The Kosovo Society of Cardiology

Professor Gani Bajraktari

The Kosovo Society of Cardiology was founded in 2002 and has now 70 members. The Kosovo Society of Cardiology was formally recognized as a member of the European Society of Cardiology in September 2009 during the annual meeting of the ESC in Barcelona, during which time individual’s formal membership was established.

The objective of the society is to enhance knowledge of cardiovascular system and circulation among physicians, family doctors, internal medicine specialists and cardiologists, as well as to the general community of the country. Also, the society aims at guaranteeing continuous update of cardiology and cardiac surgery knowledge among practitioners through 1) an active biannual conference lead by International experts in different cardiology subspecialties; 2) organizing regular educational activities; 3) holding a monthly professional meeting with participation of the society members, residents in cardiology, as well as other interested professionals where the new diagnostic and therapy approaches in Cardiology and recent ESC guidelines are discussed.

The society has a Board member who oversees rules of Specialisation in the field of Cardiology and Cardiovascular Surgery. The society has so far organized eight International Symposia on different topics in Cardiology. The society organized two National Congresses (in 2008 and 2010), and is planning a 3rd one in June 19-20, 2015, with many invited international experts.

From its foundation, the Kosovo Society of Cardiology has devoted major efforts towards improving the professionalism of the cardiology community and thereby increasing the quality of care. In addition, promotion of cardiology research is an important target for the Kosovo Society of Cardiology. In fact, a significant number of cardiologists, as well as trainees have or are currently conducting research at doctoral level, some of them in European Union countries, eg. Sweden. Despite numerous limitations, members of the society have managed to publish around 100 research articles in peer reviewed international journals.

The current President of the Kosovo Society of Cardiology is Associate Professor Gani Bajraktari, who is also the Chairman of the Department of Cardiology at the University Clinical Centre of Kosovo, in Pristina. Dr. Bajraktari was graduated as medical doctor from the University of Pristina, and completed his cardiology specialisation at the University of Tirana, Albania. Subsequently, he continued his training in Cardiology in several Italian hospitals (Bassano del Grappa, Magenta and Ospedale Ca’Granda, Milan). Dr Bajraktari obtained his MSc degree in cardiology from the University of Zagreb, Croatia and three PhDs in cardiology (Pristina, Budapest and Umea-Sweden). His main interest is Interventional Cardiology and Echocardiography. Dr. Bajraktari is a Fellow of the European Society of Cardiology and the American College of Cardiology. As the President of the Kosovo society, Dr Bajraktari aims to enhance research and professional education in the Society, as well as to raise public awareness of cardiovascular diseases and their risks, mainly atherosclerotic heart disease. He is seeking serious strategies for disease prevention, accurate early and subclinical diagnosis and stringent implementation of evidence based therapies.

Address for correspondence:
Professor Gani Bajraktari
Department of Cardiology at the
University Clinical Centre of Kosovo, Prishtina, Kosovo
E-mail: ganibajraktari@yahoo.co.uk

* Corresponding author. E-mail: ganibajraktari@yahoo.co.uk