SYLLABUS

24th Annual
Heart Failure 2020
An Update on Therapy
Saturday, August 1, 2020

A Virtual Event from Los Angeles, California

Program Director
Uri Elkayam, MD, FACC, FAHA, FHFA

Program Co-Director
Anil K. Bhandari, MD, FACC, FHRS

Officially endorsed by
The Heart Failure Society of America

Endorsed by
California Chapter of the American College of Cardiology

Affiliated with the
International Academy of Cardiology

LAHeartFailure.com
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Boston Scientific
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This year’s program provides a comprehensive update on the prevention, diagnosis and management of heart failure (HF). The program includes lectures presented by experts combined with interactive discussion with faculty. The extensive list of topics has been selected to provide a high level, contemporary and clinically relevant update with a goal of improving the care of patients with heart failure.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this activity, the participants should be able to:

1. Review recent guidelines for the management of HF
2. Manage volume overload in hospitalized patients with HF and review new recommendations for the use of diuretics
3. Learn how to use SGLT2 inhibitors in the treatment of HF
4. Develop a step wide approach to early diagnosis and management of amyloidosis
5. Use new therapy for the management of hyperkalemia in patients with HF
6. Understand the relationship between HF and atrial fibrillation
7. Understand treatment options for the prevention of sudden death in HF
8. Provide an update on the diagnosis and management of HF due to myocarditis
9. Understand the role of the right ventricle in the prognosis and management of HF
10. Understand the role of endomyocardial biopsy in the diagnosis of HF etiology
11. Provide a perspective on the Swan-Ganz Catheter
12. Review the innovations in the area of ventricular assist devices in the management of advanced HF
13. Review the differences between the various bedside mechanical assist devices in the prevention and management of cardiogenic shock
14. Understand the continuing role of heart transplantation in the treatment of advanced HF
15. Understand the indication and effect of iron supplements in patients with HF
16. Learn how to use high sensitivity troponin for the diagnosis and prognosis of patients with HF
17. Provide an update on new therapeutic approaches for the management of patients with chronic HF

TARGET AUDIENCE

This program has been designed to provide cardiologists, internists, primary care physicians, pharmacists, nurses and other healthcare providers with the necessary information to increase knowledge with the goal of improving the care of patients with HF.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Heart failure (HF) is common, but often unrecognized and misdiagnosed. Early diagnosis and effective therapy is important (Circulation 2013;128:e240). There is strong evidence that increased use of evidence based, life sustaining therapies and performance measures have a significant impact on the outcome of patients with HF (BMC CV Disorders 2016;16:195). Recent data continues to show an important gap between published guideline recommendations and practice (Eur J HF 2017;19:301) and demonstrates that life-saving drugs and devices are underutilized (Circulation 2016;133:273, JAMA Cardiol 2017;2561, JACC 2016; 67:1062) and indicates the need for education and incorporation of recent guidelines by clinicians (Circulation 2017;136: e137). The Heart Failure 2020 symposium has been designed to provide an update on new diagnostic and therapeutic modalities as well as new practice guidelines for the management of patients with HF.
ACCREDITATION STATEMENT

This Live activity, 24th Annual Heart Failure 2020: An Update on Therapy, with a beginning date of 04/13/2019, has been reviewed and is acceptable for up to 5.75 Prescribed credit(s) by the American Academy of Family Physicians. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

AAFP Prescribed credit is accepted by the American Medical Association as equivalent to AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ toward the AMA Physician’s Recognition Award.

AANP: The American Academy of Nurse Practitioners accepts AAFP Prescribed credit. This program was planned in accordance with AANP CE Standards and Policies and AANP Commercial Support Standards.

ANCC: According to the ANCC, the continuing education hours approved by the AAFP meet the ANCC-accredited CNE criteria.

AAPA: The American Academy of Physician Assistants accepts AAFP Prescribed credit for AAPA Category 1 CME credit.

