American Heart Association.

Scientific Sessions DAILY NEWS

SATURDAY
NOV. 5, 2022

Inside

Pre-conference symposia open #AHA22

Five pre-conference symposia, focusing on Early Career, Frontiers in Science, State-of-the-Art Cardiovascular Care, Heart/Kidney, Congenital Heart Research & Innovation, marked Friday's warm-up sessions leading into Scientific Sessions 2022. Clockwise: The AHA heart and torch outside of McCormick Place; Keila Lopez, MD, MPH, and Howard Julien, MD, in "Weaving Antiracism and Equity Into the Fabric of Cardiovascular Fellowship Training"; Tracy Paul, MD, moderator of "Perspectives on Being #BlackinCardio and the Critical Role of the Training Environment"; Sanjay Kaul, MD, in the Heart/Kidney symposia; and Elliott Antman, MD, FAHA, in "The American Heart Association and the Cardiovascular Landscape: Developing the Cardiovascular Leader in You."

One Brave Idea aims to change the future of heart disease

Imagine detecting coronary heart disease 20 years earlier than is currently possible — leading to earlier and more effective treatment.

That's what researchers at One Brave Idea (OBI) are striving for — and they're getting closer. Co-founded by the American Heart Association and Verily, with significant support from AstraZeneca and pillar support from Quest, One Brave Idea has taken a new approach to an old problem.

Calum MacRae, MD, PhD, vice chair for scientific innovation and former chief of cardiology in the Department of Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, will provide a look at what OBI has accomplished so far and where it's headed in Saturday's session, "One Brave Idea — Redefining Coronary Heart Disease at the Edge of Wellness."

MacRae

"One Brave Idea is about more precise multidimensional measurement of your cardiac and metabolic health and wellness so that we can identify the initial phases of disease earlier," Dr. MacRae said. "In the long run, it's also about improving care and saving lives, because the ability to detect disease, understand the different factors contributing to different stages of disease and interventions can all happen before the abnormalities become established."

Dr. MacRae said OBI's diverse research team has developed a core strategy of testing how a person's cells and physiology react in the real world. This means examining how bodies function during everyday activities, not just while at the doctor's office. Using more than 12,000 people from a wide range of geographies, ages, races, ethnicities and backgrounds, OBI has developed new ways to advance characterization of disease at the level of the individual.

OBI has achieved several scientific outcomes, beginning with a more precise measurement of wellness. Rather than waiting for signs of coronary heart disease to emerge,

See **ONE BRAVE IDEA**, page 6

UPCOMING SESSION

One Brave Idea — Redefining Coronary Heart Disease at the Edge of Wellness
Saturday, Nov. 5
4:30 p.m. | Main Event I

Today at Sessions

Welcome

FROM THE PROGRAM CHAIR

Manesh R. Patel, MD, FACC, FAHA, Chair, Committee on Scientific Sessions Program

Dear Colleagues:

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the American Heart Association's Scientific Sessions 2022. This year's meeting centers on renewed connections and passionate discussions on the year's most groundbreaking updates in the fields of cardiovascular clinical, basic and population science.

Regardless of your location, you have the opportunity to participate in group discussions and debates, engage with interactive sessions featuring cutting-edge topics across an array of specialties, and meaningfully connect with peers, mentors and friends from around the world.

The scope and quality of the scientific exchange is what makes the AHA's Scientific Sessions the premier cardiovascular research and instructional meeting in the world.

- Watch as the most highly anticipated breakthroughs in patient care are announced during Late-Breaking Science sessions.
- Immerse yourself in cutting-edge CV science topics during our Main Event sessions.
- Stay on top of the latest trends in health care technology with the 3-day Health Tech Summit.
- Over 400 sessions including subspecialty and cross-specialty programming, and 4,000 abstracts!
- For attendees who are not fully vaccinated, proof of a negative COVID-19 test will be required to attend the AHA's Scientific Sessions 2022 in-person at the McCormick Place and any other official event locations in Chicago.
- Connecting with colleagues has never been easier with many hours of featured networking events. •

Please join in on the conversation happening online by following #AHA22.

LATE-BREAKING SCIENCE

LBS.01. The Main Event: Changing Clinical Practice
9:30-10:30 a.m.
Main Event I

- Comparative Effectiveness of Torsemide Versus Furosemide in Heart Failure: Primary Results of the TRANSFORM-HF Trial (*TRANSFORM-HF*)
- Chlorthalidone Compared to Hydrochlorothiazide for the Prevention of Cardiovascular Events in Patients With Hypertension (*DCP*)
- A Randomized Trial of Pemafibrate for Triglyceride Reduction in the Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease (*PROMINENT*)

LBS.02. Breakthrough Strategies in the HF Journey
3-4 p.m.
Main Event I

- First-in-Human *in vivo* CRISPR/Cas9 Editing of the *TTR* Gene by NTLA-2001 in Patients With Transthyretin Amyloidosis With Cardiomyopathy
- A Patient Risk-Based Health System Intervention for Acute Heart Failure Care: The Comparison of Outcomes and Access to Care for Heart Failure (COACH) Trial (*COACH Trial*)
- Early Results of the Patient-Reported Outcome Measurement in Heart Failure Clinic (PRO-HF) Trial (*PRO-HF*)
- IRONMAN: A Randomized Trial of Intravenous Ferric Derisomaltose in Heart Failure With Reduced Ejection Fraction (*IRONMAN*)

Check the Mobile Meeting Guide app for updates.

