internal Medicine and Cardiology in 1995. His research focuses on myocardial biomarkers, myocardial function, heart failure and cardiovascular pharmacology. He has written over 440 articles and book chapters (H-index 69) and holds the fellowship-titles FESC, FACC, and inaugural FAHA. Dan Atar is the past-Chairman of the ESC Working Group on Cardiovascular Pharmacotherapy. He was chairing an EU-FP7 research consortium (“Mitocare”) to study reperfusion injury in STEMI. Dan Atar was on a number of ESC guideline writing committees, amongst others the “2010, 2012 and 2016 ESC Guideline on Atrial Fibrillation” as well as the 2012 STEMI-guideline and the 2018 “Universal Definition of AMI Guideline”. In 2012, Dan Atar was elected as Councillor and Board member of the ESC and in 2014 as Vice-President of the ESC for the 2014-2016 Board. For his scientific achievements, he earned a doctor honoris causa in 2015 and appears since 2016 on the Thomson-Reuters list of “the most cited scientists of the world”. In 2018, Dan Atar was elected Treasurer/Secretary of the ESC Board.



**Dr Amitava Banerjee**

*Associate Professor in Clinical Data Science and Consultant Cardiologist*

University College London

**Dr Amitava Banerjee** is a researcher, educator and clinician with interests spanning data science, cardiovascular disease, global health, training and evidence-based healthcare.

After qualifying from Oxford Medical School, he trained as a junior doctor in Oxford, Newcastle, Hull and London. His interest in preventive cardiology and evidence-based medicine led to a Masters in Public Health at Harvard(2004/05), an internship at the World Health Organisation(2005) and DPhil in epidemiology from Oxford(2010). He was Clinical Lecturer in Cardiovascular Medicine at the University of Birmingham, before moving to UCL in 2015.

He works across two busy tertiary care settings with both inpatient and outpatient commitments. Although he is subspecialised in heart failure, he has ongoing practice in acute general cardiology and a keen interest in the diagnosis and management of atrial fibrillation. His clinical work very much informs his research and vice versa, whether in the evaluation of medical technology, study of cardiovascular disease in under-served populations, or disease phenotypes in electronic health records.



**Dr Gunnar Brobert**

*Director Epidemiology (global role)*

Bayer AB, Sweden

- PhD and Associate Professor at Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm Sweden
- Experience from pharmacoepidemiology within the Industry since approx 20 years
- Joined Bayer in 2013 as Director of Epidemiology, Thrombosis TA Head
- Leading key commitments for Xarelto to Health Authorities
- Contributed to other development activities within Thrombosis area
- Participating in other collaborations and partnerships with key stakeholders including BigData@Heart



**Prof Martin R Cowie**

*Professor of Cardiology*

Imperial College London, London, UK (Royal Brompton Hospital)

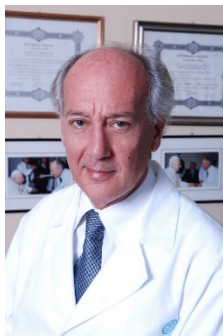
**Martin Cowie** is Professor of Cardiology and Chair of Cardiology (Health Services Research) at Imperial College London. He is also a Non-Executive Director of the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE).

Professor Cowie's research interests focus on health technology assessment and delivery of efficient and effective care for patients with heart failure, with a particular focus on diagnostics, drugs, or devices.

Professor Cowie is a founding member and past-Chairman of the British Society for Heart Failure, and is a Fellow of the American College of Cardiology, and the European Society of Cardiology (ESC). He chairs the Digital Health Committee of the ESC, and was responsible for organizing the first European Society of Cardiology Digital Summit in October 2019 in Tallinn (please view on <https://www.escardio.org/Education/Digital-Health-and-Cardiology/educational-resources-on-digital-health>).

Professor Cowie was shortlisted for the NHS Digital Champion (Leadership) Award in England in 2017, was awarded the Thomas Lewis Medal for services to British Cardiology in 2019, and was the recipient of the Roy Award from the UK Heart Failure Patient Charity, Pumping Marvellous, in 2019 for outstanding contribution to excellence in heart failure.

