

# Strike Out Stroke

in Atrial Fibrillation

Action for Stroke Prevention

## The Action for Stroke Prevention Group

### Authors of "How Can We Avoid a Stroke Crisis?"



**Professor Dr Paulus Kirchhof**  
University Hospital Münster, Germany

Professor Kirchhof holds the position of Senior Consultant at the Department of Cardiology and Angiology at University Hospital Münster, as well as Associate Professor of Medicine within the Medical Faculty of the Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster.

He has a longstanding interest in atrial fibrillation and is a board member of the European Heart Rhythm Association (EHRA) and a member of the European North-Atlantic Atrial Fibrillation Research Alliance (ENAFRA) as well as a founding member and project leader of the German Competence Network on Atrial Fibrillation (AFNET). Professor Kirchhof is also a member of several cardiology organisations including the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) and the International Society for Heart Research to name but a few. Since 2005, Professor Kirchhof has been an editorial consultant to the *Lancet* and also sits on the editorial boards of *Heart Rhythm* and *Europace*.

Recognising his contribution to cardiology, Professor Kirchhof has received numerous awards including the Woldemar-Mobitz prize of the German Society of Cardiology in 2004.



**Dr Adamos Adamou**  
Former Member of the European Parliament, Cyprus

Dr Adamou is a former Member of the European Parliament (MEP), as well as a doctor specialising in Internal Medicine and Medical Oncology.

His parliamentary commitments included sitting on the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, as well as serving as Chair of the MEP Heart Group. He was also co-chair of the MEP'S Against Cancer parliamentary group.

Dr Adamou graduated in medicine and later specialised in Internal Medicine and Medical Oncology. He assumed several senior clinical positions including Deputy Director of the Clinical Oncology Department of Nicosia General Hospital and Consultant Oncologist at the Bank of Cyprus Oncology Centre.

He has served on several medical committees including representation of Cyprus in the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) and member of the Cyprus Medical Association and chairman of its Bioethics Committee, currently chairing the ESMO Developing Countries Task Force. He was also elected Chairman of the Scientific Committee of the Cyprus Anticancer Society. He also chairs the Scientific Committee of the "Karaiskakio Foundation" (Bone Marrow Donors) and Chair of the Centre and Study of Hematological Malignancies.



**Eve Knight**  
Chief Executive, AntiCoagulation Europe

Eve Knight is co-founder and Chief Executive of AntiCoagulation Europe, the leading thrombosis charity working to prevent thrombosis and provide advice, information and support to people on anticoagulation and antiplatelet therapy.

Her remit includes making sure that there is a patient and carer perspective at all levels of service provision and to influence the political agenda where necessary.

Eve is a member of several political groups including the All Party Thrombosis Group and the Medical Technology Group. She has been a member of several boards and committees including the Government Modernisation Board for the National Health Service and the External Advisory Group for the National Service Framework for Coronary Heart Disease.

Eve is section editor at several prominent medical publications such as the *British Journal of Cardiology* and the *British Journal of Primary Care Nursing*.



**Professor Gregory YH Lip**  
City Hospital, Birmingham, UK

Professor Lip is Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine at the University of Birmingham, where he leads a large multi disciplinary research group. He also spends half his time as a practising clinical cardiologist based at the Centre for Cardiovascular Sciences, University of Birmingham, and is Visiting Professor of Haemostasis Thrombosis and Vascular Sciences in the School of Life and Health Sciences at the University of Aston in Birmingham.

Professor Lip is a leading authority on atrial fibrillation and has contributed to several guidelines on the subject. Most notably, he has acted as Clinical Adviser for the UK National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidelines on atrial fibrillation management.

Professor Lip practises in outpatient clinics within large atrial fibrillation and hypertension specialist clinics and coronary care units. In addition, he is involved in several cardiology committees, such as the Working Groups of Thrombosis and Cardiovascular Pharmacology of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC). Professor Lip works at a senior editorial level for several major international cardiology journals such as the *Journal of Human Hypertension, Thrombosis & Haemostasis* (both as Editor in Chief), *Circulation* (Guest Editor) and *Europace* (Associate Editor).



**Professor Bo Norrving**  
Lund University, Sweden

Professor Norrving is Professor of Neurology at Lund University, Sweden. His research activities focus on stroke epidemiology, stroke syndromes, clinical trials and organisation of stroke services.

Professor Norrving is an internationally influential figure in the field of stroke. He is the current president of the World Stroke Organisation, as well as a founding member of the European Stroke Council.

Professor Norrving has been actively involved in developing the European Stroke Organisation Stroke Guidelines and the Helsingborg Declaration on European Stroke Strategies, and he is a founder of Riks-Stroke, the world's first national stroke register. Professor Norrving is a European Associate Editor for *Stroke*.



