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The journal Pulse publishes full-length reviews, mini reviews, and original papers in the field of vascular research. Bringing together the basic and clinical sciences across a range of disciplines, Pulse provides a forum for communication of the latest findings and hypotheses that enhance our understanding of pulsatile processes and vascular disease. The transdisciplinary approach of the journal fosters collaboration in relevant areas including cardiology, nephrology, neurology, endocrinology and diabetology, gerontology and general medicine. All articles are subject to rigorous peer-review in order to maintain the highest standards of publication.

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**Selected contributions**

- Increased Calcification in Osteoprotegerin-Deficient Smooth Muscle Cells: Dependence on Receptor Activator of NF-κB Ligand and Interleukin 6: Callegari, A.; Coons, M.L.; Ricks, J.L.; Rosenfeld, M.E.; Scatena, M. (Seattle, Wash)
- The Role of Pericyte Detachment in Vascular Rarefaction: Schrimpf, C.; Teebken, O.E.; Wilhelmi, M. (Hannover); Duffield, J.S. (Seattle, Wash)
- Antioxidant Treatment Prevents Serum Deprivation- and TNF-α-Induced Endothelial Dysfunction through the Inhibition of NADPH Oxidase 4 and the Restoration of β-Oxidation: Scioli, M.G.; Bielli, A.; Agostinelli, S.; Tarquin, C.; Arcuri, G.; Ferlosio, A.; Costanza, G.; Doldo, E.; Orlandi, A. (Rome)
- Remodelling of Cerebral Microcirculation after Ischaemia-Reperfusion: Lapi, D.; Colantuoni, A. (Naples)
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Most diseases are related to the function of the microvasculature, and ‘vessels’ are involved in more than half of human deaths in western countries. Indeed, vessels are tightly linked to numerous pathologies, including atherosclerosis and related cardiovascular diseases (e.g., myocardial infarct, stroke), hypertension, diabetes, obesity, cancer progression, metastasis, and inflammatory diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis and psoriasis. Blood vessels are also at the base of tissue regeneration and wound healing and thus, represent a key element after surgical intervention.

Geneva has a long tradition as a venue for major meetings and is a host city to many international organizations. It has been a cultural center for many centuries and is home to many creative spirits in the fields of science and art. The University of Geneva is one of seven Swiss centers conducting research in all vascular biology fields of clinical and basic sciences. Geneva amalgamates all the advantages of a small town with the facilities and services usually only found in much larger cities! It provides a unique environment to meet with colleagues in a relaxing atmosphere. On behalf of the Organizing Committee, we look forward to introducing you to the smallest of the big capitals. We are sure it will offer the ideal environment to discuss cutting edge in vascular biology, as well as to explore new scientific frontiers that are relevant to the various societal challenges facing the 21st century.

Beat A. Imhof
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TOPICS OF SESSIONS
1. Novel mechanisms of cellular trafficking via the vasculature
2. Imaging the microvasculature (basic research)
3. Functional assessment and imaging of microvasculature in clinical practice (clinical research)
4. Lymphatics in Health and Disease
5. Management of Lymphatic disorders (clinics)
6. Vascular development and progenitors
7. Regulation of vascular permeability
8. Molecular mechanisms underlying tissue specific vascular phenotypes
9. Inflammation and immunity in atherosclerosis
10. Tumor angiogenesis and resistance to anti-angiogenic therapy
11. Novel angiogenic pathways and tissue regeneration
12. Metabolic diseases and vasculature
13. Vascular ageing
14. Vascular progenitors
15. Biomechanics of vascular disease
16. Epigenetics and non-coding RNA in microvascular biology (A)
17. Oxidative reactions, signaling and stress
18. Epigenetics and non-coding RNA in vascular biology (B)
19. Platelets and Microvasculature
20. Functional and morphological effects in hypertension
21. Emerging technologies in vascular biology

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The meeting will be held at the International Conference Center of Geneva (CICG). It is conveniently located near the International Airport and major highways, the railway station, the international organizations, Lake Geneva and the historic old town.

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PLENARY SPEAKERS
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Peter F Davies - Philadelphia, USA
Christer Bertsholtz - Uppsala, Sweden
Zoltan Ungvari - Oklahoma City, USA
Elisabetta Dejana - Milan, Italy
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The journal *CardioRenal Medicine* explores the mechanisms by which obesity and other metabolic abnormalities promote the pathogenesis and progression of heart and kidney disease (cardiorenal metabolic syndrome). It provides an interdisciplinary platform for the advancement of research and clinical practice, focussing on translational issues.