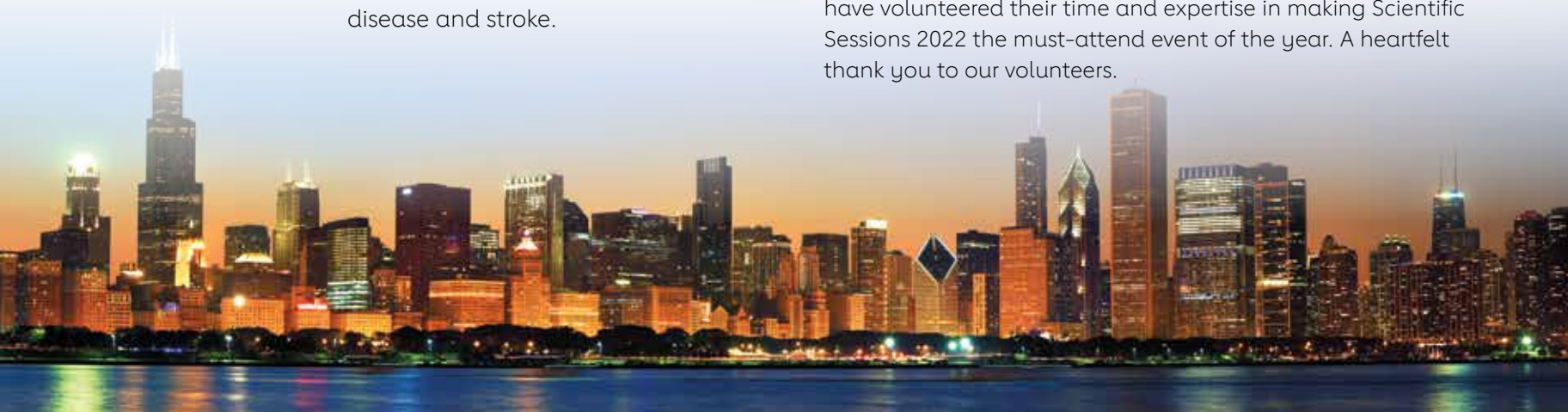
American Heart Association. Go Red for women

Wear Red Day is Sunday

Remember to wear red on Sunday and **Go Red For Women**®. Show your support and connect with colleagues and patients nationwide who share your commitment to preventing heart disease and stroke.

Thank You to Our Volunteers

The American Heart Association would like to thank all the members of the Committee for Scientific Sessions Program who have volunteered their time and expertise in making Scientific Sessions 2022 the must-attend event of the year. A heartfelt thank you to our volunteers.



Transitioning from fellow to faculty can be tricky

Getting your career on the right path may include hurdles, especially for women in a male-dominated field.

When a physician completes fellowship training in a specialty or subspecialty, the next step is finding a faculty position.

But taking a step toward that first job isn't always easy and the journey can take several possible paths, said Nicole Reilly, MD, FACC, clinical assistant professor of medicine at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Medicine and Public Health.


Reilly

"It could include a traditional academic faculty position, one in which a portion of the physician's time is dedicated to scholarly work, whether that be basic science research, translational research or clinical research," said Dr. Reilly, who along with a panel of experts explored various pathways in Friday's "Special Topics in Fellow to Faculty Transition in Clinical Cardiology" session. "Academic faculty positions may also include a required portion of time dedicated to medical education."

But Dr. Reilly said other, less traditional ways can achieve the same goal.

"One could choose a community-based or private practice type of position solely focusing on clinical patient care," she said. "Less traditional pathways could include non-clinical positions within the industry."

Based on feedback from its members, the AHA Early Career Committee and the Committee on Scientific Sessions Program planned the session to address issues such as women negotiating their first job in the era of COVID-19 and building a successful career across subspecialties in cardiology and in interventional cardiology.

Monica Mukherjee, MD, MPH, FAHA, co-moderator of the session, said women face unique challenges in breaking into traditionally male-dominated cardiovascular medicine.

"I believe that sponsorship and networking are integral across sexes and across medical specialties, but especially for women who are trying to break through traditional male barriers found in cardiology," said Dr. Mukherjee, director of the echocardiography lab at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center in Baltimore, Maryland, and chair of the AHA's Council on Clinical Cardiology (CLCD) Fellow-In-Training & Early Career Committee.


Mukherjee

"Barriers can include work-life balance, sex-specific stressors such as fertility, pregnancy and childcare. They can also include inherent differences in communication styles, interpersonal relationships and self-advocacy."

Self-advocacy is a critical component of transitioning regardless of your gender or background, Dr. Reilly said.

"We really want to empower fellows and early career physicians to come to work prepared, to recognize opportunities for career development and remove obstacles to success," she said. "Self-advocacy skills can be used in obvious scenarios such as contract negotiation, but these skills are important in the long term as well."

During the session, an early career or fellow-in-training member of the Council on Clinical Cardiology will pair up with an established investigator to jointly cover such topics as hybrid careers and how to succeed in male-dominated fields such as interventional cardiology. •

New therapies for cardiovascular disease reach clinical trial stage

Genomic-based therapies for cardiovascular disease are emerging fast in research and could soon be used regularly in hospitals and practices around the world — changing future treatment, said Ann Marie Schmidt, MD, FAHA.

"The concept of therapeutic, genomic-based therapies for cardiovascular diseases has now reached clinical trials," said Dr. Schmidt, professor of biochemistry, molecular pharmacology and pathology at NYU Langone Health in New York City.


Schmidt

"This area of research and medicine offers landmark, game-changing opportunities for diseases in which genomic profiling in humans (and in animals) has shed light on key mechanisms of disease."

Several areas of the research will be highlighted in Saturday's session, "Identifying and Practicing Emerging Genomic-Based Therapies on Cardiovascular Disease." Dr. Schmidt said the session — co-moderated by Alan Daugherty, PhD, DSc, FAHA, associate vice president for research and physiology chair at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine in Lexington — will focus on several key areas of genomic therapies, including:

- PCSK9 gene for cholesterol metabolism
- TTR gene for amyloidosis and heart disease
- Angiotensinogen for blood pressure regulation
- Hemophilia for bleeding disorders
- ApoC3, Angptl3 for dyslipidemia disorders

The move from animal testing to human subjects represents a significant leap forward for these therapies, Dr. Schmidt said.

"The work in many cases has moved from understanding basic mechanisms in animal model systems to application to human subjects, thereby underscoring the immense value of basic to translational/clinical to population level research," she said.


Daugherty

Genomic profiling, Dr. Daugherty said, allows researchers to identify the genes in a person or specific cell type and how those genes interact with each other and the environment. This aids in the mission to personalize medicine with respect to a physician's ability to diagnose, treat and prevent diseases.

