

EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF CARDIOLOGY
Working Group 6
Coronary Pathophysiology and Microcirculation

Annual Scientific Report 2005-2006

Objectives:

The Working Group "Coronary Pathophysiology and Microcirculation" promotes clinical and basic cardiovascular research in microcirculation and coronary pathophysiology, and it welcomes scientists from various disciplines who share a common interest in this field. The aims of the Working Group are

- ? to advance an integrative understanding of the physiology and pathophysiology of coronary vessels and terminal vascular beds
- ? to support classical microcirculation research as well as investigations of the coronary vascular biology in health and disease
- ? to address prevention and to improve diagnosis and treatment of coronary artery disease

The Working Group disseminates reliable information related to these fields through its annual conference, by preparing sessions for the annual meeting of the European Society of Cardiology, and by publishing review articles.

Sessions organized at the ESC annual congress:

The WG has planned and conducted several different sessions at the ESC meeting in Barcelona 2006, including the follows.

The coronary microcirculation in clinical practice; Symposium
Emerging concepts: multifocal vascular instability; Symposium
Coronary artery disease as an immune disease; Symposium
Wine and cardiovascular diseases - assessing the evidences; Clinical Seminar

Activities run outside and inside the ESC Annual Congress

Strong educational efforts have included meetings organized under the auspices of the WG. In particular, a very successful annual WG-meeting "2.nd International Meeting on Microcirculation" was held in Siena June 26 till June 27, 2006. This international symposium organized by Mario Marzilli brought together basic and clinical scientists in cardiovascular medicine to discuss recent advances of the role of coronary microvascular function and coronary atherothrombosis.

In addition, the 2.nd Munich Symposium "New Frontiers in Cardiology" was held under the hospices of our WG (May 05 till May 06, 2006) and was organized by P. Boekstegers, C. Kupatt and M. Weis. This very successful international meeting attracted a broad audience and covered the topics Vascular Biology, Stem cells, Gene Therapy, Heart Failure and Acute Coronary Syndrome.

New Members

The membership of the WG is constantly acceding and currently involves 199 members.

Current and future projects

The WG has introduced (and funded) the new Young Investigator Award on "Coronary Pathophysiology and Microcirculation", which will be allocated for the first time at the annual ESC meeting in Barcelona 2006.

Two future clinical WG-projects have been identified and will be subject to multicenter clinical studies: 1) persistent angina and 2) pathophysiological mechanisms and assessment strategies for non obstructive

angina.

Publications:

Members of the WG were involved in writing and reviewing of the “ESC-guidelines on management of stable angina” which have been published in 2006. Large numbers of publications were published by members of our WG.

Financial situation:

Balance €9.900 (2006)

Michael Weis

Chairman, WG 6 on “Coronary Pathophysiology and Microcirculation”