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*CardioRenal Medicine* addresses a multidisciplinary audience consisting of nephrologists, cardiologists, nutritionists, endocrinologists, physiologists and general internists.

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**Selected contributions**
- Arterial Stiffness: A Nexus between Cardiac and Renal Disease: Jia, G.; Aroor, A.R.; Sowers, J.R. (Columbia, Mo.)
- The Hemodynamic and Nonhemodynamic Crosstalk in Cardiorenal Syndrome Type 1: Virzì, G.M. (Vicenza/Padua); Clementi, A. (Vicenza/Agrigento); Brocca, A.; de Cal, M.; Vescovo, G. (Vicenza); Granata, A. (Agrigento); Ronco, C. (Vicenza).
- Prevalence and Clinical Features of Patients with the Cardiorenal Syndrome Admitted to an Internal Medicine Ward: Gigante, A.; Liberatori, M.; Gasperini, M.L.; Sardo, L.; Di Mario, F.; Dorelli, B.; Barbano, B.; Rosato, E.; Rossi Funelli, F.; Amoroso, A. (Rome)

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Congenital Heart Disease
Molecular Genetics, Principles of Diagnosis and Treatment

Editors
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This cutting-edge book encompasses the latest advances in the embryology, epidemiology, genetics, diagnosis, imaging, and therapy of congenital heart disease. The international cast of authors are leaders in their fields and have combined their talents to produce a unique and expert perspective on congenital heart disease. The work is of interest to pediatricians, internal medicine specialists, medical geneticists, both pediatric and adult cardiologists, embryologists, imaging physicians, and cardiac surgeons. This book arrives at a very exciting time as new genetic, imaging, and therapeutic developments are changing the field of congenital heart disease. It takes the reader on a journey that begins with a historical overview of congenital cardiovascular anomalies and ends with developments in stem cell and tissue engineering. In between these chapters are destinations that include cardiac embryogenesis, epidemiology, genetic syndromes associated with cardiovascular anomalies, single gene disorders, cardiac imaging, surgical and interventional therapies, and ethical considerations. Congenital Heart Disease is an invaluable reference. In short, it provides important pearls of wisdom to create a comprehensive reference for all physicians involved with congenital heart disease.

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The Tobacco Epidemic  
2nd, revised and extended edition  
Editors: Robert Loddenkemper, Michael Kreuter

This completely revised and enlarged 2nd edition of The Tobacco Epidemic provides a comprehensive update of the clinical, public health and political aspects of tobacco smoking. Since its 1st edition in 1997, knowledge on the health hazards of tobacco and nicotine addiction has increased considerably, but recent data has shown that the global problem has become more aggravated in low- and middle-income countries: if current trends continue, tobacco smoking will be responsible for the deaths of 1 billion people in the 21st century.

Written by outstanding international experts, the book covers the history of tobacco production and use, the economics of tobacco use and control, as well as the health consequences of active and passive smoking in both adults and children. Special chapters discuss the impact of media, movies and TV on tobacco consumption in young people, the patterns and predictors of smoking cessation in the general population and in different social subgroups, and initiatives supported by the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. Readers will find the latest information on how nicotine dependence is treated with nicotine replacement products, what role health care professionals play in helping smokers to quit and what effects smoke-free environments, advertising bans and price increases have on smoking prevalence. The potential harms and benefits of smokeless tobacco, waterpipe tobacco smoking and electronic cigarettes are also evaluated.

This book is a must-read for anyone in the medical profession who treats patients with smoking-related diseases and for those engaged in tobacco control. It will also be appreciated by interested nonmedical readers like journalists and legislators.

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The fifth revised edition of this highly successful book presents the most extensive enhancement since Using and Understanding Medical Statistics was first published 30 years ago. Without question, the single greatest change has been the inclusion of source code, together with selected output, for the award-winning, open-source, statistical package known as R. This innovation has enabled the authors to de-emphasize formulae and calculations, and let software do all of the ‘heavy lifting’. This edition also introduces readers to several graphical statistical tools, such as Q-Q plots to check normality, residual plots for multiple regression models, funnel plots to detect publication bias in a meta-analysis and Bland-Altman plots for assessing agreement in clinical measurements. New examples that better serve the expository goals have been added to a half-dozen chapters. In addition, there are new sections describing exact confidence bands for the Kaplan-Meier estimator, as well as negative binomial and zero-inflated Poisson regression models for over-dispersed count data.

The end result is not only an excellent introduction to medical statistics, but also an invaluable reference for every discerning reader of medical research literature.