"Genomic profiling holds great promise to help us understand why certain people are vulnerable to certain diseases while others are not," Dr. Daugherty said. "And also to begin to predict which patients may or may not respond to specific therapies. By better understanding how the uniqueness of each person renders them more or less vulnerable to disease and more or less likely to respond to specific therapies, these methods may personalize therapies for cardiovascular diseases."

Several areas of study will be important in this field in the future, where genomic profiling will have broad reach, according to Dr. Schmidt. These include lipid disorders (including cholesterol) and the impacts for atherosclerosis; renin-angiotensin system targets that could impact treatment of hypertension; and blood disorders and the treatment of hemophilia.

As these areas of research move further into human trials, Dr. Schmidt said the impact on patient health care could be tremendous.

"The realization of some of these new targets for human clinical trials and testing are critical examples of the success of biomedical research and the likelihood for important impact on the heath and lifespans of individual people," she said. •

UPCOMING SESSION

Identifying and Practicing Emerging Genomic-Based Therapies on Cardiovascular Disease
Saturday, Nov. 5
4:30 p.m.

American Heart Association. Scientific Sessions
CRF TCT
An Educational Collaboration

New alliance offers enhanced lineup at #AHA22

As part of a new educational collaboration between the American Heart Association's Scientific Sessions and the Cardiovascular Research Foundation's TCT Conference, **#AHA22** will feature an exciting lineup of TCT at AHA programming to advance the latest research in cardiovascular disease and interventional therapies.

Download the Mobile Meeting Guide App to view the latest on these exciting sessions.

Interventional Theater | Case Presentation and Discussion: Revascularization Guidelines to Practice
Saturday, Nov. 5
11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Case Theater
Science & Technology Hall, Level 3

Structural Case Theater | State-of-the-Art Cases in Structural Interventions
Saturday, Nov. 5
1 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
Case Theater
Science & Technology Hall, Level 3

Predicting the Future of MedTech: Transformative Concepts and Technological Trends
Sunday, Nov. 6
9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
Health Innovation Pavilion
Heart Hub, Science & Technology Hall, Level 3

What's New in the Management of Uncontrolled/Resistant Hypertension
Sunday, Nov. 6
9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
Case Theater
Science & Technology Hall, Level 3

State-of-the-Art Updates on the Management of CLTI
Sunday, Nov. 6
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Case Theater
Science & Technology Hall, Level 3

Late-Breaking Science: Drugs and Strategies in ACS and Revascularization
Sunday, Nov. 6
5-6 p.m.
Main Event II

Compete in the #AHA22 scavenger hunt to win prizes!

For more details, use the QR codes below to download the Mobile Meeting Guide app.

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For all other devices Web Version

Mobile Meeting Guide App sponsored by:

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Novartis

The Council Challenge: Who will dethrone the 2021 council winner?

Nov. 6 | 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. | Heart Theater I

Join us for a fierce competition in which every attendee will be a live competitor! Represent your Scientific Council, answer questions, rack up points and help your council earn global bragging rights to be called AHA's Top Council!

ONE BRAVE IDEA

continued from page 1

researchers instead use different stress tests and artificial intelligence to identify signals in human blood cells and physiology that aren't typically detected. They have also built and distributed software that can enable institutions with a wide range of technical expertise to participate in machine-learning research projects from multiple backgrounds.

"A precise genetic breakdown could lead to diagnoses 20 years or more earlier than currently possible," Dr. MacRae said. "Using tools developed in OBI, doctors could tailor a treatment to help a patient steer clear of a problematic trajectory, starting in their teenage years."

That earlier detection means existing prevention and treatment tools can be used where traditional biomarkers for atherosclerosis may not be deployed, which in turn will make them more effective. Dr. MacRae said education and behavioral changes could be started earlier in life when they are more effective and that medications could be used to prevent a problem or be administrated before disease is established.

In addition, OBI researchers have identified multiple new subsets of cardiac or metabolic disease, many of which enable mechanistic insights to be rapidly defined in human cohorts.

"Our approach was to take this large aggregate of different types of atherosclerosis, and to split it into subsets with different mechanisms or different causes," Dr. MacRae said. "We've deliberately only looked at just one disease area — atherosclerosis — this deeply, but we know that this approach can be applied in other areas of cardiology and more widely across medicine. We're beginning to explore other disorders including dementia, and our central goal is to prove that we can reproducibly identify new disease subsets and find important mechanisms that can then be targeted for intervention." •

ONE BRAVE IDEA
RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

CO-FOUNDED BY:
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Quest Diagnostics

Claiming CE credits for #AHA22

#AHA22 attendees can receive up to 24 Continuing Education credits. CE credit claiming is limited to participation during the event Nov. 4-7, 2022. Complete the credit claim process within 30 days to avoid credit expirations.

1 Log in

a. Go to learn.heart.org
b. Click Activities in Progress
c. Enter your username and password and Sign In.

2 Select the activity

a. Select the Scientific Sessions 2022 activity
b. Review the Activity Overview, scroll to the bottom and click Continue.
c. View the contents of the Activity Material page and click Continue (Pharmacists will select the specific sessions attended, click Register Selected Sessions and click Continue.)

3 Claim credit

a. Complete the conference evaluation, which is required to claim credit. Once complete, click Submit and Continue
b. Click the Claim button for the appropriate accreditation.
c. Click Continue to generate your certificate.
d. Click Finish. The activity is stored under Transcript.

Join us for the 2022 Health Tech Competition

Located in the Health Innovation Pavilion in the Heart Hub

Nov. 5, 2022 | 1-2 p.m.

Nov. 6, 2022 | 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Watch as finalists pitch their health tech start-up to top physicians, industry leaders and VIPs who can help take companies to the next level.

