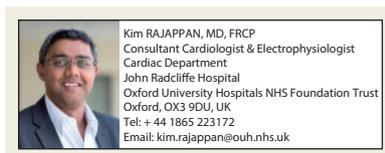
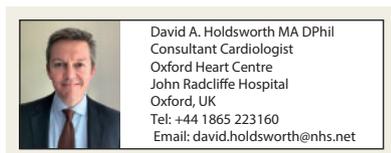


them up aggressively, in order to determine the true associations and to distinguish the genuine normal from the as-yet undiscovered markers of future cardiac disease.

Conflict of interest: none declared.



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The GREAT research network

A network that places young physician research scientists first, had its 12th annual meeting in the legendary Edinburgh Castle in Scotland

Addressing the major unmet need of interdisciplinary international clinical research in acute conditions, the GREAT research network was founded 12 years ago by Professor Alexandre Mebazaa (Paris), Professor Salvatore Di Somma (Rome), and Professor Christian Müller (Basel). While initially focused on the diagnosis and management of patients with acute heart failure, the research topics of the GREAT research network have meanwhile expanded to include the diagnosis and management of patients with acute myocardial infarction, syncope, sepsis, and acute abdominal pain.

dedicated to presentations by young researchers. Moreover, the atmosphere of the meeting from the beginning is highly supportive and encouraging for young researchers in order to allow them to grow and become confident in the presentation and discussion of science.



The GREAT research network combines academic research groups from more than 30 countries and has a rotating annual meeting putting young researchers first. More than half the time of the meeting is

In addition, the meeting aims to foster personal relationships and even friendships if possible among the research groups in order to establish trust and a collaborative spirit, that ultimately allows the research groups to effectively join forces by combining existing datasets and collaborating in joined prospective studies that could never ever have been managed by an individual research group.

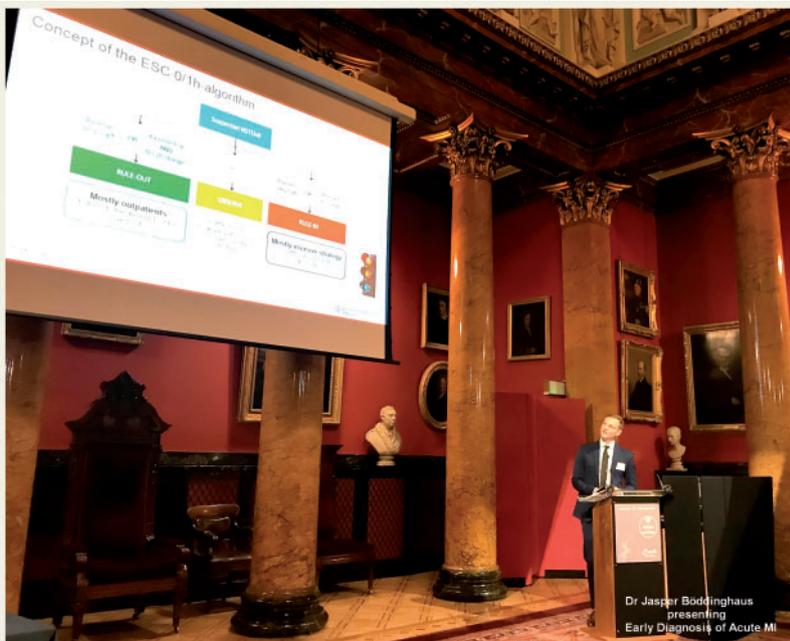
‘And fun must definitely be part of the game’, explains Salvatore di Somma. Therefore, the extensive social program also includes a football match with the host country playing against the rest of the world. ‘Playing together in a football team has much in common with working together in a research team’, adds Christian Mueller: ‘everybody has to bring her/his talent and best efforts, and everybody has to support the other team member wherever possible’.



'The selected city for the annual meeting is mainly based on three criteria', explains Alexandre Mebazaa: 'great local host, great sight-seeing, and ease for travelling to'. Accordingly, Professor Nick Mills and the city of Edinburgh were hosts for the 2019 meeting (duplex images). The meeting in Edinburgh had 140 attendees from 14 countries. The quality of the presentations, including those from the young physician scientists, was again outstanding.