**Professor Gérard de Pouvourville**  
ESSEC Business School, Paris, France

Professor de Pouvourville is Chair Professor for Health Economics at ESSEC Business School, one of the three major business schools in France.

He previously led a career as a researcher in the field of healthcare economics and management, at Ecole Polytechnique, at the French National School of Public Health and at the National Institute for Health and Medical Research (INSERM).

His main research areas focus on hospital funding and management, physician payment schemes, health technology assessment and pharmaco-economics, and health policy in France. He is former Chairman of the French Health Economist's College; Vice-President of the National Observatory for the Prescription and Usage of Drugs, and has been a scientific advisor to the French Ministry of Health on hospital funding systems and reforms for the past twenty years.



**Dr. med. Thomas Ulmer**  
MdEP Member of the European Parliament, Germany

Dr Ulmer is a German MEP belonging to the Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats), EPP.

Away from his political career, Dr Ulmer has a background in medicine, and is a practicing clinician. His academic credentials cover sports medicine, occupational medicine, radiological protection and emergency medicine.

Dr Ulmer carries out a full range of parliamentary responsibilities with a particular focus on health and is regarded as a specialist in health policy. He sits on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI) committee and, since 2000, is a health policy spokesman for the Christian Democratic Union (CDU).

## Working Group



**Dr Felicity Andreotti**

Catholic University Medical School, Rome, Italy

Dr Andreotti is a certified Professor in the Department of Cardiovascular Medicine at the Catholic University Medical School, Rome. Her main research interests are the pathogenesis and treatment of acute coronary syndromes.

Dr Andreotti currently chairs the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) Working Group on Thrombosis, a group convened to stimulate research and disseminate knowledge on thrombosis and bleeding-related disorders.

She has contributed to several sets of ESC guidelines and is a founder of the *Journal of Thrombosis and Thrombolysis*. She also sits on the editorial board of the *Journal of Cardiovascular Medicine and Heart*, and has authored or co-authored over 140 articles in peer-reviewed cardiology journals throughout her career.



**Professor John Camm**

St George's University, London, UK

Professor Camm is Professor of Clinical Cardiology, Chairman of the Discipline of Cardiology and Chairman of the Division of Cardiac and Vascular Sciences, at St George's University, London.

He is a leader in the field of electrocardiography and cardiac arrhythmias and sits on a number of society boards associated with the subjects, including the International Cardiac Pacing and Electrophysiology Society (ICPES), and the Atrial Fibrillation Task Force of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC), of which he is Chairman. He is also Chair of the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) Guidelines for Acute Coronary Syndrome, and a member of numerous cardiology societies.

Professor Camm is a major authority in the area of cardiology and has over 1,000 peer reviewed papers, 250 book chapters and 22 books (as editor, author or both) to his credit. He is also editor of several leading cardiology journals including *Europace*.



**Professor László Csiba**

University of Debrecen, Hungary

Professor Csiba is Professor and Head of the Department of Neurology at the University of Debrecen, Hungary as well as President of the European Society of Neurosonology and Cerebral Hemodynamics

A neurologist and psychiatrist, Professor Csiba has spent most of his career focused on experimental and clinical research in neurology at various European institutions, before taking up his current position at the University of Debrecen.

Since 1992 he has been active in the development of stroke-center-network. He is also the founder of the Hungarian Neurosonological Society, president of the Hungarian Stroke Society and in 2009 he was elected the president of European Society of Neurosonology and Cerebral Hemodynamics. He is the chairman of the European Cooperation Committee of European Federation of Neurological Societies, tasked with increasing cooperation between European neurological societies.



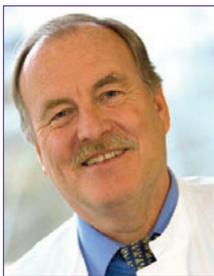
**Professor Antoni Dávalos**

Hospital Universitari Germans Trias i Pujol, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain

Professor Dávalos is Director of the Department of Neurosciences at the Hospital Universitari Germans Trias i Pujol, Barcelona. He is also Associated Professor of Neurology at the the Autonomous University of Barcelona. His research interests focus on the acute phase of stroke.

Professor Dávalos has served as Secretary of the Spanish Neurological Society, and is also an elected member of the American Neurological Association for his work on the study of cerebrovascular diseases.

Professor Dávalos has been involved in a number of drug trials relating to acute stroke such as thrombolytic therapy studies, ECASS II and ECASS III, and neuroprotection studies including SAINT I and II and ICTUS. He has published more than 200 original papers on cerebrovascular diseases in international journals and has held senior editorial positions at a number of influential publications in the field of stroke such as *Stroke* and *Cerebrovascular Diseases* journals.



**Professor Dr Werner Hacke**

University of Heidelberg, Germany

Professor Hacke is Professor and Chairman of the Department of Neurology at the University of Heidelberg, Germany. His research interests include stroke prevention and interventional stroke therapy.