FACULTY DISCLOSURE

It is our policy to ensure balance, independence, objectivity and scientific rigor. All persons involved in the selection, development and presentation of content are required to disclose any real or apparent conflicts of interest. All conflicts of interest will be resolved prior to an educational activity being delivered to learners through one of the following mechanisms 1) altering the financial relationship with the commercial interest, 2) altering the individual’s control over CME content about the products or services of the commercial interest, and/or 3) validating the activity content through independent peer review. All persons are also required to disclose any discussions of off label/unapproved uses of drugs or devices. Persons who refuse or fail to disclose are disqualified from participating in the CME activity. Participants will be asked to evaluate whether the speaker’s outside interests reflect a possible bias in the planning or presentation of the activity. This information is used to plan future activities.

CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC COMPETENCY.

This activity is in compliance with California Assembly Bill 1195 which requires continuing medical education activities with patient care components to include curriculum in the subjects of cultural and linguistic competency. Cultural competency is defined as a set of integrated attitudes, knowledge, and skills that enables health care professionals or organizations to care effectively for patients from diverse cultures, groups, and communities. Linguistic competency is defined as the ability of a physician or surgeon to provide patients who do not speak English or who have limited ability to speak English, direct communication in the patient’s primary language. Cultural and linguistic competency was incorporated into the planning of this activity.

HEART FAILURE SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Officially endorsed by the Heart Failure Society of America. The opinions presented in this educational activity do not necessarily reflect the opinions or recommendations of the HFSA.
24th Annual
Heart Failure 2020
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Saturday, August 1, 2020            A Virtual Event from Los Angeles, CA

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**DISCLOSURES**

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## DISCLOSURES

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<td>Saibal Kar, MD</td>
<td>Abbot Vascular</td>
<td>Consultant and Member of Scientific Advisory Body, National PI of the REPAIR MR Trial, National PI of the PINNACLE FLX Trial and the CHAMPION AF Trial</td>
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The following have no relevant financial relationships to disclose: Leslie T. Cooper, MD, Uri Elkayam, MD, James Forrester, MD, Nir Uriel, MD, Hector Ventura, MD

The CME staff, meeting planners, and CME committee reviewers do not have any relevant financial relationships to disclose.

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PROGRAM

7:30  Product Theatre (Non-CME)
      Supported by AstraZeneca
      The Next Horizon in the Heart Failure Treatment Paradigm for Patients With HFrEF
      Karthik Linganathan, MD, MBA, FHFSA

8:00  Introduction
      Uri Elkayam, MD

8:10  Management of Volume Overload in the Hospitalized Patient with Heart Failure - The Science and the Art
      Uri Elkayam, MD

8:30  Amyloidosis Cardiomyopathy: Strategies for Early Diagnosis and Treatment
      Matthew Maurer, MD

8:50  Hyperkalemia and Heart Failure: Treatment Rational and Strategies
      Ileana Pina, MD

9:10  Atrial Fibrillation and Heart Failure: Fire and Fury
      Anil Bhandari, MD

9:35  SGLT2 Inhibitors as a Treatment for Heart Failure
      Uri Elkayam, MD

9:55  Break/Visit Virtual Exhibits

10:15 Repair of Functional MR: How to Select the Appropriate Patient
      Saibal Kar, MD

10:35 Myocarditis and Heart Failure: Diagnosis, Prognosis and Treatment
      Leslie Cooper, MD

10:55 COVID-19 and Heart Failure
      Mandeep Mehra, MD

11:15 Iron Supplements as a Treatment for Heart Failure
      Inder Anand, MD

11:30  Keynote Lecture
      50th Anniversary of the Swan-Ganz Catheter: A Historical Perspective
      James Forrester, MD

12:00 Lunch Break Product Theatre (non-cme)
      Supported by: Novartis
      Selecting A First-Choice Therapy For Systolic HF: Meeting the Burden of Proof
      Javed Butler, MD

1:30  Durable Ventricular Assist Devices - A Status Report
      Mandeep Mehra, MD

1:50  Bedside Mechanical Assist Devices for Severe Heart Failure/Cardiogenic Shock: When, Which One and How?
      Nir Uriel, MD

