



Prof. Cecilia LINDE, Sweden

Cecilia Linde is a clinician scientist from the Karolinska university Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden. After graduation she became a specialist in internal medicine and cardiology and completed a thesis on cardiac pacing. She became a full Professor of cardiology at Karolinska Institutet in 2007. As Head of Cardiology of the Karolinska University hospital 2001-2012, she merged two departments of Cardiology at two university hospitals. This process gave her experience in handling people under pressure, in solving conflicts and motivating people to look ahead and see opportunities.

Her research focuses on management and treatment of heart failure, especially devices. She has led cardiac resynchronization (CRT) trials across Europe and the US which contributed to establishing CRT as guidelines indicated therapy. She was co PI of the first randomized controlled trial of CRT the MUSTIC in collaboration with Professor JC Daubert, CHUV, Rennes, and the initiator and PI of the REVERSE and MIRACLE-EF trials. Still CRT is widely underused.

She therefore conducted ESC/ HFA/ EHRA CRT Surveys with Professor K Dickstein to identify barriers for CRT implementation across 42 ESC countries. The results highlighted differences in implementation as regards indications, choice of devices (CRT-P vs CRT-D). Her ongoing participation as PI in individual patient data meta-analysis of all major RCTs in CRT with Duke University is refining the eligibility criteria for CRT.

In Dr Linde's experience implementation of new therapies involves 1) organization and education of the CV multidisciplinary team with the patient at the center and the 2) continuous follow up and benchmarking to promote continuous improvements. Leading the greater Stockholm 4D heart failure improvement project 2014-2019 increasingly more patients were correctly diagnosed and getting access to therapy. Heart failure related morbidity and mortality declined by uniform management program including early diagnosis, structured patient data, imaging and biobanking. This project also contributed to increasing heart failure related research activities across the Stockholm hospital units and to pave the way for coordination between electronic health records and national patient registries. She strongly believes that registries and AI will help in making clinical trials more representative of the general population and ultimately will provide more equitable health care.

Professor C Linde has been active in the ESC for 25 years. Amongst ESC leadership positions are Secretary ESC working group of cardiac pacing 1998-2020. EHRA Board member 2003-2005 in transition from WGs of pacing and arrhythmia to EHRA association-Initiator of the EHRA exam in cardiac pacing 2005. EHRA accreditation committee member 2011-2013, EHRA scientific program chair 2013-2015. EHRA committee for women member 2013-2015, EHRA representative in EU task force on Device Specific Vigilance Guidance for Cardiac Implantable Electronic Devices DSVG, 2016- 2018. Member of device committee of HFA 2016-2020, Treasurer of EHRA 2018, Councilor of the ESC Board 2016-2018 responsible for Women in ESC. Vice President of ESC 2018-2020 responsible for Working -groups, Councils, Membership, Women in ESC and the Young and was the ESC Board Secretary Treasurer ESC 2022-2024.

She is executive editor for European Heart Journal since 2020 and the ESC President Elect 2024-2026.