He is President of the European Stroke Organisation (ESO) and of the German Stroke Society, the elected First Vice President of the World Federation of Neurology and a past President of the German Society of Neurology. Professor Hacke has been involved with many clinical studies, and recently led ECASS 3, SPACE and DESTINY as chair of the steering committee.

In recognition of his achievements and contribution to the field of stroke, Professor Hacke has been the recipient of numerous research awards including the Feinberg Award for excellence in stroke research, given by the American Stroke Association (1998), the Karolinska Stroke Award and the prestigious MIHARA Award in Japan.



**Professor Dr Karl Heinz-Ladwig**

Helmholtz Zentrum München, German Research Center for Environmental Health, Neuherberg, Germany

Professor Heinz-Ladwig is Professor of Psychosomatic Medicine and Psychological Medicine at the Medical Faculty of the Technical University of Munich (TUM). He is Deputy Director of the Chronic Disease Epidemiology Department of the Institute of Epidemiology at the Helmholtz Zentrum München, German Research Centre for Environmental Health in Munich. His research interests include psycho-cardiology (bio-behavioural concepts in cardiology).

Professor Ladwig is also affiliated to the German Heart Centre in Munich, where he runs a psychophysiological laboratory. He is engaged in conducting studies focusing on bio-behavioural aspects of cardiovascular epidemiology.



**Professor Michael G Hennerici**  
University of Heidelberg, Universitätsklinikum Mannheim, Germany

Professor Hennerici is Professor of Neurology at the University of Heidelberg and Chairman of the Department of Neurology and Medical Director of the Universitätsklinikum Mannheim.

Professor Hennerici founded the European Stroke Conference (ESC) and the German Stroke Foundation, and is also the founder and a current editor of the journal Cerebrovascular Diseases.

He has been involved in several international clinical trials (ECASS, ESTAT, CAPRIE, MATCH, SITS-MOST, SPARCL, SPACE, PERFORM, etc) and has published more than 400 original papers on the biology, pathogenesis and imaging of brain damage from stroke and impairment of cerebral circulation.

The numerous awards he has received, including the prestigious Mihara Award of the International Stroke Society in 2004, are testament to his longstanding contribution to stroke research.



**Professor Richard Hobbs**  
University of Birmingham, United Kingdom

Professor Hobbs is Professor and Head of Primary Care Clinical Sciences at the University of Birmingham, UK. He is Director of the National School for Primary Care Research (part of the National Institute of Health Research) and was co-Director of the Quality and Outcomes (QOF) Review Panel. The QOF Panel was the expert team convened to oversee changes to the QOF framework; it works to support the continuing improvement of the quality of care provided to patients in the UK. His research interests focus on cardiovascular epidemiology and clinical trials relating to vascular and stroke risk and heart failure.

Within the NHS, he has consulted on National Service Frameworks for coronary heart disease, atrial fibrillation, and heart failure and several National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) reviews.

Professor Hobbs is a key advisor to several research funding bodies including the Council of the British Heart Foundation and the Board of the British Primary Care Cardiovascular Society. Currently, he commits much of his time to chairing several cardiology societies including the European Society of Cardiology (ESC); the Prevention and Care Board, British Heart Foundation, and the European Primary Care Cardiovascular Society (EPCCS).



**Dr Torsten Hoppe-Tichy**  
University Hospital of Heidelberg, Germany

Dr Hoppe-Tichy is Chief Pharmacist of the Pharmacy Department at the University Hospital of Heidelberg, Germany.

Dr Hoppe-Tichy's professional memberships are extensive and include the German Society of Hospital Pharmacists (ADKA) where he also sits on the Working Group for Medications Safety. He is also a member of the Scientific Committee of the European Association of Hospital Pharmacists (EAHP). EAHP works to develop hospital pharmacy,

establish a common pharmaceutical policy in Europe and uphold the interests of hospital pharmacists in European Union Member States with the EU authorities.

His achievements have been recognised by several prestigious industry awards including the Poster Prize of the European Association of Hospital Pharmacists and Poster Prize of the German Association of Hospital Pharmacists.



**Professor Antoine Leenhardt**  
Lariboisière Hospital, Paris, France

Professor Leenhardt is Professor of Cardiology and Head of the Cardiology Department in Lariboisière Hospital, Paris.

He is the past president of the French working group of cardiac arrhythmias and pacing.

Professor Leenhardt has a strong interest in atrial arrhythmias, antiarrhythmic agents, devices and channelopathies.



**Dr Maddalena Lettino**  
San Matteo Hospital, Pavia, Italy

Dr Lettino is Staff Physician in the CCU-Cardiology Department at the San Matteo Hospital in Pavia. She is also Chairwoman of the Italian Atherosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology (ATBV) Working Group.

