

INTRODUCTION FROM THE PRESIDENT

GEORGE STERGIU

President, International Society of Hypertension



It is my great pleasure to introduce the first issue of the Hypertension News as ISH President, and the last one for 2024. I am writing this introduction while memories of our 2024 ISH Scientific Meeting in Cartagena, Colombia are still fresh. It was wonderful to see so many members of the ISH family travelling very long distances to join our highly successful meeting in the wonderful city of Cartagena.

A large part of this edition of Hypertension News looks back on ISH2024. We include reports from some of our excellent speakers, and tried to give a flavor of the energy and spirit of our meeting in Latin America through pictures – exemplified by a memorable image from the ISH2024 opening ceremony on our front cover. If you had the opportunity to attend ISH2024 in Cartagena, then enjoy re-living the unique experience. If you didn't, then these reports and photos will give you an idea of what to expect during our next ISH meeting in Dubai in 2026. We hope to see you all there!

Our 2024 ISH meeting is now over, and we are grateful to the local scientific community for their enthusiasm and commitment, and the excellent organization in hosting our meeting. And we are grateful to so many ISH members from around the world for their valuable participation. These were the key factors that made this meeting exceptional.

On a personal note, in Cartagena I had the honor to take over the Presidency of ISH. I was lucky to succeed Bryan Williams, who expertly led the ISH over the past two years and passed the baton on to me with our society in excellent health. I am also lucky as President to have incredibly capable

colleagues in the ISH Executive and Council, as well as in our ISH Regional Advisory Groups (RAGs) and Committees. Five members of our Council are new, representing Africa, Asia, and Latin America, and all are great people with proven efficiency and commitment in serving the ISH. All our six ISH RAGs now have new and great leaders, and we expect them to be instrumental for the effective communication of ISH with the world. We profile these key people within the ISH leadership in this issue of Hypertension News.

You will also find in this issue articles from our 2024 ISH Awards' winners, the Cartagena Declaration for improving adherence to antihypertensive medications, reports from several ISH Committees, and a list of interesting articles on timely issues from our members and friends.

In the 2024-2026 term we have several major projects initiated by Bryan Williams which we must complete, including our educational platform, the ISH Academy, and Guidelines for patients. We are also working on designing new ones, aiming at empowering healthcare professionals around the world and improving the control of hypertension globally. As we have completed the first 3 months of the new ISH term and the end of the year is now close, I am glad about the progress we made in making key decisions on what we wish to achieve in the next two years. With such a diverse, dynamic, and dedicated team, I am confident that ISH will continue to grow and will expand its influence to the world.

Season's greetings from all at ISH! Wherever you are in the world, have a wonderful time with your family and friends, and best wishes for a Super-Happy and Creative New Year!

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