Professor Cowie is an Associate Editor of *Heart* and *Journal of the American College of Cardiology-Heart Failure*, and Guest Editor for *Circulation*. He has published 400+ papers, has a current h-index of 76, with his work cited more than 68 000 times in the scientific literature.



**Prof Filippo Crea**

*Director University Department of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Sciences*

Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Rome, Italy

**Professor Crea** graduated from Pisa Medical School in 1977 and performed research at the University of Florida for 1 year. From 1985 to 1991 he was Honorary Clinical Assistant and then Senior Lecturer and Honorary Consultant at the Cardiovascular Research Unit of the Hammersmith Hospital in London. He returned to Italy as Chief of the Catheterisation Laboratory at the Institute of Cardiology of the Catholic University in Rome, and became director of the Department of Cardiovascular Sciences in 2008. Professor Crea is the author of more than 890 publications in peer reviewed journals with an H-Index of 73. His main interests are coronary microvascular dysfunction, mechanisms of acute coronary syndromes and pathophysiology of stem cells in coronary artery disease.



**Dr Maureen Cronin**

*Former Head of Global Medical Affairs*  
Vifor Pharma

**Dr. Maureen Cronin** is a specialty pharma and medical device executive with >25 years of strategic leadership experience. I am or have been an executive or senior management team member for Ava AG (Chief Medical Officer, since 2017), Vifor Pharma (EVP, 2016-2010), Bayer AG (VP, 2010-2005) and Schering AG (Director, 2004-1998). One of my core interests has been directing numerous (>20) large, phase-4, epidemiological studies; many were Post Authorization Safety Studies.

I am currently Head of Clinical Development, Regulatory Affairs and Quality Management for Ava AG, an innovative Swiss Women's Health digital start-up. In addition, am involved in the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) project called 'Big Data@Heart' for my former employer Vifor Pharma.

I hold a Bachelor of Arts from University of Minnesota (1984), a Medical Degree from The Free University of Berlin (1996) and a PhD in Medicine from Jena University (2003). I trained in Internal Medicine at the Free University of Berlin (1998) and Sexual Medicine at the Humboldt University in Berlin (2004).



**Dr Spiros Denaxas**

*Professor of Biomedical Informatics*

Institute of Health Informatics, University College London

**Dr Spiros Denaxas** is Professor of Biomedical Informatics based at the Institute of Health Informatics. His lab's research (<http://denaxaslab.org>) focuses on creating and evaluating novel computational methods for risk prediction, data modelling, phenotyping and disease subtype discovery in structured electronic health records, clinical and omics data. He leads the CALIBER resource, a translational research platform of tools and phenotypes for linked electronic health records from primary care, hospital care and national mortality registries.



**Dr Andrea Derix**

*Vice President, Head PM Thrombosis & Vascular Diseases;  
Clinical Development*

Bayer AG

**Andrea Derix** received her PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences from the Heinrich Heine University Dusseldorf, Germany. She also holds a Master degree in Regulatory Affairs from University Bonn, Germany. In various positions in Cardiovascular Drug Development and Regulatory Affairs, she gained broad experience. At Bayer AG she led the Xarelto® regulatory approvals and took over the leadership in global development of the lifecycle indications. Andrea Derix is currently Vice President, Head of Program Management in the Therapeutic Area Thrombosis & Vascular Diseases.



**Dr Wim Goettsch**

*Special Advisor HTA*

National Health Care Institute (NL)

**Wim Goettsch**, PhD is currently Special Advisor HTA at the Dutch National Health Care Institute. He was the Director of the EUnetHTA JA3 (2016-2020) Directorate and Chair of the Executive Board of EUnetHTA between June 2016 and March 2018. Since 2019, he also has a position as an Associate Professor at Utrecht University (NL) where he is leading a new H2020 consortium with fifteen partners around Europe, called HTx, new methods for Health Technology Assessment (2019-2024). Between 2010 and 2013, he was the Deputy Secretary of the Medicinal Products Reimbursement Committee at Dutch National Health Care Institute. He is currently Director in the Board of HTAi (2019-2022), Member of the Editorial Board of the International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care (IJTAHC). He has a PhD in immunology and an advanced education in (pharmaco)-epidemiology and pharmaco-economics. He has more than 90 publications in peer-reviewed international journals.