She is involved in research projects in the fields of atherosclerosis and arterial thrombosis with a particular focus on the pathophysiology of acute coronary syndromes.

Dr Lettino has authored six books, over 30 papers and over 50 short papers and abstracts. She also holds editorial positions at numerous publications and is Editor of the ATVB Italian Working Group website.



**Trudie Lobban MBE**  
Arrhythmia Alliance and Atrial Fibrillation Association

Trudie Lobban is Founder and Trustee of the Arrhythmia Alliance and CEO of the Atrial Fibrillation Association (AFA) which she co-founded with Professor John Camm following demand from both patients and clinicians worldwide. She is also a founder of the Syncope Trust and Reflex Anoxic Seizure Group (STARS and STARS-US).

Since her daughter's diagnosis with Reflex Anoxic Seizures (RAS), Trudie has made a significant contribution to the area of arrhythmias founding three organisations. One of which, the Arrhythmia Alliance, was instrumental in pushing through one of the most fundamental policy issues affecting cardiology in the UK – the extension of the National Service Framework (NSF) for coronary heart disease to include a chapter on Arrhythmias and Sudden Cardiac Death.

Trudie sits on a number of medical boards, Department of Health committees and steering groups. She has been awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List, for her services to healthcare.



**Rod Mitchell**

Patient Advocate, Board Member, European Platform for Patients' Organisations

Rod Mitchell is a well known patient advocate and Chair and member of various patient and policy associations. He participates in the EFPIA Think Tank, which brings together industry and patient representatives.

He was a Governing Board member and Treasurer of IAPO (International alliance of patients' organisations), the only global alliance representing patients of all nationalities across all disease areas, for six years.

For most of his life he has been actively involved as a volunteer in committee and board roles within European and UK Crohn's and Colitis patient organisations. Rod brings broad experience to many advisory boards and EC funded multi-stakeholder projects.



**Dr C Ian Ragan**

Executive Director, European Brain Council

Dr Ragan is the Executive Director of the European Brain Council (EBC), the coordinating body formed by European organisations in neurology, neurosurgery, psychiatry, basic brain research, as well as patient organisations and industry. EBC aims to promote brain research in Europe and to improve the quality of life of those affected by brain diseases.

Dr Ragan is a member of the Scientific Advisory Boards of Biovail, Evotec AG and the BioSim Network of Excellence. He is a trustee of Autism Speaks and a member of the UK

Government's Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs.

He was previously Executive Director of Neuroscience Research, Europe, for Eli Lilly and more recently its Consultant for European Scientific Affairs. In the latter role, he was Lilly's representative on the Research Directors Group of EFPIA (European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations) and a member and ex-Chair of the R&D Committee of the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry.



**Mellanie True Hills**

Chief Executive, StopAfib.org

Mellanie True Hills is an internationally-recognised heart health expert and speaker, award-winning author, and the Founder and CEO of the American Foundation for Women's Health and [www.StopAfib.org](http://www.StopAfib.org), a patient advocacy organisation for people with atrial fibrillation.

After almost dying in an emergency heart procedure and suffering from blood clots and a near stroke from atrial fibrillation, Mellanie left her career as a high-tech strategy consultant for some of the world's largest corporations to dedicate her time to speaking out to raise awareness of heart disease, stroke, and atrial fibrillation. She founded the patient advocacy organisation StopAfib.org, which provides atrial fibrillation patients with information, education and resources on management and treatment. She is a member of numerous advisory boards and speaks regularly on behalf of the atrial fibrillation patient community before various government agencies, including the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).



**Professor Panos Vardas**  
Heraklion University Hospital, Crete

Professor Vardas is head of the Cardiology Department at Heraklion University Hospital, Crete where he divides his time between practicing cardiology and teaching. He is also currently the President of the European Heart Rhythm Association (EHRA), the leading organisation in the field of arrhythmias and electrophysiology in Europe.

Professor Vardas is a distinguished cardiologist and sits on many committees and boards of leading cardiology organisations including the ESC Committee for Practice Guidelines, the ESC Congress Programme Committee and the ESC Cardiovascular Round Table. He is a long serving board member of the Greek National Health Services Authority, and served as President of the Hellenic Cardiological Society.

He holds editorial positions at several peer reviewed cardiology publications including the *Hellenic Journal of Cardiology*, *Europace* and the *Cardiology Management Journal*. He is an authority in the field of electrophysiology and pacing and the author of numerous original articles, chapters and a book on arrhythmias. Professor Vardas also chaired the Task Force for Cardiac Pacing and Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy of the European Society of Cardiology, preparing and publishing the "*Guidelines for Cardiac Pacing and Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy*", in collaboration with EHRA. His contribution has been recognised by several awards including an award from the International League of Humanists, Silver Medal of the European Society of Cardiology, as well as numerous honorary memberships of national cardiology societies.