2:10  Heart Transplantation 2020 – An Update
      Hector Ventura, MD

2:30  Current Status of Endomyocardial Biopsy
      Leslie Cooper, MD

2:45  The History and Future of ICD Trials
      David Cannom, MD

3:05  Break/Visit Virtual Exhibits

3:20  High Sensitivity Troponins in Heart Failure: Friend or Foe?
      Alan Maisel, MD

3:40  Update on Novel Therapeutic Approaches to Heart Failure
      Barry Greenberg, MD

4:00  Product Theatre (Non-CME)
      Supported by Alnylam
      ONPATTRO (patisiran) – A Treatment for the Polyneuropathy of hATTR Amyloidosis in Adults
      Speaker TBD

4:45pm Adjourn
Uri Elkayam, MD, FACC, FAHA, FHFSA
Professor of Medicine
Division of Cardiology
University of Southern California
Los Angeles, CA

Uri Elkayam, MD received his medical degree from the Tel-Aviv University, Israel, in 1973 and is presently Professor of Medicine (Cardiology) at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. He is a past member of the executive council and chairman of the corporate affairs committee of the American Society of Cardiac Failure. Doctor Elkayam is a member of the editorial boards of the American Journal of Cardiology, JACC heart failure, Cardiology, Journal of cardiovascular pharmacology and Therapeutics and Cardiology in Review and a past member of the editorial boards of JACC and the Journal of Cardiac Failure. He is a fellow of the American College of Cardiology, American Heart Association and American College of chest physicians.

Doctor Elkayam’s research and clinical interests are in the areas of congestive heart failure, heart disease and pregnancy, valvular heart disease, cardiomyopathies and cardiovascular pharmacology. He has been involved in more than 100 self initiated; NIH and industry funded research projects and served in a leading position in numerous national and international multi-center studies. He is the author or co-author on over 190 publications and over 80 book chapters and has the distinction of being listed in Best Doctors in America and America’s Top Doctors from 2001 to 2016 and as one of the top 100 most influential Israelis in the U.S. in 2011.
Dr. Bhandari completed his cardiology fellowship at the University of Rochester in New York in 1982 and cardiac electrophysiology training in 1983 at the University of California, San Francisco. This was the era when the field of cardiac electrophysiology ablative procedures was just born. Thereafter, Dr. Bhandari joined Los Angeles Cardiology Associates in 1989 and has led a very active tertiary level cardiac electrophysiology practice ever since then. Over the last 30 years, Dr. Bhandari has been Director of the Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology Fellowship program at Harbor UCLA/Good Samaritan Hospital. He is Clinical Professor of Medicine at Keck School of Medicine and Chairs the CME/GME Program at Good Samaritan Hospital. He has over 100 peer review publications in prestigious peer review journals and is a Member of the editorial board for the Journal of Cardiovascular Pharmacology.
Inder S. Anand obtained his undergraduate medical education from India and D Phil (Ph.D.) in cardiovascular physiology from Oxford University, England where he was a Rhodes scholar. He later trained as a clinical cardiologist in London and was Clinical Senior Lecturer at the National Heart and Lung Institute, London. On return to India, he joined the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGI), Chandigarh, established the interventional cardiology program and developed a keen interest in Heart Failure and High-Altitude Medicine and Biology. In the field of heart failure, he showed that the stimulus for fluid retention is a threat to the blood pressure, that is common to all congestive states independent of cardiac function. His work on High Altitude Medicine and Physiology lead to the discovery of two new syndromes in people living at high altitude; Infantile sub-acute mountain sickness in Tibet, China and Sub-acute adult mountain sickness in Indian soldiers posted at the Siachen Glacier. He pioneered the use of inhaled nitric oxide in the management of high altitude pulmonary edema in Indian soldiers. He helped to develop the concept of adaptation in Man and Animals indigenous to high altitude by showing that natives do not respond to hypobaric hypoxia by pulmonary vasoconstriction because of a lack vascular smooth muscle in the pulmonary arterioles.