**Prof George Gkoutos**

*Chair of Clinical Bioinformatics*

University of Birmingham

**Professor Gkoutos** holds the chair of Clinical Bioinformatics a joint appointment between the University of Birmingham Medical School and the University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust. He is a Faculty Affiliate Professor of Clinical Bioinformatics, Berkeley Lab, Associate Director of MRC Health Data Research UK, Co-Director of the WCH-Birmingham Research Institute and Alan Turing Fellow.

Prof Gkoutos's research background is in the areas of clinical and biomedical informatics, health data science, computational biology, and translational research aiming at the discovery of molecular origins of human disease and the precision medicine developments of novel disease diagnostic and intervention strategies. His expertise lies in the fields of integrative systems biology, biomedical knowledge formalization, standardisation and representation, multimodal large data harmonization, interoperability and integration, comparative phenomics, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, and multiomics integration and analytics and has over 200 peer reviewed publications. Prof Gkoutos is closely involved with international efforts to integrate large human related phenotype datasets as well as data from the main high throughput phenotyping centres in Europe, Australasia and North America, as well as policy development initiatives, resources, standards and sharing.



**Prof Diederick E. Grobbee**, MD, PhD, FESC

*Professor of Clinical Epidemiology*

University Medical Center Utrecht

**Rick Grobbee**, is founder of the Julius Center for Health Sciences and Primary Care (1996), a division of the University Medical Center Utrecht (UMCU) currently employing approximately 500 staff, and of Julius Clinical (2008), a full service Academic Clinical Research Organization. Previous positions include Professor of Clinical Epidemiology at Erasmus University Rotterdam, member of the board of Erasmus University Medical Center, and visiting Associate Professor at Harvard University, Boston. He holds honorary appointments in Sydney and Kuala Lumpur. He has been a (principal) investigator in many large-scale epidemiologic studies and randomized intervention trials relating to the prevention and treatment of cardiovascular, cardiometabolic, and cardiorenal disease. In addition he works on the principles and methods of treatment research, trial design and data analysis. He is listed in the top 100 global most influential biomedical researchers (Eur J Clin Invest 2013 Dec;43(12):1339-65) and has consistently been ranked as highly cited author by Web of Science over the last decades. Rick Grobbee has been on the editorial boards of several journals and (inter) national scientific, search, and site-visit committees. Current journal roles include editor-in-chief of Global Heart, and senior consulting editor of the *European Journal of Preventive*



*Cardiology*. He is past-president of the European Association for Preventive Cardiology and member of the board and chair of the Global Affairs Committee of the European Society of Cardiology. In 2010 he was appointed Distinguished University Professor of International Health Sciences and Global Health at Utrecht University. Rick Grobbee is fellow of the Royal Dutch Academy of Sciences and served as the chair of its Medical Section and Advisory Council for the Medical Sciences. He is honorary fellow of the Indonesian Heart Association and of the Romanian Society of Cardiology. In recent years his attention has increasingly been directed towards global circulatory health. In 2017 he was knighted by the Dutch King (Knight in the Order of the Dutch Lion). To date, Prof. Grobbee has authored or co-authored over 1,300 scientific papers (PubMed), chapters, and books, and has supervised more than 150 PhD fellows. His Hirsch index (Web of Science) is 155.



**Prof Martin Ingvar**

*Professor of Neurophysiology and Integrative Medicine*  
Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden

Research interests: Cognitive neuroscience, semantics, psychiatric health, computational neuroscience, health systems. 250 scientific papers (H-index 82) 6 popular science books.

Co-founded International Consortium for Health Outcome Measurement (ICHOM) in 2011. Member of the board ICHOM, Context vision (AI and imaging).

Present projects focus on process support in health care and semantic interoperability in all dimensions (diagnose, health care unit, care level etc.)



