

ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC REPORT 2001 - 2002

ESC WORKING GROUP ON ACUTE CARDIAC CARE (#27)

The objectives of the working group are set out below:

- 1) To establish the status of the intensive cardiac care unit (ICCU) as the correct place for the treatment of all European patients suffering from acute cardiac syndromes.
- 2) To suggest guidelines for the structure, organization and function of the European ICCU.
- 3) To promote the professional and academic status of the ICCU personal (physicians and nurses).
- 4) To facilitate the exchange of information and experience, advance knowledge and research (meetings, surveys and joint research projects).

During the first year of its establishment the group completed a position paper, which indicated suggestions on the structure organization and function of the European ICCU. This document has been forwarded to the ESC and is open for further comments, suggestions and alterations before its final approval.

The second document prepared by the group and reached a preliminary stage deals with the specialized training and accreditation of the ICCU physician. This document has been distributed to the different national cardiology societies for suggestions, comments, corrections and approval.

Delegates of our group have joined the committee to prepare the next European survey on ACS. Members of our nucleus have joined the task force preparing the ESC guidelines for the treatment of acute heart failure.

A task force headed by our nucleus member Dr Marco Tubaro (Italy) is engaged in efforts to construct a common European electronic ICCU patient chart.

During the forthcoming ESC annual meeting in Berlin, which will be held in September 2002, the working group will hold its first business meeting for all members, as well as two symposia related to the subject of acute cardiac care.

Preliminary plans have been made for a 2-3 days ICCU educational program for cardiology trainees to be held in the spring of 2003. We also visualize holding the First Biannual European Meeting on Acute Cardiac Care in the spring of 2004.

We call upon all the medical and nursing staff, interested in the subject of acute cardiac care, to join our group for the purpose of promoting the cause of our units all around Europe.

Prof. Y. Hasin
Chairman, Working Group on Acute Cardiac Care