In 1991, Dr. Anand moved to the US and accepted the position of Professor of Medicine, University of Minnesota, and Director of the Heart Failure Program at the VA Medical Center, Minneapolis. He worked on the cellular and subcellular mechanisms of heart failure in rodents and showed that early in the natural history of severe left ventricular systolic dysfunction, isolated myocyte function is normal, underscoring the importance of ventricular remodeling in the pathogenesis of heart failure. He has also been very active in designing and conducting clinical trials in heart failure and has been principal investigator in over 80 trials. He has been a member of executive, steering and end-point committees of several international trials. Dr. Anand has authored over 450 peer-reviewed scientific publications, over 600 abstracts and has over 32,000 citations of his published work with an h-index of 90. He is member of the editorial board of several reputed Journals and has won several national and international awards.
David Cannom, MD, FACC, FHRs
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David S. Cannom, MD, FACC, FACP, is Clinical Professor of Medicine at the UCLA School of Medicine, Medical Director of Cardiology at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Los Angeles, California, and electrophysiologist at the Cedars-Sinai Heart Institute. He is also managing partner of a 10-man cardiology group, Los Angeles Cardiology Associates, specializing in coronary and electrophysiology interventions.

Dr Cannom received his degree in medicine from the University of Minnesota School of Medicine in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and completed his medical training in an internship and residency at Yale-New Haven Hospital in New Haven, Connecticut, and his cardiology training at Stanford University School of Medicine in Stanford, California. Dr. Cannom is Past Governor and President of the California chapter of the American College of Cardiology. He is also Past President of the North American Society of Pacing and Electrophysiology and Past President of the Heart Rhythm Foundation.

He serves on the editorial boards of Pacing and Clinical Electrophysiology, Journal of Cardiac Electrophysiology, Cardiac Electrophysiology Review, and the Journal of Cardiovascular Pharmacology and Therapeutics. He is the author or coauthor of approximately 300 journal articles, book chapters, and abstracts.
Over the past 20 years, my career has focused on the evaluation and diagnosis of rare and undiagnosed cardiomyopathies especially autoimmune variants of myocarditis. I have coordinated multicenter investigations including the 1995-97 international giant cell myocarditis registry, the giant cell myocarditis treatment trial, and led international teams on the role of endomyocardial biopsy in cardiovascular disease (AHA/ACC/ESC) and the global burden of myocarditis (WHO/Gates Foundation). In 2005 I co-founded the Myocarditis Foundation, a 501c3 corporation dedicated to support for affected families, education, and research in myocarditis (www.myocarditisfoundation.org). The Foundation has given 20 research grants and serves approximately 50000 people per month through our web site, social media, conferences, and our toll free call line.
Dr. Forrester joined the cardiology staff at Cedars of Lebanon as Director of Cardiovascular Research in the early 1970s. The program he directed received approximately $2 million a year in funding from the National Institute of Health. Dr. Forrester led the development of hemodynamic monitoring using the Swan-Ganz catheter, which revolutionized the care of critically ill patients, and developed the Forrester classification of hemodynamic subsets of acute myocardial infarction.

In the early 1980s, he and George Diamond, MD, led the development of probability analysis in coronary heart disease. This method of analyzing diagnostic test results, called the Diamond-Forrester method, is now used worldwide in cardiology. In the early 1990s, Dr. Forrester led a team that developed coronary angioscopy. The team discovered that coronary thrombosis was universally present in patients with unstable angina.

During his tenure, the program became world leaders in thrombolytic therapy, nuclear cardiology, and women’s heart disease. In these years, Cedars of Lebanon Hospital became Cedars-Sinai, and US News and World Report recognized the Cardiology Division as the leading program in the West. Later the program led the nation in percutaneous coronary intervention. Today it is ranked as the #3 cardiology program in the nation.

Dr. Forrester has served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the American College of Cardiology (ACC) and the LA Board of Directors of the American Heart Association. He has served on the editorial boards of all the principal scientific journals in cardiology. He has published over 400 full-length scientific manuscripts. In his years of director of cardiovascular research and division chair, he has served as mentor to several hundred cardiologists, many of whom became international leaders in cardiology. In 2015 he authored “Heart Healers: The Misfits, Mavericks and Rebels Who Created the Greatest Medical Breakthrough of Our Lives”, which was transiently on the Amazon best seller list in its category, and in the upper 0.5% of book sales. Written for the public, it tells how the treatment leaders he knew personally led the emergence of cardiac surgery, coronary angiography, coronary care units, and angioplasty, and percutaneous valve replacement in his medical lifetime.