Q&A: With Suzanne Oparil, MD, FACC, FAHA, FASH, FAPS

There's no such thing as a small study in improving CVD treatment

The *Scientific Sessions Daily News* spoke with Suzanne Oparil, MD, FACC, FAHA, FASH, FAPS, about the role of research and the value of clinical trials in treating hypertension in people of all ages. In particular, she spoke of the importance of reaching and educating younger patients as a preventive measure. Dr. Oparil will present her Distinguished Scientist Lecture, **"Hypertension Treatment as Cardiovascular Disease Prevention: A Glimpse Into the Future," at 3 p.m. Saturday.** She is the Distinguished Professor of Medicine, professor of cell, developmental and integrative biology, section chief of vascular biology and hypertension and director of the vascular biology and hypertension program of the Division of Cardiovascular Disease in the Department of Medicine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Q You have a special interest and expertise in the fundamental mechanisms of cardiovascular disease and the development of novel treatments. Do you have a personal story of how you developed this special interest in your career?

Dr. Oparil: My career in medicine began at Columbia University in New York during the Vietnam war. Because of so many returning veterans, there wasn't room for me to continue at Columbia. My professor suggested I go to Boston to join Edgar Haber, MD, in the lab at Massachusetts General Hospital. I wasn't really interested in lab research, but I went. Dr. Haber, who was chief of cardiology, showed me the real value of research, particularly with a study we did on the role of the renin-angiotensin system in maintenance of blood pressure in persons with upright posture. It was a simple study that assessed renin levels in people without kidneys and their incidence of fainting when they went from a sitting to standing position.

Q What groundbreaking observations in clinical medicine have you made in this area?

Dr. Oparil: I wouldn't say they are groundbreaking. But that one, simple study didn't cost much, and it eventually led to my work in the use of ACE inhibitors for the treatment of hypertension. This later evolved to studying hypertension in pregnancy and the realization that it may be a precursor to hypertension later in life for some women. This really supports the need to monitor blood pressure at home or in the office on a regular basis. That's something many people don't want to do, or feel is too expensive to do.

Q How do you continue to influence novel treatments for hypertension?

Dr. Oparil: We know that clinical trials show a benefit of blood pressure reduction in preventing cardiovascular disease and death in older, high-risk individuals. Likewise, observational studies show relationship between blood pressure trajectories early in life and subclinical atherosclerosis. Early detection of hypertension is important in preventing cardiovascular disease later in life. We continue to look at new drug therapies and teaching patients to monitor their blood pressure at home (without obsessing). Newer clinical trials are essential in establishing treatment targets based on ambulatory blood pressure monitoring (ABPM) or home blood pressure measures, including younger, lower-risk participants, utilizing EMR to integrate office, home blood pressure and ABPM measures over time to assess the overall burden of blood pressure elevation, utilizing intermediate endpoints by targeting organ damage as outcomes, as well as developing strategies for more robust, long-term follow-up.

Q What is the takeaway of your session, and how do you hope to inspire others?

Dr. Oparil: Whether you are a scientist, caregiver, a person who has high blood pressure, or all three, it's important to know that research is extremely valuable and effective in developing newer and more effective ways to treat cardiovascular disease. The studies don't have to be big or expensive to matter. When I began my career, the thinking was that your blood pressure should be 100 plus your age. We've come a long way, due to research and clinical trials. I hope people will realize that hypertension is a very important condition, and we need more research and clinical trials to control or eliminate hypertension. •

Thank You to Our Sponsors

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List current as of Oct. 10, 2022

Exhibitors

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Amarin Pharma, Inc.	805
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American College of Cardiology	2224
American College of Physicians/ Annals of Internal Medicine	2613
Amgen	400
Association of Black Cardiologists	2712
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AstraZeneca Medical Affairs	2602
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FDA Center for Tobacco Products	2715
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HCPLive®	1912
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Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	1213
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Know Diabetes By Heart	2252
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Scarf King	2818
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SomaLogic	2114
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VectorBuilder, Inc.	2600
Vektor Medical, Inc.	2218
Viz.AI	2504
Wolters Kluwer	616
World Heart Federation	2615
ZOLL Medical Corporation	2200

