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Münster, 29th April 2016

Letter of motivation - Candidacy for the position as Vice-chair of the Council on Basic Cardiovascular Sciences (CBCS)

Dear Colleagues,

The vision behind the creation of the Council of Basic Cardiovascular Sciences (CBCS) was to establish a platform for basic science within the ESC that lively interacts with European sister societies to 1) embed ESC activities within the European network, and to 2) bring state-of-the-art basic science to Cardiology and Cardiovascular Medicine.

During the past 11 years, basic science has obtained remarkable impact and visibility within the ESC, due to the efforts of CBCS and its outstanding leadership.

It has been a privilege to serve CBCS in recent years in different positions including treasurer and secretary and to serve the ESC as councillor in the board and as chairman of the working group on Angiogenesis and Vascular Biology/Pathogenesis of Atherosclerosis. Moreover, I had been given the task to revive the European Meeting on Vascular Biology and Medicine (EMVBM) in 2005. With the support of Working Groups of the ESC and several other European Societies (ESM, EAS, ECCR, EVBA, EVGN, DGK, ISHR) we organized the 3rd EMVBM meeting in Hamburg. The revival of EMVBM resulted in the foundation of EVBO, which I am currently serving as the treasurer. Today, EVBO represents an important sister Society of CBCS.

My own current professional activities as chair of Cardiology and Vascular Medicine at Münster University Hospital focus on translational Cardiology; with strong links to both the basic science community as well as to the clinical and interventional community. Previous appointments gave me the opportunity to work in three European countries (DE, SE, NL), both practising Clinical Cardiology and running basic and translational research programs.

My personal motivations to apply for the position of vice-chair of CBCS are to maintain and further intensify both presence and impact of basic science in the ESC and to facilitate their translation into the clinical arena. Moreover, it will be an important task in the future to construct bridges in order to keep the development of both basic science and clinical science aligned and to allow exploiting synergies; an important task for CBCS with regard to both education and science.

I am convinced that CBCS with its embedding in the ESC and with its strong ties to its sister societies will provide a solid basis for achieving these goals. I am aware that such a task is demanding. Nevertheless, my current position at Münster University will allow me to make this commitment. I hope that my motivation, experiences and visions may be of value for the continued development of CBCS within the ESC.

I would be thankful for your trust and support.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Johannes Waltenberger', written in a cursive style.

Johannes Waltenberger, M.D., F.E.S.C.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Johannes WALTENBERGER, M.D., F.E.S.C.

Professor and Chair of Internal Medicine, Cardiology and Vascular Medicine

Born 24 July 1962 in Osterburken, Germany



Present position and address

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Previous position

Department Head and Chair, Invasive Cardiology (2003 – 2010)
University Hospital Maastricht (AZM), Maastricht, The Netherlands

Training

Medical degree from the University of Heidelberg, Germany (1988). Internship in Cardiology at the University of Heidelberg, Germany (1989-1990), postdoctoral fellowship at the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research in Uppsala, Sweden (1990-1993), training in Internal Medicine at the University Hospital Uppsala, Sweden (1992/1993), training in Internal Medicine and Cardiology at the University of Ulm, Germany (1993-1997), Specialist in Internal Medicine (1997), Fellow of the ESC FESC (1997), *venia legendi* (1998), training in Cardiology and Invasive Cardiology at the University of Ulm, Germany (1997-1999), Consultant in Cardiology, University of Ulm (1999-2003), Heisenberg-Scholar of the German Research Council 2000-2003), European Cardiologist (2003).

Position in ESC and other professional organizations

ESC • Councillor in the Board (2008-2010) • Secretary of the Council on Basic Cardiovascular Sciences, CBCS (2010-2012) • Treasurer of the Council on Basic Cardiovascular Sciences (2012-2016) • Member of the CBCS (2006-present) • Member of the Congress Program Committee (2010-2012) • Chairman of the Working Group on Atherosclerosis and Vascular Biology (2003-2005) • Vice-Chairman of the Working Group on Pathogenesis of Atherosclerosis (2001-2003) • Treasurer of the Working Group on Pathogenesis of Atherosclerosis (2000-2001).

EVBO (European Vascular Biology Organization), EVBA (Eur Vasc Biol Assoc)

• President, 3rd Europ. Meeting on Vascular Biology and Medicine, Hamburg (2005)
• Treasurer EVBA (2004-2006) • Treasurer EVBO (2006-) • Founding member EVBO

DGK (German Cardiac Society) • Chairman of the project group on "Ethics in Cardiology"

• Secretary, Fall-meeting of the German Cardiac Society, Ulm (2001) • Chairman of the Cluster on Experimental Vascular Research (2002-2010) • Chairman of the Working Group on Pathogenesis of Arteriosclerosis/Vascular Biology of the German Cardiac Society (1999-2001) • Vice-Chairman of the Working Group on Pathogenesis of Arteriosclerosis/Vascular Biology of the German Cardiac Society (1999-1999 and 2001-2008)