In 2003, his career was highlighted in a 10-page interview with the editor of the American Journal of Cardiology. His honors include being named one of the 10 Medical Scientists to Watch by Cable News Network, the Leon Goodman Award for excellence in laser research, the Distinguished Scientific Achievement Award of the American Heart Association in Los Angeles, the Jan Kellerman Award for research in preventive cardiology.

In 2009, he was the second person selected for the annual American College of Cardiology’s Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2011 he received the Simon Dak Award for Outstanding Scholarship from the Journal of the American College of Cardiology. In 2013, Cedars-Sinai honored him with the annual Pioneer in Medicine Award. At that time his former mentees posted a 10-minute video tribute on YouTube. In 2019 he received the Lifetime Achievement Award from Cedars Sinai Medical Center.

He has been a Visiting Professor at the nation’s leading medical universities and featured lecturer at national and international cardiovascular symposia. His most recent named lectureships include the ACC 65th Anniversary Lecture, the annual UCLA AOA lecture, the 1st ACC Aspen Vogel Memorial Lecture, the Society of Cardiac Angiography Hildner Lecture to open the annual meeting, the Keynote Lecture of the 20th annual CRT meeting, the annual ACC New York symposium Henry Russek Lectureship, the University of Miami Legends of Cardiology Lectureship, the 1st annual USC Uri Elkayam lectureship, and the 1st annual CSMC Ronald Silver Memorial lecture.

Dr. Forrester received his bachelor’s degree from Swarthmore College and his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania. After serving an internship at the hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, he came to Los Angeles as an internal medical resident at UCLA-Harbor Medical Center. Following his internal medicine residency, he completed his cardiology fellowship at Harvard University. On return to Los Angeles, he became Director of the National Institute of Health’s Center of Research in Ischemic Heart Disease, a position he held until he became Division Director in the early 1990s.
Barry H. Greenberg, MD, FACC
Distinguished Professor of Medicine
Director, Advanced Heart Failure Treatment Program
UC San Diego
La Jolla, CA

Barry H. Greenberg, MD, is Distinguished Professor of Medicine and Director of the Advanced Heart Failure Treatment Program at the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine (UCSD). He earned a medical degree from the State University of New York Upstate Medical University College of Medicine in Syracuse. He completed his internship at George Washington University Hospital in Washington, DC and residency in internal medicine at Yale-New Haven Hospital in New Haven, Connecticut. Following further research training at the Lipid Metabolism Branch of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute in Bethesda, Maryland and the Cardiovascular Research Institute of the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine (UCSF), he completed a fellowship in cardiology at UCSF. He then joined the faculty of Oregon Health Sciences University School of Medicine in Portland. Prior to arriving at his present position at UCSD, he was a visiting professor in residence at both the Royal Postgraduate Medical School in London, England and the Laboratoire de Médicine Expérimentale of the Collège de France in Paris.

Dr. Greenberg serves on the executive steering and data safety monitoring committees of numerous national and international clinical trials in heart failure. He is a founding member and a past President of the Heart Failure Society of America (HFSA).

Dr. Greenberg has longstanding interests in the basic cellular mechanisms of heart failure and the development of new forms of therapy. He has published extensively in these areas. He is co-editor of Congestive Heart Failure: Pathophysiology, Diagnosis, and Comprehensive Approach to Management, the first comprehensive text in this field, now in its 3rd edition and editor of Myocardial Remodeling: Mechanisms and Treatment, published in 2006 and Management of Heart Failure published in 2010. He is co-author of Contemporary Diagnosis and Management of Congestive Heart Failure. He is an associate editor of the Journal of the American College of Cardiology, and he sits on the editorial boards of several other cardiology specialty and subspecialty journals. Dr. Greenberg has been recognized by his peers numerous times over the years as one of the “Best Doctors in America” and “Best Doctors in San Diego.”
Professor Saibal Kar, MD, FACC, FSFCAI
Professor of Medicine at David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, Los Angeles
Director of Structural Heart Disease Interventions and Clinical Research
Los Robles Hospital
Thousand Oaks, CA

Professor Saibal Kar, MD, is a board-certified interventional cardiologist and serves as the Director of Structural Heart Disease Interventions and Clinical Research at the Los Robles Regional Medical Center, Thousand Oaks, CA. An astute clinician and teacher with a special expertise in interventions for structural heart disease, he is Clinical Professor of Medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. In his present position he will directed important clinical trials involving structural heart disease interventions in the hospital, and at a national level.