**Mr Adrian Jonas**

*Associate Director for Data and Analytics*

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence [NICE]

**Adrian** leads the central data and analytics team in the UK National Institute for Health and Care Excellence [NICE]. This provides central oversight, advice and support on all aspects of data and analytics; spearheading the transformation programme to enable more sophisticated collection, management, storage and exploitation of data across NICE to enable better evidence based decisions across all its business. Adrian joined NICE in 2018 following ten+ years working in a variety of roles in central government including:

- Assistant Director Strategic and Cross-Cutting Policy within HMRC;
- Principal Analyst for Home and Foreign Affairs (Prime Minister's Implementation Unit) & Head of Profession for Operational Research within the Cabinet Office;
- Head of Analysis and Management Information within the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.



**Prof Dr Dipak Kotecha**

MBCbB, PhD, PCAP, MSc, MRCP, FESC, FHEA

*Professor of Cardiology & Cardiac Imaging and Consultant Cardiologist*

Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences, University of Birmingham & University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust, UK  
Monash University, Melbourne, Australia  
UMC Utrecht, the Netherlands  
Clinical Trial Service Unit, Oxford, UK  
European Society of Cardiology, Sophia Antipolis, France

**Dipak Kotecha** is a Professor of Cardiology at the University of Birmingham, a Consultant Cardiologist specialising in cardiac imaging, and recently completed a prestigious National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Fellowship. He works extensively across the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) and is a member of the Education Committee, the Congress Programme Committee, Guidelines (including the 2016 ESC Guidelines for the Management of Atrial Fibrillation), and is Chief Investigator for the ESC's first randomised controlled trial (STEEER-AF).

His research focuses on the interaction of heart failure and atrial fibrillation, supported by grants from the NIHR, British Heart Foundation and European Union. Dipak leads an international heart failure consortium (the Beta-blockers in Heart Failure Collaborative Group), and collaborates widely, with interests in patient involvement, big data approaches, the application of artificial intelligence and use of novel technology, such as mobile applications and wearable devices.

He is passionate about innovative yet pragmatic trial design and healthcare-embedded approaches to bring forward new clinical research for patient benefit – and will soon launch the DaRe2THINK randomised controlled trial embedded in the National Health Service. Dipak was awarded the British Cardiovascular Society Michael Davies Medal in 2018 for his contribution to cardiovascular medicine.



**Dr Xavier Kurz**

*Head of Data Analytics, Data Analytics and Methods Task Force*

European Medicines Agency

**Xavier Kurz** graduated in 1982 as a Medical Doctor at the University of Liege, Belgium. He specialised in Tropical Medicine and worked for several years in public health projects in Africa and Asia. He obtained a MSc (1991) and a PhD (1997) in Epidemiology and Biostatistics at McGill University, Montreal, Canada. He then joined the Department of Pharmacology of the University of Liege and the Belgian Centre for Pharmacovigilance (Ministry of Health) as scientific expert. He joined the European Medicines Agency (EMA) on 1st September 2005. He is currently Head of Data Analytics within the Data Analysis and Methods Task Force.



**Mrs Susanne Løgstrup**

*Director*

European Heart Network

**Susanne Løgstrup** is Director of the European Heart Network (EHN). She has worked on policies relating to the promotion of cardiovascular health and the prevention of cardiovascular diseases since 1995.

Ms Løgstrup leads the development and implementation of EHN's strategy and advises the Board of current EU thinking, and policies and programmes that have an impact on the work of the EHN and its members. She has led several major pan-European projects, including the European Heart Health Strategy II (2011-2014), part-funded by the EU. She represents EHN in the European Chronic Disease Alliance (ECDA) and the EC's Platform for Action on Diet, Physical Activity and Health. From January 2016 to December 2018, she was President of the Smoke Free Partnership (SFP). From 2013 to 2017, she was a member of the EC's TTIP Advisory Group where she represented health interests. Ms Løgstrup was also a member of the task force which produced the European Heart Health Charter (2007). Previously, Susanne Løgstrup was an Attorney-at-law in Copenhagen and Paris. She has an academic background in law and business administration, in which she holds master's degrees, and she is a Fellow of the European Society of Cardiology (FESC). Currently, Ms Løgstrup is involved in the BigData@Heart project.