Editorial Boards

• Editor-in-chief: European Journal of Medical Research (since 2013) • Section Editor: Thrombosis and Haemostasis (2005-2013) • Guest Editor: Cardiovascular Research, Experimental Diabetes Research • Editor (Internal Medicine): European Journal of Medical Research (2010-2013) • Member of Editorial Boards (past and present): American Journal of Cardiovascular Disease, Angiogenesis, Austin Journal of Vascular Medicine, Basic Research in Cardiology, Cardiovascular Pharmacology, European Cardiology, European Heart Journal, Netherlands Heart Journal, Journal of Clinical Metabolism & Diabetes, The Open Atherosclerosis & Thrombosis Journal • Reviewer for 96 different Scientific Journals.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Fellowship/Honours

- Student Fellowship from Cusanuswerk (1984-1988) • Research Training Fellowship from the German Research Council (1990-1993) • Research Training Fellowship from the German Heart Foundation (1993)
- Oskar-Lapp-Award of the German Cardiac Society (1994) • Young Investigator Award of the European Vascular Biology Association (1995)
- Merckle Research Award (1996) • Eberhard Betz Award of the German Society for Atherosclerosis Research (1997) • Heinz Meise Award of the German Heart Foundation (1997) • Prevention Award of the German Heart Aid (1998) • Poster Award of the German Society of Internal Medicine (1999) • Research Award of the City of Ulm (1999)
- Update in Thrombolysis 2000 Research Award (2000) • Franz Loogen Award (2001)
- Heisenberg Fellowship of the German Research Council (2001-2003) • Listed *primo et unico loco*, Chair in Cardiology, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm (2006) • Medal of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) (2010) • Research Prize "Emergency Medicine" (2012)
- Research Grants with total volume > 10,000,000 €

Major Publications

- 1) Waltenberger J, Claesson-Welsh L, Siegbahn A, Shibuya M, and Heldin C-H. Different signal transduction properties of *KDR* and *Flt1*, two receptors for vascular endothelial growth factor. *J. Biol. Chem.* 269:26988-26995, 1994.
- 2) Waltenberger J, Lange J, and Kranz A. Vascular endothelial growth factor-induced chemotaxis of monocytes is attenuated in patients with diabetes mellitus. A potential predictor for the individual capacity to develop collaterals. *Circulation* 102:185-190, 2000.
- 3) Autiero M*, Waltenberger J*, Communi D*, Kranz A, Moons L, Lambrechts D, Kroll J, Plaisance S, De Mol M, Bono F, Kliche S, Fellbrich G, Ballmer-Hofer K, Maglione D, Mayr-Beyrle U, Dewerschin M, Dombrowski S, Stanimovic D, van Hummelen P, Dehio C, Hicklin D, Persico G, Herbert J-M, Communi D, Shibuya M, Collen D, Conway EM and Carmeliet P. Role of PlGF in *intra*- and *intermolecular* crosstalk between VEGF receptors Flt1 and Flk-1. *Nat. Med.* 9: 936-943, 2003. (* equal contribution, split first authorship)
- 4) Vöö S, Eggermann J, Dunaeva M, Ramakers-van Oosterhoud C, Waltenberger J. Enhanced functional response of CD133⁺ circulating progenitor cells in patients early after acute myocardial infarction. *Eur. Heart J.* 29:241-50, 2008.
- 5) Tchaikovski V, Olieslagers S, Böhmer F-D, Waltenberger J. Diabetes mellitus activates signal transduction pathways resulting in VEGF resistance of human monocytes. *Circulation*, 120, 150-159, 2009.
- 6) Olieslagers S, Pardali E, Tchaikovski V, Ten Dijke P, Waltenberger J. TGF-beta1/ALK5-induced monocyte migration involves PI3K and p38 pathways and is not negatively affected by diabetes mellitus. *Cardiovasc Res.* 91: 510-8, 2011.
- 7) Reinhardt B, Godfrey R, Fellbrich G, Frank H, Lüske A, Mertens T, and Waltenberger J. Human cytomegalovirus infection impairs endothelial cell chemotaxis by disturbing VEGF signaling and actin-polymerization. *Cardiovasc. Res.*, 104: 315-25, 2014.
- 8) Selvaraj D, Gangadharan V, Michalski CW, Kurejova M, Stösser S, Srivastava K, Schweizerhof M, Waltenberger J, Ferrara N, Heppenstall P, Shibuya M, Augustin HG and Kuner R. A functional role for VEGFR1 expressed in peripheral sensory neurons in cancer pain. *Cancer Cell.* 27: 780-96, 2015.
- 9) Tchaikovski V, Tchaikovski S, Olieslagers S, Waltenberger J. Monocyte dysfunction as a previously unrecognized pathophysiologically relevant component of hyperlipidemic ApoE^{-/-} mice contributing to atherogenesis and impaired arteriogenesis. *Int. J. Cardiol.* 190: 214-6, 2015.
- 10) Yetkin E, Topal E, Erguzel N, Senen K, Heper G, Waltenberger J. Diabetes Mellitus and female gender are the Strongest Predictors of Poor Collateral Vessel Development in Patients with Severe Coronary Artery Stenosis. *Angiogenesis.* 18: 201-7, 2015.

Major research interest

Vascular, Regenerative and Interventional Cardiology, studying the mechanisms of growth factor-mediated vascular growth, signal transduction and cellular function in relation to clinical aspects of coronary artery disease and myocardial ischemia.