



Laurent Brochard

Laurent Brochard graduated M.D. from the University Paris V in 1975 and entered the residency programme as an Interne des Hôpitaux de Paris in 1981. He received his PhD in Medicine in 1986 and was appointed Full Professor of Intensive Care Medicine at Paris XII University (Créteil) in 1993. For much of his career (1987-2010) he was based at the Henri Mondor University Hospital (Créteil, Paris), where he served as Vice-Dean of the Medical School and Director of the Medical Council at Henri Mondor Hospital.

In October 2010, he moved to Switzerland, where he took the position of Head of the Medical-Surgical Intensive Care Service at Geneva University Hospital. He was recently appointed Interdepartmental Division Director for Critical Care in the University of Toronto, Canada, where he will also take up the position of Full Professor, Clinician Scientist at St Michael's Hospital.

Over the years he has simultaneously held editorial positions, being Editor-in-Chief of *Intensive Care Medicine* from 2001 to 2007 and currently serving as Deputy Editor for the *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*.

Professor Brochard's commitment to clinical and physiological investigation stretches back many years and he is currently leading REVA, a European Research Network that conducts clinical studies in mechanical ventilation. He has published extensively and his papers have accumulated over 12,000 citations, markedly enriching knowledge in our field.

I do not need to detail these outstanding achievements, since they are all in the public domain (PubMed, Web of Knowledge, etc). What I do want to mention, however, is the unique way he approaches research and the far-reaching consequences of his studies. He has a systematic and creative way of thinking, rigorously trying to answer questions which are relevant both to patients and carers, but never losing sight of the commitment to patient protection. His research has advanced our understanding about the mechanisms of respiratory diseases. His findings have led physicians to change their clinical practices, raising the practice of mechanical ventilation to the highest levels, and helping to improve patient care and outcomes.

Besides his clinical and research activities, Professor Brochard has continually run courses and organised meetings on mechanical ventilation. Leading cooperative projects between hospitals and countries around the world, he has proven to be a team builder with a talent for getting the best out of everyone and inspiring excellence. As a teacher his ability to transfer knowledge of highly complex issues in a simple and clear manner is outstanding, as is his readiness for debate and discussion. Those of us who have had the privilege of being mentored by Professor Brochard and working alongside him feel part of the same team, finding the challenges stimulating, rewarding and fun.

Professor Brochard has been a fully committed and highly active member of our clinical community for over 25 years. He truly deserves to be honored with this Award. It is both a great privilege and a personal pleasure to present this ESICM citation of Honorary Membership.

JORDI MANCEBO
ESICM Treasurer