



Deutsche Gesellschaft für Kardiologie –  
Herz- und Kreislaufforschung e.V. (DGK)

Achenbachstr. 43, 40237 Düsseldorf

Geschäftsstelle: Tel: 0211 / 600 692 - 0 Fax: 0211 / 600 692 - 10 E-Mail: info@dgk.org  
Pressestelle: Tel: 0211 / 600 692 - 61 Fax: 0211 / 600 692 - 67 E-Mail: presse@dgk.org

**Pressemitteilung**

*Abdruck frei nur mit Quellenhinweis: Presstext DGK 04/2007*

## **How to implement Guidelines successfully**

### **Statement von Dr. Alec Vahanian / Paris**

The European Society of Cardiology (ESC) is committed to reducing the burden of cardiovascular diseases in Europe. The development of practice guidelines is a strategic step to achieve this goal. It is acknowledged worldwide that the ESC guidelines have a great scientific value. Our main goal for the coming term is to work on the implementation process itself.

There are two main ways this could be achieved:



Dr. Alec Vahanian

### **The first way is to improve the links between the CPG and other constituents bodies**

#### **1) Within the ESC**

During the annual ESC congress we have already enjoyed guidelines sessions and the practice guidelines booth was one of the most popular places at the congress.

This year we will have six guidelines sessions at the annual congress.

Guidelines sessions could also form part of the programme at the association (or Working Group) meetings.

Finally we should aim, as much as possible, at having implementation courses.

#### **2) Outside the ESC**

The national societies are key players in the life of the guidelines.

They participate in the elaboration of guidelines through the participation of their members in the working groups and associations, but they also have a pivotal role in implementation.

Twelve national societies have ESC Guidelines sessions planned during their annual meetings this year. Specific implementation meetings and courses with national experts and the help of task force members could also be planned.

### **The second action to be taken is to improve the tools we have for guideline dissemination**

ESC guidelines are published in the European Heart Journal (EHJ) and there are a large number of derivative products, which are more and more popular such as pocket guidelines, which can be delivered in PDA format, and educational slide sets.

The Internet is the preferred vector for the dissemination of guidelines.

Improvement of the website is necessary to make it more user-friendly.

During the Barcelona congress 2006 more than 80.000 pocket guidelines were delivered through the beaming station, the ESC website and memory cards.

Dissemination is clearly crucial, however, it also paramount to follow up the quality of implementation through audits. Furthermore, implementation and auditing could be simultaneous procedures.

An interactive feedback system could transform simple data collection into self assessment and education on guidelines. An example of this system already exists in Ludwigshafen and could be applied elsewhere.

Clearly we have a large armamentarium of methods to pass on the guidelines message. These methods could be extremely effective if we use them all together.

#### **Kontakt:**

Dr. Alec Vahanian

Chair of the Clinical Practice Guidelines of the European Society of Cardiology

Secrétariat Cardiologie 8ème [cardio.sec1@bch.ap-hop-paris.fr]

Service de Cardiologie

Hopital Bichat

46, rue Henri-Huchard

F-75877 Paris

E-Mail: alec.vahanian@bch.ap-hop-paris.fr oder: cardio.sec1@bch.ap-hop-paris.fr

**ESC im Internet: [www.escardio.org](http://www.escardio.org)**