Dr. Kar focuses his research on coronary restenosis, device development, and the advancement of percutaneous techniques in the treatment of structural heart disease. He is recognized internationally for his research and clinical experience in transcatheter mitral valve repair, as well as transcatheter treatment options for prevention of cardioembolic stroke. In the preclinical lab, he has helped develop novel drug-eluting stents that are currently being used in clinical practice.

Dr. Kar’s work has over 150 peer-reviewed publications and textbooks. He has delivered over 200 lectures in national and international conferences all around the globe. He serves as a reviewer for a number of preeminent cardiology journals and is on the editorial board of several journals. He is a fellow and active member of the American College of Cardiology, Society of Coronary Angiography and Intervention, and the Cardiac Society of India.

Dr. Kar is gifted operator and teacher and mentor for several Cardiologist all around the World. He is launched and taught physicians all around the World to perform transcatheter mitral valve repair, left atrial appendage occlusion and several other structural heart disease procedures.

Dr. Kar earned his medical degree from Nil Ratan Sircar Medical College in Kolkata, India. Following his internship, he completed his residency in medicine and his fellowship in cardiology at the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research in Chandigarh, India. He was also an interventional cardiology fellow at the Epworth Hospital in Melbourne, Australia. In the United States, Dr. Kar repeated his residency in medicine at the West Los Angeles Veterans Administration Hospital and completed his cardiology and interventional cardiology fellowship at Cedars-Sinai.
Dr. Alan S. Maisel graduated from the University of Michigan Medical School, and completed a cardiology fellowship at the University of California, San Diego.

Dr. Maisel is Emeritus Professor of Medicine at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD). For 32 years he was director of the Coronary Care Unit and Heart Failure Program at the VA San Diego Healthcare System in La Jolla, California. During this time Dr. Maisel was active on the faculty at UCSD where he won numerous teaching awards. He was served as the Associated Editor of the American Journal of Cardiology for over ten years.

Dr. Maisel is considered one of the world’s experts on cardiac biomarkers and has over 500 scientific publications. He has authored several ground-breaking manuscripts that have paved the way for development of diagnostic tools for patients with congestive heart failure. In particular, he was the leading investigator on studies that brought the use of BNP into clinical practice, including the now famous Breathing Not Properly study. He has been lead investigator on seven multicentre biomarker trials.

He currently lectures all over the world, logging in over 100 talks this past year.

Dr. Maisel has co-founded three companies, Cardero Therapeutics, Asceptiscope, and Brainstorm Medical.

Dr. Maisel is also a writer of medical fiction. His first novel, Bedside Manners was optioned to Warner Brothers.

He is the primary care-giver for five children and gave up on sleep five years ago.
Mathew S. Maurer, MD, FACC
Arnold and Arlene Goldstein Professor of Cardiology
Professor of Medicine
Director, Clinical Cardiovascular Research Laboratory for the Elderly
Columbia University Irving Medical Center
New York Presbyterian Hospital
New York, NY

Dr. Maurer is a general internist and geriatric cardiologist with advanced training in heart failure and cardiac transplantation. He is the Arnold and Arlene Goldstein Professor of Cardiology at Columbia University Irving Medical Center, Vagelos College of Physicians & Surgeons, where directs the Clinical Cardiovascular Research Laboratory for the Elderly (CCRLE) at the Allen Hospital of NewYork Presbyterian Hospital. Dr. Maurer is a member of the Advanced Cardiac Care Center at NewYork Presbyterian Hospital – Columbia Campus.