Science & Technology Hall

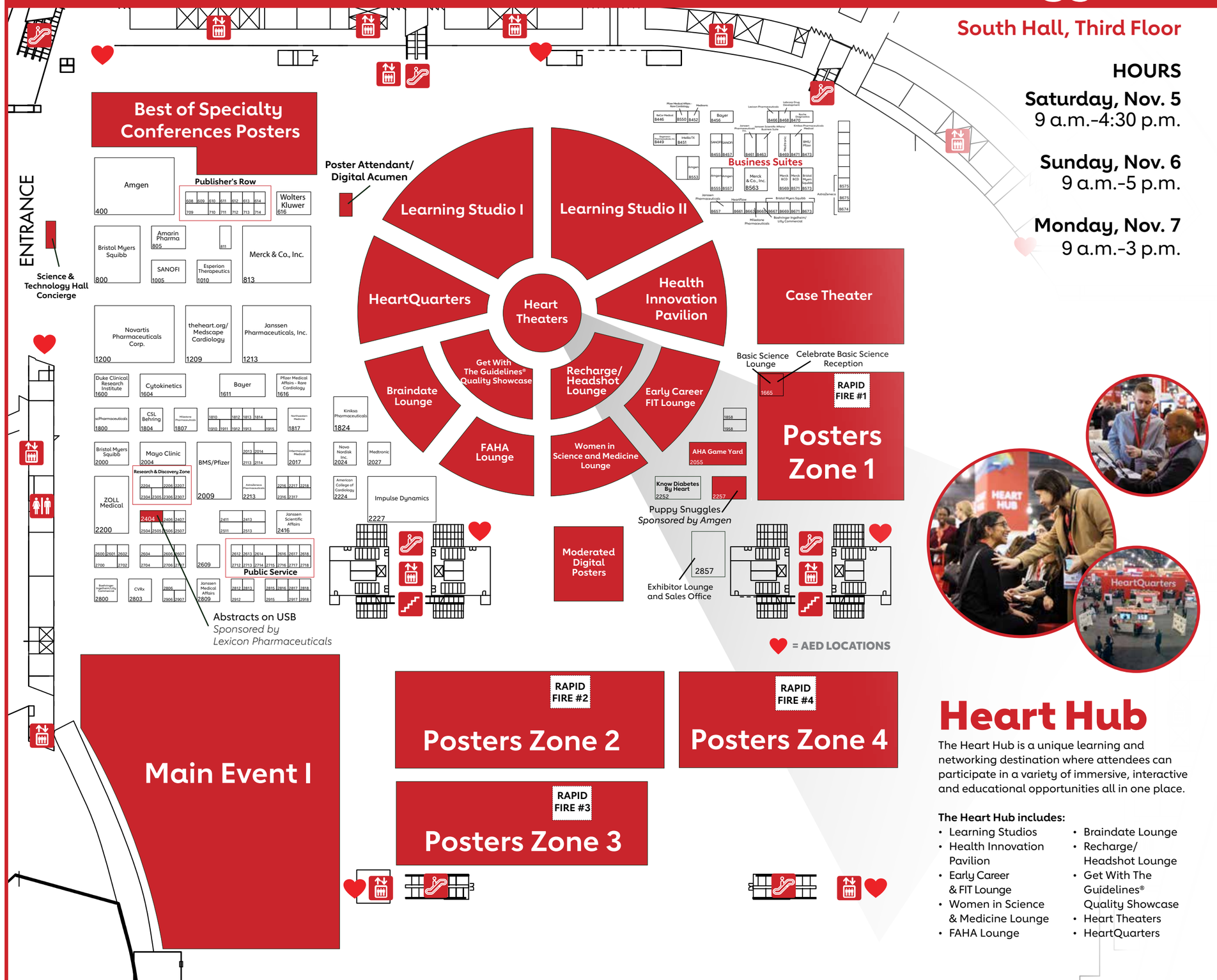
South Hall, Third Floor

HOURS

Saturday, Nov. 5
9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 6
9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 7
9 a.m.-3 p.m.



Heart Hub

The Heart Hub is a unique learning and networking destination where attendees can participate in a variety of immersive, interactive and educational opportunities all in one place.

The Heart Hub includes:

- Learning Studios
- Health Innovation Pavilion
- Early Career & FIT Lounge
- Women in Science & Medicine Lounge
- FAHA Lounge
- Braindate Lounge
- Recharge/ Headshot Lounge
- Get With The Guidelines® Quality Showcase
- Heart Theaters
- HeartQuarters

Learning Studios

Learning Studios provide a unique opportunity for companies in the field of cardiology to share their latest advances in cardiovascular practices, services and technologies.

See the Mobile Meeting Guide App for more details.

Saturday, Nov. 5

TIME	LOCATION	SUPPORTER	TITLE
9:30-10:15 a.m.	Learning Studio I	Bristol-Myers Squibb	Cardiac Myosin Inhibition, and its Role in the Landscape of Symptomatic NYHA Class II-III Obstructive HCM
11-11:45 a.m.	Learning Studio I	CSL Behring, LLC	Conversations in Cholesterol Efflux: How Can We Harness its Cardioprotective Potential?
	Learning Studio II	Boehringer Ingelheim Corporation	Jardiance® (empagliflozin) Tablets: A Review of the Latest Data
12:30-1:15 p.m.	Learning Studio I	Amgen, Inc.	Help Your MI Patients Achieve Lower LDL-C and Reduce the Risk of Another MI
	Learning Studio II	Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Expert Perspectives on the Management of Patients With CAD and/or PAD
1:45-2:30 p.m.	Learning Studio I	Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation	Rethinking the Approach: Management of Elevated LDL-C in Patients With ASCVD
	Learning Studio II	Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals Inc.	Getting to the Heart of the Matter: Management of CV Risk in Patients With CKD Associated With T2D
3-3:45 p.m.	Learning Studio I	Pfizer Inc.	Hiding in Plain Sight: Identification and Management of ATTR-CM Patients
	Learning Studio II	Elucid BioImaging, Inc.	Solving the Heart Attack Crisis With Next Generation Plaque Analysis

Sunday, Nov. 6

TIME	LOCATION	SUPPORTER	TITLE
9:30-10:15 a.m.	Learning Studio II	Cytokinetics, Inc.	Is the Burden of Symptomatic Chronic HFrEF Inevitable? Defining and Recognizing Early Signs or Symptoms of WHF
11-11:45 a.m.	Learning Studio I	Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation	How Can Twice-Yearly* LEQVIO Help Certain ASCVD Patients Who Are Overburdened by the Daily Demands of their Treatment Plan? *After 2 Initial Doses
	Learning Studio II	Sanofi	Changing Views on Rhythm Control: Is Earlier Better for Improving Outcomes in AF Patients?
12:15-1 p.m.	Learning Studio I	Amgen, Inc.	Targeting LDL-C in ASCVD Patients: Are We There Yet?
	Learning Studio II	Merck	Treatment Considerations for Patients with HFrEF and Select Updates From the 2022 HF Guideline
3:30-4:15 p.m.	Learning Studio I	American Heart Association & National Hispanic Latino Cardiovascular Collaborative (NHLCC)	Fostering the Future of Hispanic Health
	Learning Studio II	American Heart Association Lifelong Learning	The Role of Antiarrhythmic Drugs in Early Rhythm Control and the Management of Atrial Fibrillation

Monday, Nov. 7

TIME	LOCATION	SUPPORTER	TITLE
9:30-10:15 a.m.	Learning Studio I	Kiniksa Pharmaceuticals	Treating Recurrent Pericarditis and Preventing Recurrence

Roundtables

Join in on small-group, topic-driven discussions to flesh out ideas and science with colleagues.

Saturday, Nov. 5

TIME	LOCATION	SUPPORTER	TITLE
9:30-10 a.m.	Heart Theater II	HCM Roundtable	HCM: Understanding the Patient Journey
11-11:30 a.m.	Heart Theater II	Medtronic	Latest Hypertension Consensus Publications
12:30-1 p.m.	Heart Theater II	Impulse Dynamics	CCM Therapy: Your Patients Want to Feel Better

Sunday, Nov. 6

TIME	LOCATION	SUPPORTER	TITLE
11-11:30 a.m.	Heart Theater II	Impulse Dynamics	Operationalizing CCM® Therapy
3:30-5 p.m.	Heart Theater II	NHLBI Showcase	NHLBI Company Showcase

Livestream and OnDemand

Livestream 25+ hours of late-breaking science and keynote lectures featuring the most talked about new cardiovascular and brain health clinical, population and scientific updates. You can:

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AHA 2022 AWARDS

AHA recognizes nine for high honors

The recipients will be recognized for their awards during the Presidential Session on Sunday. More about each recipient can be found on the Scientific Sessions Conference Coverage site at **https://sessions.hub.heart.org/daily-coverage**.

