

Francesco Cosentino, MD, PhD, FESC



Prof. Francesco Cosentino obtained his MD degree in 1987 and clinical training in Internal Medicine and Cardiovascular Disease at the University of Rome. In 1991 moved to Mayo Clinic & Foundation, Rochester, Mn, USA for a Cardiovascular Fellowship. During his stay at Mayo he fulfilled all the requirements for a PhD in Biomedical Sciences – Cardiovascular Pharmacology. In 1995, he joined the Division of Cardiovascular Disease at the University Hospital of Bern as a research and clinical associate. Two years later he moved to the Cardiology of Zurich University Hospital where he became lecturer and then titular professor of Cardiology. In 2000, he was appointed assistant professor of Medicine and then associate professor of Cardiology at the University of Rome “Sapienza”. In December 2013, he has been appointed chair of Cardiovascular Medicine, Cardiology Unit, Department of Medicine, Karolinska University Hospital in Stockholm.

Prof. Cosentino has investigated the role of endothelium-derived mediators (i.e. nitric oxide, reactive oxygen species, prostaglandin H₂, endothelin-1) in the regulation of vascular tone, platelet-vessel wall interaction, coagulation as well as vascular structure under physiological conditions, aging, hypertension, hyperlipidaemia, diabetes and atherosclerosis using modern cellular and molecular techniques as well as genetically engineered animal models. A novel research line focuses on epigenetic mechanisms underlying hyperglycaemia-induced oxidative stress in cardiovascular complications of diabetes. The clinical research is a translation of the applied basic research and focuses on the link between vascular dysfunction, inflammation and redox changes in patients with diabetes, dyslipidaemia and

hypertension. In particular, current translational studies investigate novel genes involved in the progression of diabetic vascular complications despite an intensive glycaemic control. Understanding the molecular mechanisms leading to upregulation of pro-oxidant genes in subject with type 2 diabetes and their relation with changes in vascular and cardiac function is the aim of several ongoing investigations.

His research activities are funded by Swiss and Italian National Research Councils, private foundations and Karolinska Institute. Prof. Cosentino is the recipient of several awards granted by national and international scientific institutions. He has been a Task-Force Member for ESC/EASD Guidelines on Diabetes, Prediabetes and CVD and ESC Guidelines on Diagnosis and Treatment of Peripheral Arterial Diseases. Prof. Cosentino is Secretary-Treasurer of the European Society of Cardiology and Associate Editor of European Heart Journal.



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