As a result of these strategic concepts, the scientific output of the GREAT research network has been remarkable, particularly in the

field of acute heart failure and acute myocardial infarction. More than 100 peer-reviewed publications have already been produced from the collaborations initiated and enabled by the GREAT research network. For sure, these manuscripts, in general with one of the young research fellows as the first author, are only one dimension to quantify the enormous academic career steps done by the smart, open-minded, energetic, and hard-working physician scientists.



The GREAT research network has had a profound impact on my academic career, confirms Jasper Boeddinghaus. Jasper won the best presentation award in the past and gave an outstanding presentation in the state of the art session as a senior researcher this year (see image). Jasper was also promoted to member of the award committee. 'On the day preceding the GREAT meeting, I was invited by Nick Mills for interviews here at the University Hospital for a possible Fellowship in interventional cardiology next year. During previous GREAT meetings as well as the ESC meeting I had the chance to get to know Nick and his research team. We have had very nice and fruitful collaborations over the last years culminating in our joined paper in the *New England Journal of Medicine* today. It would be great to be able to join them now for the next step of my career'.

The GREAT research network is well aligned and closely connected with the Acute Cardiovascular Care Association of the ESC as well as with the Heart Failure Association of the ESC. If you are interested in joining the GREAT research network, simply register free-of-charge (www.greatnetwork.org) or contact Paola Vietti at paola.vietti@greatnetwork.org.



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Announcing *Global Heart's* activities for 2019



Global Heart is the official journal of the World Heart Federation and is uniquely positioned to serve as the primary journal for innovation in global and local prevention and management of cardiovascular disease (CVD) with a focus on low- and middle-income countries. This can take the form of cutting-edge applied and translational research, topical summaries of evidence and guidelines, health economics, policy strategies, and how to articles, to support local training, and capacity building.

Material in *Global Heart* can be addressed to scientists, policy makers, administrators, and all who have a role in reducing the burden of CVD for individual persons and the population at large. Furthermore, the journal published by Elsevier addresses community-based activities, CVD surveillance, health policies, education, ethical considerations, and technological innovations.

In December 2018, Prof. Diederick E. Grobbee, MD, PhD, FESC, was appointed as the new Editor-In-Chief of *Global Heart*. Rick Grobbee previously led the *ESC Journal of Preventive Cardiology* for 8 years. This feature will present his plans for *Global Heart* for 2019.



Succeeding Dr Jagat Narula, who assured *Global Heart* is now in a position to grow, the new Editor-in-Chief is positive about the journal's advancement and is dedicated to raising the journal's visibility, impact, and reach.

Consisting of Editorial Manager Rosemary Allpress, Elsevier staff, 4 Deputy Editors and 14 newly appointed Editors, the team reflects a sufficient range of competencies and academic backgrounds. Furthermore,

Dr Narula will remain on board as Senior Consulting Editor, providing support and advice. Together with the Board of Editors, Dr Grobbee

has developed various strategies and tools to promote *Global Heart*. One of their focal points has been working towards an impact factor for the Journal, which was allocated in June 2019 and currently stands at 3.238.

Dr Grobbee has come up with a plan of action for increasing both the number of high quality submissions and of citations of *Global Heart's* articles, including strategies for publishing and improving the journal's visibility on social media. To ensure the latter, Dr Grobbee has appointed young colleagues as junior editors to develop a plan. By representing *Global Heart* on social media through e.g. Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn, the team aims to reach those interested in CVD and, in particular, young researchers. Moreover, *Global Heart's* website will be updated, to fit its renewed and promising character.

Dr Grobbee aspires to continue improving the quality of the journal. For this purpose, the team has developed a system for a more critical and rapid assessment of submitted articles. This includes stricter methods for triaging manuscripts, resulting in an increased acceptance and rejection rate and subsequently in the promotion of quality content. Moreover, a renewed peer-reviewing strategy will assist in ensuring a prompt reviewing process. Dr Grobbee is enthusiastic about *Global Heart's* potential for growth and notability: 'I am sure readers of the ESC, AHA, and ACC families of Journals welcome the platform *Global Heart* provides for papers that help to reduce the inequities in cardiovascular health around the globe'. The recent *Global Heart* issue with the atlas of CVD serves well to show these inequities (<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/global-heart/vol/13/issue/3>).



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