Honored Speaker:

Edward Lakatta, MD

“The Heartbreak of Aging Viewed from the Angiotensin II-remodeled Arterial Wall”
Dr. Lakatta was awarded an MD degree Magna cum Laude at Georgetown University School of Medicine. He completed an internship and residency in Internal Medicine at Strong Memorial Hospital of the University of Rochester, and a Cardiology Fellowship at Georgetown and Johns Hopkins University Hospitals. Following this he spent two years in research training at the National Institutes of Health and an additional year at in the Department of Physiology, University College, London England. Following his training in medicine and research Dr. Lakatta founded and directs the Laboratory of Cardiovascular Science in the Intramural Research Program of the National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health. He also is an adjunct Professor in the Department of Physiology, University of Maryland School of Medicine, and the Cardiology Division, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

Dr. Lakatta has made a sustained 30-plus-year commitment to a broad-based research career. His studies range from molecules to humans, including translation of novel findings into the clinical realm. The overall goals of his research program are 1) to identify age associated changes that occur within the cardiovascular system and to determine the mechanisms for these changes; 2) to determine how aging of the heart and vasculature interacts with chronic disease states to enhance the risk for CV diseases in older persons; 3) to study basic mechanisms in excitation-contraction coupling and how these are modulated by surface receptor signaling pathways in cardiac cells; 4) to elucidate mechanisms of pacemaker activity in sinoatrial nodal cells; 5) to elucidate mechanisms that govern cardiac and vascular cell survival; 6) to establish the potentials and limitations of new therapeutic approaches such as changes in lifestyle, novel pharmacologic agents or gene or stem cell transfer techniques in aging or disease states.

Dr. Lakatta is recognized as both nationally and internationally as an expert in cardiovascular research. He has authored over 450 original publications in top peer-reviewed cardiovascular journals, written over 250 invited reviews/book chapters, and delivered over 450 invited lectures. He is a member of multiple scholarly societies and journal editorial boards. Based upon his accomplishments, Dr. Lakatta has received numerous awards, among which are the Allied Signal Career Achievement Award in Aging, the Novartis Prize in Gerontology, the Irving Wright Award of Distinction of the American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR), the Frank J. O’Hara Alumni Award from the University of Scranton, and the Distinguished Leader Award of the International Society of Heart Research (ISHR).

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