2022 Chairman's Award
Ivor J. Benjamin, MD, FAHA
Medical College of Wisconsin

Ivor J. Benjamin, MD, FAHA, is being recognized with the prestigious Chairman's Award.

Throughout his career as a physician-scientist, Dr. Benjamin has focused on cardiovascular health, especially proteostatic networks in cardiac disease, stem cell biology and redox homeostasis, which has been supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) including the prestigious NIH Director's Pioneer Award. His research generated the first Hsf1 knockout mice that uncovered the proteostatic requirements for thermotolerance, female fertility, circadian rhythm and tumorigenesis. Dr. Benjamin also pioneered the concept of "reductive stress" as a causal mechanism in a form of cardiomyopathy. He has provided leadership to expand biomedical research and patient care to reduce disability and death related to heart disease and stroke. For more than 30 years, he has led both clinical and research-based cardiovascular programs.

"I'm humbled by this recognition from the American Heart Association," said Dr. Benjamin. "As a physician, I feel it's my duty to improve the future of care delivery and patient outcomes, and as a researcher, to discover new treatments and to challenge existing dogmas. Without doubt, I think the best ways to accomplish such aspiring goals are to collaborate with thought leaders and by encouraging a more diverse pool and inclusive environment from which the next generation of physicians and scientists will strive."

At the Medical College of Wisconsin, Dr. Benjamin is a professor of medicine, physiology, pharmacology and toxicology, cell biology, neurobiology and anatomy and surgery. He is the director of the school's Cardiovascular Center, serves as the co-director of the NIH's T32 Postdoctoral Fellowship in Cardiovascular Sciences at the College and is a professor in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. Dr. Benjamin is also an adjunct senior investigator at the Versiti Blood Research Institute of Wisconsin.

Dr. Benjamin is the editor of the association's journals *Circulation, Circulation Research* and the *Journal of the American Heart Association*, of which he was a founding member. Dr. Benjamin is a former president of the association and was previously recognized by the association in 1997 with the Established Investigator Award, which he credits as the pivotal launching point in his research career.

2022 Basic Research Prize
Louise D. McCullough, MD, PhD, FAHA
McGovern Medical School at UTHealth Houston

Louise D. McCullough, MD, PhD, FAHA, has been named the recipient of the 2022 Basic Research Prize.

Dr. McCullough's career as a physician scientist is focused on cerebrovascular disease, aging and disparities related to sex and gender. Her research identified differences in cell death pathways in experimental models of stroke, findings now extended to a large number of clinical diseases, including stroke and neurodegenerative diseases. She has examined how aging and inflammation influence recovery after a stroke, and identified sex differences in the immune response to brain injury. Dr. McCullough's work contributed to the National Institutes of Health's mandate to include females in all pre-clinical research.

"I am deeply honored to receive this award," said Dr. McCullough. "We have seen an amazing growth in our understanding of the biology of sex differences, in both clinical and experimental studies over the past decade. My first and primary area of research focus is the investigation of mechanisms underlying sex differences in stroke. This primary area of interest has shaped both my basic and clinical career and has been the driving force behind my translational efforts over the past decade.

Dr. McCullough is board-certified in neurology, vascular neurology and vascular ultrasound. She is the Roy M. and Phyllis Gough Huffington Distinguished Chair of Neurology at McGovern Medical School in Houston. She is also the chief of neurology and the co-director of the Mischer Neuroscience Institute at Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center in Houston.

She is a member of the editorial board for the association's peer-review journal *Stroke*. Dr. McCullough was previously recognized by the Association with the 2000 Post-Doctoral Award, the 2003 Women's Board Career Recognition Award, the 2011 Volunteer Recognition Award, the 2018 Stroke Progress Innovation Award, the 2019 Stroke Council Award and the 2021 C. Miller Fisher, MD Neuroscience Visionary Award.

2022 Clinical Research Prize
Eldrin F. Lewis, MD, MPH, FAHA
Stanford University School of Medicine

Eldrin F. Lewis, MD, MPH, FAHA, is the recipient of the 2022 Clinical Research Prize.

Dr. Lewis's career as a researcher and clinical physician is focused on preventing heart failure, managing advanced stages of cardiovascular disease and finding a balance between prolonging life and preserving quality of life. He aims to shape the way the quality of patients' lives is assessed during clinical trials and at the point-of-care, and his goal is for that information to be used when making treatment plans. In his mind, through preventing the advancement of cardiovascular disease, clinicians will be ultimately preserving quality of life for patients. Strategies to improve patients' well-being include depression, anxiety, exercise capacity, ability to perform activities of daily living, as well as physical symptoms.

"I am honored to be the recipient of the association's 2022 Clinical Research Prize," said Dr. Lewis. "Thinking of the scientists who have won this award in the past — including Drs. Marc Pfeffer, Bob Harrington, Harlan Krumholz and others, just to name a few — I am humbled by the giant footsteps I am following. I appreciate the association for recognizing my work evaluating quality of life in patients with cardiovascular disease and in conducting clinical trials. The patient

voice remains an important factor in influencing the scientific advances needed to improve outcomes, and team science enables rapid translation of promising targets into standards of care. My family, friends, mentors and faith continue to motivate me to strive to be the best version of myself, to help those who I serve and hopefully to impact people who I will never meet."

Dr. Lewis is the Simon H. Stertzer, MD, Professor of Medicine at Stanford University School of Medicine. He is chief of the division of cardiovascular medicine and board-certified in advanced heart failure and transplant cardiology, and cardiovascular disease.

He has served in numerous volunteer roles for the association and is currently the chair of the Scientific Publishing Committee, which leads the association's 14 peer-reviewed scientific journals and the Research Committee. He was previously an associate editor for the *Circulation: Heart Failure* journal, and was a member of the association's Founders Affiliate Board of Directors and chair of the Council on Clinical Cardiology. Dr. Lewis has also co-authored clinical practice guidelines and scientific statement on behalf of the AHA.