**Dr Tom Lumbers**

*HDR Rutherford Fellow and Honorary Consultant Cardiologist*

UCL Institute of Health Informatics

**Dr. Tom Lumbers** is an Honorary Consultant Cardiologist at Barts Heart Centre and UCLH, HDR Rutherford Fellow and Group Leader (genomics) at the UCL Institute of Health Informatics, Visiting Scientist at the Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT. He received his Ph.D. in Molecular Biology at Imperial College London and completed post-doctoral training in Genetic Epidemiology at University College London. Tom's research focuses on using genomics and health records to define the genetic architecture of heart failure and left ventricular dysfunction and generate insights into causal factors and molecular disease mechanisms. He co-founded the HERMES Consortium ([hermesconsortium.org](http://hermesconsortium.org)), an international collaboration in heart failure genetics. He is developing tools to deliver scalable and validated disease phenotypes using real-world data to enable large scale genetic analysis of disease subtypes. He co-leads the phenotype working group at BigData@Heart, an EU public-private consortium ([bigdata-heart.eu](http://bigdata-heart.eu)) aiming to realize the opportunities for embedding clinical development in routine care.



**Prof Thomas F. Lüscher**, MD, FRCP, FESC

*Director of Research, Education & Development*

Royal Brompton and Harefield Hospitals and Imperial College  
London UK

*Professor and Chairman of the Center for Molecular Cardiology*

University of Zurich, Switzerland

**Professor Lüscher** is board certified in internal medicine and cardiology. He trained in Switzerland and at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN, USA. He then became Professor of Pharmacotherapy at the University of Basel, later Professor of Cardiology at the University of Berne and finally Professor and Chairman of Cardiology and the Heart Center at the University Hospital Zurich. He is now Director of Research, Education & Development and Consulting Cardiologist at the Royal Brompton & Harefield Hospitals and Honorary Professor at the Imperial College and Kings College in London and part time Chairman of the Center for Molecular Cardiology at the University of Zurich. He is a general and interventional cardiologist. His research is translational and focuses on coronary artery disease, its risk factors and acute coronary syndromes as well as its consequences such as heart failure. He is among the 0.1% most cited scientists and has an h-index of 128. He was chairman of the publications committee of the ESC and editor-in-chief of the European Heart Journal 2009-2020 and the ESC Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine.



**Lothar Roessig**, MD, FESC

*Vice President, Head of Clinical Development in the Therapeutic Area Cardio-Renal*

Bayer AG

**Lothar Roessig** received his MD from the Hannover Medical School, Germany. He is board certified in Cardiology and in Internal Medicine, and Lecturer in Medicine at the Goethe University of Frankfurt, Germany. As interventional cardiologist and member of the faculty at the University Hospital Frankfurt he was investigator in numerous clinical trials until 2007 when he moved into clinical research industry. In 2009 Lothar Roessig joined Bayer where he is currently Vice President, Head of Clinical Development in the Therapeutic Area Cardio-Renal.



**Dr Rupa Sarkar**  
*Editor-in-Chief*  
The Lancet Digital Health

**Rupa** is the founding Editor-in-Chief of *The Lancet Digital Health* since December, 2018. Rupa obtained her PhD from Imperial College London, studying human stem cell differentiation under the guidance of Dr Nick Dibb and Prof Robert Winston. After her postdoctoral research in embryonic development and disease at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Rupa joined *Nature Research* as an Associate Editor at *Nature Protocols*. She then progressed to Senior Editor at *Genome Biology* leading the disease genomics area of the journal. Prior to her appointment at *The Lancet Digital Health*, Rupa was the Chief Editor of *Nature Protocols*, leading the journal's editorial team. Her interests span all interdisciplinary areas of digital health, with a particular interest in genomics and artificial intelligence approaches in clinical application.