Dr. Maurer received a B.S. in biomedical science as part of the seven-year medical school program at CCNY – The Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education, where he was awarded the Belle Zeller Scholarship. He received his M.D. degree from Mount Sinai School of Medicine and graduated Alpha Omega Alpha. He completed training in internal medicine and cardiology at NewYork Presbyterian Hospital and was Chief Medical Resident.

Dr. Maurer’s work focuses on evaluating age related changes in cardiovascular physiology in order to elucidate the mechanism that underlie the higher prevalence and incidence of cardiovascular disease in older individuals. In much of his research he has focused on the following cardiovascular syndromes – syncope, falls and their relationship to disordered blood pressure regulation; heart failure in the setting of a preserved ejection fraction including hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and cardiac amyloidosis. He has received funding from the National Institute on Aging and National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute to support his research activities.

He has published over 200 articles including peer reviewed manuscripts, reviews and book chapters. He was chair of the American College of Cardiology's Geriatric Cardiology Member Section, which is the largest organization dedicated to advancing the care of older adults with cardiovascular disease. He was co-chair of the Steering Committee of the ATTR-ACT trial showing tafamidis was a safe and effective therapy for transthyretin amyloid cardiomyopathy. Throughout his career, he has promulgated an approach to older adults with cardiovascular disease that offers the best of both geriatric and cardiovascular medicine in which a comprehensive holistic approach to enhance functional capacity and quality of life is at the forefront of emerging techniques to address cardiovascular physiologic derangement that disproportionately afflict older adults.
Dr. Mehra is the first incumbent of the William Harvey Distinguished Chair in Advanced Cardiovascular Medicine, a Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and served as the founding Medical Director of the Heart and Vascular Center and is the Executive Director of the Center for Advanced Heart Disease at Brigham and women’s Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts. Additionally, he is Editor-in-Chief, The Journal of Heart and Lung Transplantation, the #1 ranked journal in its field. Dr. Mehra is a Past-President (2008) of the International Society of Heart and Lung Transplantation (ISHLT) and immediate past president of the Heart Failure Society of America (HFSA).

He has authored and published over 500 scholarly papers with a specific focus on Advanced Heart Failure related to discovery of the obesity paradox, describing the natural history of cardiac allograft vasculopathy, establishing pivotal international guidelines for the care of transplant patients, defining the role of new immunosuppression as well as genomic based biomarkers for evaluating cardiac allograft rejection. In recent years his research focus shifted to evaluation of novel left ventricular assist devices engineered to reduce the burden of adverse effects and allow use in broader populations of patients. This work published in the New England Journal of Medicine has resulted in the introduction of novel therapy for advanced heart failure patients.

Dr. Mehra has a certificate in Executive leadership from the Harvard Business School and also completed a Master of Science in Health Economics and Management at the London School of Economics in 2018, a degree earned through his designation as a “Braunwald Scholar”.
Dr. Shah is the former Chief of Cardiology at Cedars Sinai Heart Institute where he currently holds the Shapell and Webb Family Chair in Clinical Cardiology. He is the founder and Director of Oppenheimer Atherosclerosis Research Center and Atherosclerosis Prevention and Treatment Center as well as Director of Steven S. Cohen Research Fellowship Program at Cedars Sinai Medical Center. Dr. Shah is also a Professor of Medicine at Cedars Sinai and UCLA. He is the recipient of numerous awards including Gifted Teacher Award and Distinguished Scientist Award: both from the American College of Cardiology and Herrick Award from the American Heart Association, UCLA Dean’s Award of Excellence in teaching and lifetime achievement award from the LA chapter of the AHA. Dr. Shah has made numerous scientific contributions to the field of acute coronary syndromes, vascular biology and atherosclerosis. His seminal work has included the development of apo A-I Milano gene based therapy of atherosclerosis and the development of apo B100 related peptide vaccines for atherosclerosis. He has published over 630 scientific papers, abstracts, reviews and book chapters and edited three books. He is a member of the editorial boards of JACC, AJC, ATVB, Circulation and serves as the Guest Editor-in-Chief of JACC. In 2015 he was awarded the Master of American College of Cardiology by the ACC at its annual scientific sessions.
Nir Uriel, MD, MDSc, FACC
Director of NYP Heart Failure, Cardiac Transplantation and Mechanical Circulatory Support Program
New York Presbyterian/Weill-Cornell Hospital
New York, NY

