



August 2023

Introduction from the ISH Secretary



Welcome to the August issue of the ISH e-Bulletin!

We have GREAT news this month as we announce that our president Bryan Williams has been appointed Chief Scientific and Medical Officer of the British Heart Foundation. A great achievement for Bryan, but also great for the BHF to have him! But we have sad news as well, as we have been informed of the passing of Richard Gordon, a pioneer of endocrinology and hypertension research in Australia.

We also report this month on an important statement for treating hypertension globally, which was recently published by the WHO and US CDC initiative HEARTS in collaboration with 11 partner organizations, including ISH. Also watch on the ESC online platform a video of a discussion with Bryan Williams about tough problems in the treatment of hypertension.

You may be interested to look at a new book by Eoin O'Brien entitled "A Life in Medicine: From Aesculapius to Beckett". This is not really an autobiography, but says a lot about medicine, culture, and life in Ireland in mid-to-late 20th century. Eoin is an international figure in hypertension research and blood pressure measurement and is author of several books, not only in medicine but also in literature which indeed his new book nicely combined.

See this month's spotlights by the ISH New Investigator Committee, the ISH Women in Hypertension Research Committee, and the ISH Communications Committee. Follow the link in the bulletin to watch a video from a second interview by the ISH Communications Committee team (chair Anastasia Mihailidou and member Dylan Burger) with ESH council member Atul Pathak and myself, as we reflect on the new ESH guidelines compared to the 2020 ISH global hypertension practice guidelines.

Read about a very successful scientific session organized by the ISH Americas RAG during the Brazilian Society of Hypertension in August in Cuiaba, Mato Grosso. Also look out for announcements about upcoming meetings for hypertension, including the Kazakh Society of Hypertension and Cardiovascular Prevention, the British and Irish Hypertension Society, the Japanese Society of Hypertension, Hypertension Canada, and the International Conference on Hypertension and Cardio Metabolic Syndrome meeting in Zagreb, Croatia. Last, do not delay registering for our next ISH Congress in Cartagena, Colombia, 19-22 September 2024.

In Greece, summer is close to an end, and a new academic term will begin. Wherever you are in the world, whether you are beginning a new academic term or not, I wish you a peaceful, productive and pleasant September!

George Stergiou
ISH Secretary
Athens, Greece

News

ISH President to be British Heart Foundation's first Chief Scientific and Medical Officer

Many congratulations to ISH President Bryan Williams who has been appointed as the BHF's first Chief Scientific and Medical Officer. The BHF is the UK's largest non-commercial funder of cardiovascular research. The appointment will not affect Bryan's role as ISH President.

ISH working alongside global partners to tackle the burden of hypertension

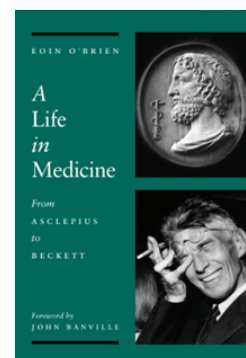
A [new paper](#) outlines how a collaboration between the WHO and global organisations including the ISH – the HEARTS partner forum – is leading the fight to improve the detection, treatment and control of high blood pressure globally.

Discussing tough problems in hypertension on ESC TV

Bryan Williams, appeared on the European Society of Cardiology's [online platform](#) to discuss areas including treatment of resistant hypertension, treatment of fluctuating blood pressure, and management of patients with aortic stenosis and hypertension.

“A Life in Medicine” by Eoin O’Brien

Readers may be interested in Eoin O’Brien’s memoir 'A Life in Medicine: From Asclepius to Beckett', which has been published recently by [The Lilliput Press](#). O’Brien, a distinguished ISH Fellow who is well-known to all involved in hypertension research, recounts his medical student days in Dublin, his career as a cardiologist in the UK and Ireland, and his participation in the research of hypertension with many friends and colleagues from around the world. In addition to his medical life the memoir is interwoven with personalities in literature and art leading to his close friendship with Samuel Beckett among others. ISBN: 9781843518570.



Obituary – Richard Gordon



The ISH was saddened to learn of the death of Richard Gordon, a leader in endocrinology and hypertension research who had huge influence in the field.