**Ms Ceri Thompson**  
*Deputy Head of Unit*  
European Commission, DG CNECT

**Ceri Thompson** is Deputy Head of the eHealth, Wellbeing and Aging unit at the European Commission's DG CNECT. Within the European Commission, Ceri has previously worked for DG SANTE and Eurostat. She has experience across a range of EU health policy areas, including nutrition & physical activity, alcohol and drugs, tobacco, pharmaceutical policy and health inequalities. Prior to joining the Commission she worked on Global Health for DFID, and for KPMG's international healthcare practice, conducting strategic and efficiency reviews of health systems in the CARICOM and EECCA regions, and of various London hospitals. Ceri graduated with a degree in Mathematics from Durham University in 1992, and she holds an MSc and a Doctorate in Public Health both from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.



**Dr Benoît Tyl**

*Dir Clin and Translational CV Research*  
Servier

**Dr. Benoît Tyl** is the director of the cardiovascular clinical and translational research at Servier (France). He is a cardiologist with a strong experience as a clinician. He worked for the pharmaceutical industry R&D since more than 15 years in various companies as well as in various positions. Within SERVIER, he worked in the past years on several cardiovascular R&D projects related to ischemic cardiomyopathies, arrhythmia and Heart Failure. In this position he is supporting Servier's Cardiovascular projects from basic science to the marketing authorization, mainly on Heart Failure. His main focus is to help filling the gap between the idea (target) and the drug, especially with regards to target validation, population selection, preclinical and early clinical studies using various methods and techniques including biomarkers. He is working closely with researcher, developers, but also various specialists within Servier and outside. The improvement in clinical trials in CV is another of his topic of interest. He is also leading for Servier several international public-private international efforts contributing to drug development including the IMI BigData@Heart.



**Mr Kees van Bochove**

*Founder*  
The Hyve

**Kees van Bochove** is the founder of [The Hyve](#), a 45-person international company dedicated to the support and facilitation of open source, open standards, and open data in biomedical research. He studied Computer Science at the University of Utrecht and Bioinformatics at VU University Amsterdam and Tufts University in Boston. Kees is active in many open-source software development communities such as OHDSI, cBioPortal, i2b2/tranSMART, RADAR, GA4GH, etc., and involved from the beginning in the FAIR Data principles for open science and responsible data stewardship. Through his many years of experience in open source software and standards development in biomedical informatics, Kees has gained a deep understanding of all aspects of collaborative open source development and open data science, including open source community building and governance, software quality, and sustainability requirements, data standards, etc.



**Prof Dr Panos E. Vardas**

*Professor of Cardiology*

*Past President, Chief Strategy Office EHA Brussels*

European Society of Cardiology

**Professor Vardas**, a cardiologist qualified in Athens, Greece, with a long training also in UK (PhD in Clinical Electrophysiology) had been the Head of the Cardiology Department at Heraklion University Hospital, Crete, Greece from 1990 until June 2016.

Currently, Professor Vardas holds the position of Chairman of Heart Sector of the Hygeia Hospitals Group, Athens, Greece.

In Greece, Prof. Vardas held major academic positions, such as Dean of the Medical Faculty of the University of Crete (2003-2007) and President of the Hellenic Cardiological Society (1999-2001).

Furthermore, he has been founder and editor of the Hellenic Journal of Cardiology (English version) since 2002 and President of the Hellenic Cardiovascular Research Society since 2007.

In Europe, Prof. Vardas was elected to significant scientific positions. He was President of the European Society of Cardiology (2012-2014) and President of the European Heart Rhythm Association (2009-2011). Professor Vardas is the founder of the ESC Office in Brussels (2013) and he serves currently there as Chief Strategy Officer of European Heart Agency / ESC.

Prof. Vardas was awarded the Gold Medal of the ESC in 2014 and also the Silver medal of the International League of Humanists in 2008. He has been further honored as Invited Professor in several Universities and Honorary Member of a significant number of National Cardiac Societies.

Professor Vardas is visiting Professor of many distinguished Universities abroad: Imperial College (London, UK), London School of Economics (London, UK), Charles University (Prague, Czech Republic), and University Hospital (Zurich, Switzerland).