Nir Uriel, MD, is a leader in the field of heart failure, mechanical circulatory support and heart transplantation. He specializes in caring for patients who require mechanical circulatory support, including ventricular assist devices (VADs). Dr. Uriel's research focuses on advanced heart failure physiology, heart transplant and mechanical circulatory support. Dr Uriel specialized and reported physiological changes and developed treatment algorithms for patients supported with Mechanical Circulatory Support that are being used worldwide. These findings were published in the *Journal of American College of Cardiology*. He has a strong interest in high-risk transplant populations, including HIV-positive patients and patients who have received mediastinal radiation due to tumors or prior transplants. Through his research, Dr. Uriel has improved treatment protocols and patient care for these high-risk groups.

An accomplished author, Dr. Uriel has published more than 80 original, peer-reviewed articles. In addition, he serves as a reviewer for several scientific journals, including *American Journal of Transplantation, Journal of American College of Cardiology* and *Journal of Heart and Lung Transplantation*. 
Hector Ventura, MD, FACC  
Section Head, Cardiomyopathy and Heart Transplantation  
Director, Cardiovascular Disease Training  
Program & Education  
Ochsner Medical Center  
New Orleans, LA

Hector O. Ventura, MD, is the Section Head, Cardiomyopathy and Heart Transplant Center at the Ochsner Clinic Foundation, New Orleans, Louisiana. He is also a Professor, Cardiology, The University of Queensland School of Medicine, Ochsner Clinical School, Brisbane, Australia as well as a Professor of Medicine at the Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans. After graduating from the National University of Buenos Aires School of Medicine in Argentina, Dr. Ventura completed an internship and residency at the Central Military Hospital in Buenos Aires, followed by research fellowships in arterial hypertension and cardiovascular diseases, an internship, and an internal medicine residency at the Ochsner Medical Institutions in New Orleans. He completed his training in heart failure/heart transplantation at the Loyola University School of Medicine in Chicago, Illinois, and served as Co-Director of the Advanced Heart Failure and Heart Transplant Program at Ochsner Medical Institutions until 1997.

From 1997 to 2000, Dr. Ventura served as Clinical Professor of Medicine, Director of Cardiovascular Research, and Co-Director of Advanced Heart Failure/Cardiac Transplantation at the Tulane University Medical Center in New Orleans. He is a fellow of the American College of Cardiology, American Heart Association and Heart Failure Society of Heart Failure. Dr. Ventura is the past Governor of the Louisiana Chapter of the American College of Cardiology. Since the year 2000, Dr Ventura is the Section Head of Heart Failure and Heart Transplantation and has served two terms as Program Director of the Cardiology Training Program. Moreover, he is the President of The Ochsner Alumni Association.

A prolific lecturer, Dr. Ventura’s research includes studies in the field of Heart Failure and Heart Transplantation. He has co-authored more than 550 articles, abstracts, and book chapters and is on the editorial board of the Journal of Heart and Lung Transplantation, Revista Colombiana de Cardiologia, Congestive Heart Failure, American Journal of Cardiology, Journal of Cardiac Failure, Congestive Heart Failure, and Journal of the American College of Cardiology. Dr. Ventura was Editor-in-Chief of Cardiosource en Espanol and current serves as an Associate Editor of Journal of the American College of Cardiology Heart Failure, Progress in Cardiovascular Diseases and he is the editor in Chief of Current Problems in Cardiology.

Dr. Ventura is also a member of numerous professional societies, including the American Heart Association, American Society of Transplant Physicians, International Society of Heart Transplantation and American Osler Society. He is a member of the Fellow in Training Committee of the American Heart Association. He is the chair of Awards Committee of the American College of Cardiology and he is the co-chair of the International Committee of the American College of Cardiology. Among his awards and honors, he is listed in Best Doctors in America since 1995, received the Southern Medical Association Research Award in 1990 and the International Impact Award of the American Heart Association.