2022 Eugene Braunwald Academic Mentorship Award

Myron (Mike) L. Weisfeldt, MD, FAHA

Johns Hopkins School of Medicine

Myron (Mike) L. Weisfeldt, MD, FAHA, has received the association's Eugene Braunwald Academic Mentorship Award.

Previously, Weisfeldt headed Cardiology at Johns Hopkins and more recently was chairman of the department of Medicine and Osler Professor of Medicine at Johns Hopkins from 2001-2014. He also led the Department of Medicine at Columbia University from 1991 to 2001.

Dr. Weisfeldt is known to be among the first proponents for increasing women and people from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds in medicine, especially cardiology. His efforts during his tenure leading Johns Hopkins' department of medicine resulted in a significant increase in the number of residents, fellows and faculty from under-represented races and ethnicities. Dr. Weisfeldt believes diversity among cardiologists should reflect the diversity within the communities they serve. As a mentor, he encourages an equity-first approach to medicine, community health and science. His leadership was recognized with the University's 2019 Dean's Distinguished Mentoring Award.

"During my 14 years as head of cardiology at Johns Hopkins, I was blessed to recruit the best fellows and faculty I could imagine," said Dr. Weisfeldt. "I believe this is reflected in the single mission statement I adopted for the division: 'To train the next generation of leaders for American Cardiology.' I learned a great deal about mentoring from that experience that I carried into my leadership of the departments of medicine at Columbia and Hopkins. Among other strategies I always suggested 'you hitch your wagon to the American Heart Association.' Fellows and faculty in Hopkins cardiology could submit abstracts to any meeting they liked. However, all abstracts submitted to the American Heart Association Scientific Sessions needed my approval. I am very proud of the number of American Heart Association presidents and leaders, principal deans, professors and NIH directors who have emerged from fellows and faculty over time. I was awarded the Established Investigator Award from the American Heart Association my second year on faculty. Unfortunately, the award had to be relinquished, not without my distress, two years later when I assumed the role of division chief. I am honored by this additional recognition from the American Heart Association."

AHA 2022 AWARDS (continued)

2022 Population Research Prize

Kirsten Bibbins-Domingo, MD, PhD, MAS
University of California, San Francisco

Kirsten Bibbins-Domingo, MD, PhD, MAS, is the recipient of the AHA's 2022 Population Research Prize. The Population Research Prize recognizes an individual who is making outstanding contributions to the advancement of cardiovascular science and who currently leads an exceptional laboratory focused on cardiovascular population research.

Dr. Bibbins-Domingo's research focuses on racial disparities as they relate to cardiovascular disease (CVD) prevention, incidence and outcomes. She has a special interest in identifying risk factors for CVD in people younger than 50 and developing strategies to prevent, diagnose and manage CVD, while also addressing disparities related to race, ethnicity and income. Her current research is exploring long-term effects of early and poorly treated high blood pressure, kidney disease, life factors and limited access to preventative health care. Her work evaluates public health strategies to prevent the development of risk factors of CVD and assesses interventions designed to manage high blood pressure and heart failure.

"I am grateful to the association for this recognition of my work and for continuing to prioritize population health research as a part of its broad portfolio," said Dr. Bibbins-Domingo. "The best advice I received early in my career was to focus less on the sheer volume of publications and focus more on asking and answering a few critical research questions that might influence thinking on important clinical or population health challenges. I've been fortunate to work with dedicated mentors and brilliant mentees, and to have always worked on multidisciplinary teams that share this approach."

Dr. Bibbins-Domingo is the Lee Goldman, MD, Endowed Professor of Medicine and Professor of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine (UCSF). She was previously the vice dean for population health and health equity in the UCSF School of Medicine, codirector of the Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute and chair of the COVID-19 Community Health Initiative. She is a clinical preceptor in the division of general medicine at San Francisco General Hospital, and she co-founded the UCSF Center for Vulnerable Populations at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital that generates actionable research to increase health equity and reduce health disparities in at-risk populations in the San Francisco Bay Area and nationally. She is currently the 17th editor-in-chief of the *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)* and the *JAMA Network*.

Dr. Bibbins-Domingo was a member of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force from 2010-2017 and led the Task Force as the vice chair and chair from 2014-2017. She is an inducted member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation, the Association of American Physicians, the National Academy of Medicine and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

2022 Research Achievement Award

Christine E. Seidman, MD, FAHA
Johns Hopkins School of Medicine

Christine E. Seidman, MD, FAHA, is the recipient of the 2022 Research Achievement Award, the AHA's highest scientific award, given each year in recognition of outstanding lifetime contributions to cardiovascular research and/or teaching.

Dr. Seidman, along with a team of research scientists in her lab, discovered molecular base of both hypertrophic and dilated cardiomyopathy. Working from this discovery point, she was further able to identify pathways that would allow targeted disease treatment. She identified dominant cell mutations that can be linked to 75% of inherited hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. Using experimental models of human heart cells, she was able to demonstrate how these altered biophysical changes affect outcomes such as increased incidents of atrial fibrillation and heart failure. Her work led to the development of mavacamten, a medication that clinical trials have found to be an effective treatment to normalize cell function if they have mutated as a result of cardiomyopathy. The clinical trial results for this medication are currently under review by the FDA for potential approval.

Building from her successful breakthroughs in hypertrophic

cardiomyopathy, she and her team began the work that would lead to the identification of multiple disease genes that cause inherited dilated cardiomyopathy. Dr. Seidman's work made gene-based diagnostics for cardiomyopathy possible, which makes early intervention possible, delaying the onset of heart failure. Research within her lab also is credited for identifying gene mutations in cardiac factors related to congenital heart disease, a condition occurring in 1% of live births. Through mentorship, she inspires greatness from clinicians and scientists who are just beginning their careers — setting high quality standards, always looking to improve, and leading by example.