Prof. Vardas has participated as an author in 606 publications included in the MedLine as well as in a considerable number of chapters of well-known medical books, the Text Book of the ESC being one of them. He has been a fervent contributor to the activities of the European Society of Cardiology for twenty-five years.

Apart from the wide range of Cardiovascular Medicine, Prof. Vardas' main interests today lie in Digital Health, Health Economics, Health Technology Assessment, and Business Administration.



**Dr Tiago Villanueva**

*Associate Editor*

The BMJ

General Practitioner in Lisbon, Portugal. Was former BMJ editorial registrar and is now associate editor in the research team of The BMJ. Is also editor-in-chief of Acta Médica Portuguesa (Journal of the Portuguese Medical Association).



**Mrs Marilena Vrana**  
*Manager Patients and Research*  
European Heart Network

**Marilena Vrana** is Manager Patients and Research of the European Heart Network (EHN). She manages the implementation of EHN's activities with its patients' organisations, representation of patients at EU level as well as EHN's work with research-funding members, gathered in the EHN Research Platform.

Previously, Ms Vrana was Policy and Incubation Manager at the European Foundation Centre (EFC) and has managed various programmes, networks and the EFC's political outreach. She has an academic background in European and International politics in which she holds a master degree. Currently, Ms Vrana is involved in the BigData@Heart.



**Prof Stephan Windecker, MD**  
*Chairman of the Department of Cardiology*  
University Hospital Bern

**Prof. Stephan Windecker** is Chairman of the Department of Cardiology at Bern University Hospital, Inselspital, Switzerland. Being an interventional cardiologist by training, he has previously served as President of the European Association of Percutaneous Cardiovascular Interventions (EAPCI) of the European Society of Cardiology. He chaired the Task Force on the evaluation of coronary stents in Europe commissioned by the European Society of Cardiology, whose recommendations were published in the European Heart Journal to provide guidance for new regulatory processes for stents. Together with his surgical colleague Prof Philip Kolh, he co-chaired the joint European Society of Cardiology/European Association of Cardiothoracic Surgery guidelines on myocardial revascularization published in 2014. Between 2016 and 2020, he served as Chair of the ESC Clinical Practice Guideline Committee. Prof. Windecker's research interests are clinical trials with focus on the evaluation of intracoronary devices and drugs for the treatment of coronary artery disease, antithrombotic therapy for patients requiring cardiac device implantation, and research related to minimal-invasive heart valve treatment including transcatheter aortic, mitral and tricuspid valve interventions.





**Dr Angela Wood**

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**Dr Angela Wood** is Reader (Associate Professor) of Health Data Science at the Department of Public Health and Primary Care, University of Cambridge, and an elected Turing Fellow of the Alan Turing Institute of Data Science and Artificial Intelligence. She has key leadership roles for major data-driven initiatives: she is Director of Biostatistics of the BHF Cardiovascular Epidemiology Unit; is appointed Theme co-Leader in the Population and Quantitative Science of the NIHR Cambridge Biomedical Research Centre; and serves as the co-Leader of Data-Analysis Work-packages in BigData@Heart and the BHF Data Science Centre CVD-COVID-UK Consortium. She is the principal statistical advisor for a number of international consortia based on individual participant data including the Emerging Risk Factors Collaboration relating to cardiovascular disease and the EPIC-CVD European case-cohort study. She has led major new national training efforts in health data science and serves on the national training teams for Health Data Research UK and the Alan Turing Institute, as well as contributing to teaching and supervision of students across the Cambridge biomedical campus. She has co-authored 100+ publications, predominantly in methods and applications related to epidemiological studies. She is an expert in the statistical aspects of missing data, risk prediction, longitudinal data and joint modelling, measurement error, meta-analysis, and Mendelian randomisation. She has received methodological grants from the MRC, British Heart Foundation and Alan Turing Institute and has been a key biostatistical co-investigator in major grants awarded by the British Heart Foundation, MRC, NIHR and EU FP7.



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