In an obituary of Richard, Michael Stowasser says:

“With his many contributions to medicine and science, Gordon has truly earned the right to be recognized as a pioneer in all facets of hypertension, whether research, clinical practice or public awareness and education.”

[Read the obituary](#) in full.

Register for ISH2024

[Register now](#) for the ISH's 2024 Congress in Cartagena, Colombia.



For more information on 2024 meeting, visit the [ISH2024 website](#), follow ISH2024 on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter/X](#), and [sign up](#) for regular email updates about the conference.

New Investigator Committee (NIC)

NIC spotlight – Mega Febrianora



Read the NIC's latest [spotlight feature on Mega Febrianora](#) – cardiologist consultant in cardiovascular prevention and rehabilitation from Indonesia.

Keep up to date with other NIC activities, including planned events for ISH2024, via the [ISH website](#) and please reach out with any feedback or suggestions to nic@ish-world.com.

Women in Hypertension Research Committee (WiHRC)

WiHRC spotlight – Raven Voora



Read the WiHRC's latest [spotlight interview with Raven Voora](#) – Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA.

Register your interest in joining the WiHRC network by emailing wihrc@ish-world.com. [Find out more](#) about the WiHRC.

Communications Committee

ISH and ESH explore guidelines in hypertension



In the [second of two interviews](#) exploring the development and impact of ESH and ISH hypertension guidelines, ISH Secretary Professor George Stergiou and 2023 ESH Guidelines Taskforce Member Professor Atul Pathak talk to ISH Communications Committee Chair Dr Anastasia Mihailidou, and Communications Committee Member Dr Dylan Burger.

The discussion covers the balance between practicality & ideal practice in guidelines, how differences in the delivery of healthcare in different settings influence the development of guidelines, sex and gender aspects of hypertension, and more.

If you missed the first of the recordings, you can [watch it on YouTube](#). The videos are part of the Communications Committee's focus on the development of a range of resources for the purposes of engagement.

Regional Advisory groups

Update from the Americas RAG

Representatives from the ISH were part of the XXXI Conference of the Brazilian Society of Hypertension (SBH), held in Cuiaba, Mato Grosso, in August 2023. The ISH co-organized a joint symposium on blood pressure control with the SBH, chaired by Debora Colombari (ISH Chair of Membership) and Katia de Angelis (SBH President).

The speakers were Elizabeth Muxfeldt (RAG Americas), Patricio Jaramillo (Honorary President, ISH-Cartagena 2024), Cesar Romero (RAG Americas), and Luiz Bortolotto (SBH Past-president).



Topics discussed included clinical inertia, monitoring, physical exercise, and first-line treatment.

[Read more.](#)

Partner Events and Activities

Kazakh Society of Hypertension and Cardiovascular Prevention



The Society's Congress of arterial hypertension and cardiovascular prevention will take place from 14-15 September 2023 in Almaty, Kazakhstan and will be a [hybrid event](#).

Annual meeting of the Japanese Society of Hypertension

The JSH's annual meeting will take place from 14-17 September 2023 in Osaka, Japan. [Find out more.](#)



International Conference on Prehypertension, Hypertension and Cardio Metabolic Syndrome



This [conference](#) in Zagreb, Croatia from 19-22 October 2022 is organized by the Croatian Society for Hypertension and Croatian Hypertension League in collaboration with the Bulgarian Hypertension Society/League, the Israeli Society for Hypertension, the Hungarian Society for Hypertension, the Slovenian Society for Hypertension and the Serbian Society for Hypertension.

British and Irish Hypertension Society (BIHS)

The BIHS will be hosting their annual meeting from the 18-20 September 2023 in Aberdeen. Further details are on the [BIHS website](#). [Bursaries](#) are available for the congress.



Canadian Hypertension Congress and YI Forum

Canada's largest national scientific and educational conference of its kind will return on October 23-24, 2023 - in person for the first time in 3 years. The theme is "The Changing Landscape of Hypertension" to explore various developments in research, technology, and guidelines.



Registration details and the call for abstracts will follow soon, and the ISH will share details in later bulletins.

E-Bulletin access

Should you wish to include a news item in the e-Bulletin please email secretariat@ish-world.com. Previous e-bulletins can be accessed via the [ISH website](#).

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