Dr. Seidman is the Thomas W. Smith Professor of Medicine and Genetics in the department of genetics at Harvard Medical School and professor of cardiovascular medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital, where she is director of the Cardiovascular Genetics Center. She is also an investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and a member of the affiliate staff at Boston Children's Hospital and the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. Dr. Seidman is the co-director of the Seidman Lab at Harvard Medical School, which is named for her and her husband (Jonathan G. Seidman), that conducts genetic research into diseases, especially genetic disease related to the heart.

Dr. Seidman has been recognized multiple times by the association for her outstanding achievements: in 1986 with the Clinician-Scientist Award; in 1992 with the Established Investigator Award; in 1997 with the Edgar Haber Cardiovascular Medicine Research Award and the Helen B. Taussig Memorial Lecture Award; in 1999 with the Basic Science Prize; in 2003 with a Distinguished Scientist Award; in 2016 with the Joseph A. Vita Award; and in 2021 with the Catalyst Award. She is a consulting editor for *Circulation* and a senior associate editor for *Circulation Research*.

2022 Joseph A. Vita Award

Paul Muntner, PhD, MHS, FAHA

Paul Muntner, PhD, MHS, FAHA, will receive the 2022 Joseph A. Vita Award. The award is given annually in honor of the late cardiovascular scientist Joseph A. Vita, MD, to recognize scientists who have led research that has had a major impact on the field of cardiovascular biology or cardiovascular health during the past five years. Dr. Vita was the founding editor of the AHA's Open Access, peer-reviewed, *Journal of the American Heart Association (JAHA)*.

Dr. Muntner is selected for the Joseph A. Vita Award because of his work focused on identifying cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk factors and to improve CVD prevention and treatment. He currently has 11 grant-funded studies in progress exploring the potential connection between home blood pressure readings and the risk for falling in adults 65 and older; the accuracy of diagnosing hypertension using new approaches to blood pressure measurement; and identifying methods of improving hypertension and reducing complications related to blood pressure among African American adults. Dr. Muntner is also conducting studies on masked hypertension — defining the condition and identifying who should be screened for it. One of his studies is exploring if high-density lipoprotein may be used to predict Alzheimer's disease and cognitive impartment, specifically exploring the potential connections that may occur between high-density lipoprotein and inflammatory proteins and single nucleotide polymorphisms, both of which have been previously linked to cardiovascular disease, high blood pressure, migraines and Alzheimer's disease.

At the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Dr. Muntner is a professor of epidemiology and the co-director of the PharmacoEpidemiology and Economics Research Group. He also is the associate dean for research in the University of Alabama at Birmingham's School of Public Health. Additionally, he is an adjunct investigator for Kaiser Permanente Southern California.

Dr. Muntner currently serves as an associate editor for the *American Journal of Hypertension*; and as an editorial board member of *Hypertension Research*.

Dr. Nanette K. Wenger Research Goes Red® Award

Harriette Van Spall

Erica Gunderson

Harriette G.C. Van Spall, MD, MPH, and Erica P. Gunderson, PhD, MS, MPH, RD, have won the 2022 Dr. Nanette K. Wenger Research Goes Red® Award for their exemplary journal articles.

The Dr. Nanette K. Wenger Research Goes Red® Award for Best Scientific Publication on Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke in Women is named in honor of Dr. Nanette K. Wenger, MD, FAHA, and her pioneering career in women's cardiovascular disease medicine. Dr. Wenger is an emeritus professor of medicine in the division of cardiology at Emory University School of Medicine, consultant to the Emory Heart and Vascular Center, founding consultant to the Emory Women's Heart Center and director of the Cardiac Clinics and Ambulatory Electrocardiographic Laboratory at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta.

The Dr. Nanette K. Wenger Research Goes Red® Award for Best Scientific Publication on Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke in Women is given annually in recognition of the best research article or articles focused on cardiovascular disease and stroke in women published during the previous year in any of the Association's 14 peer-reviewed, scientific journals. The association's Research Goes Red® initiative aims to empower women to contribute to health research.

This year's winners received top scores from a peer review panel of experts and tied for first place. Their articles were selected from more than 85 manuscripts submitted to the association between June 1, 2021, and May 29, 2022.

Dr. Van Spall was selected for her publication, "Sex-Specific Clinical Outcomes of the PACT-HF Randomized Trial," which was published in the November 2021 issue of *Circulation: Heart Failure*. The article focuses on the sex differences in the estimated treatment effect of a patient-centered transitional care intervention on a composite of clinical endpoints during the six months following a hospital admission for heart failure. The research results identified that women who received transitional care services had improved outcomes, driven by significantly fewer emergency visits after a heart failure admission compared to the outcomes among men.

Dr. Van Spall is the director of E-health and Virtual Care and associate professor of medicine (cardiology) at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. Additionally, Dr. Van Spall is a scientist at the Population Health Research Institute and the Research Institute of St. Joseph's Healthcare in Hamilton, Canada. She earned a Bachelor of Science in biochemistry and a Doctor of Medicine from the University of Toronto, as well as a Master of Public Health from Harvard University.

Dr. Gunderson is being recognized for her research article, "Early Pregnancy Blood Pressure Patterns Identify Risk of Hypertensive Disorders of Pregnancy Among Racial and Ethnic Groups," which was published in the March issue of *Hypertension*. Her research explores the potential correlation between blood pressure trends before 20 weeks gestation in women who historically have been deemed lower risk for developing hypertensive disorders during pregnancy, yet they developed gestational hypertension or preeclampsia later in pregnancy. The article also explores how those relationships appear to differ among racial and ethnic groups. The research aims to provide additional tools to influence the frequency of blood pressure monitoring to improve risk mitigation strategies.

Dr. Gunderson is a senior research scientist at Kaiser Permanente Northern California Division of Research and a professor in the department of health systems science at the Kaiser Permanente Bernard J. Tyson School of Medicine. She earned a bachelor's degree from Stanford University and earned a master's degree in nutritional sciences, a master's in public health nutrition and a doctorate in epidemiology from the University of California, Berkeley School of Public Health. Additionally, Dr. Gunderson is a registered dietitian. •

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FDA=US Food and Drug Administration; HCM=hypertrophic cardiomyopathy; MOA=mechanism of action; NYHA=New York Heart Association.

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