



# LIVES 2014

## 27<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONGRESS

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CENTRE DE CONVENÇIONS INTERNACIONAL DE BARCELONA



### JUKKA TAKALA

The European Society of Intensive Care Medicine proudly awards the Society Medal to Professor Jukka Takala for his outstanding contribution to research in critically-ill patients.

Professor Jukka Takala is today a full professor of the University of Bern, Switzerland, Director of the Intensive Care Unit and Chair of the Department of Intensive Care Medicine, Emergency Medicine and Anaesthesiology.

Jukka graduated as a medical doctor in 1978 from the University of Turku in Finland. In 1982 Jukka achieved his PhD in medical science and in 1983 became a specialist in Anaesthesia and Intensive Care.

From 1984-1986 Professor Takala lived in New York, where he completed a post-doctoral fellowship in the surgical metabolism programme at the College of Physicians & Surgeons of the Columbia University.

After returning to Finland in 1986, he became associated Professor at the University of Turku. In the same year he was asked to take over the responsibility for the critical care research programme of the University of Kuopio, with the function of Director, a position he kept until he moved to Bern in 1999.

In 1988 he acted as a visiting Professor of the Division of Critical Care Medicine, Department of Anaesthesiology, Montefiore Medical Centre/Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York and of the Meakins-Christie Laboratories at the McGill University in Montreal, Canada.

Besides his remarkable research activity, Jukka has published more than 400 articles and has been cited 12,000 times. His best cited article "Increased Mortality Associated with Growth Hormone Treatment in Critically-Ill Adults" was published in 1999 in the New England Journal of Medicine and received 567 citations alone.

Professor Takala is a talented organiser and manager. Before he took over the Department of Intensive Care Medicine in Bern, he acted as both Chairman and Director of the Department of Anaesthesiology, as well as Director of the Division of Intensive Care and the Head of the Operative Departments at the Kuopio University Hospital in Finland.

Professor Takala's research has, since the beginning, focused on the pathophysiology of the splanchnic circulation in states of low blood flow, as it is encountered in severe sepsis, septic

shock, as well as in cardiogenic or hypovolemic shock. Several of his articles have centred on the effects of vasoactive drugs on the splanchnic circulation and these have contributed to a significant increase in our knowledge of how to use these drugs in our patients.

Recently Jukka was the initiator of a large multi-centre clinical trial on sedation, comparing dexmedetomidine with midazolam and propofol. The results of this study are published in JAMA 2012.

As an established and well-known research expert, Jukka acted as Editor of the Critical Care & Trauma section of Anesthesia & Analgesia from 2001 to 2010.

As mentioned before, Jukka's interests are also devoted to intensive care unit management. Process management, cost containment and effectiveness and patient safety are his major topics. Thanks to his spirit of competition, he does not fear any comparison of the performance indicators of his intensive care unit in Bern with those of his competitors at the Finnish Intensive Care Quality Consortium (Intensium, Finland). Not surprisingly, his Intensive Care Unit's performance is among the best.

When I met Professor Takala for the first time, he was President of the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine from 2000-2002. Thereafter, I had the opportunity to meet him personally on several occasions and to learn more about his research, his expertise as an ICU manager, his spirit of competition and his outstanding quality as a speaker and teacher.

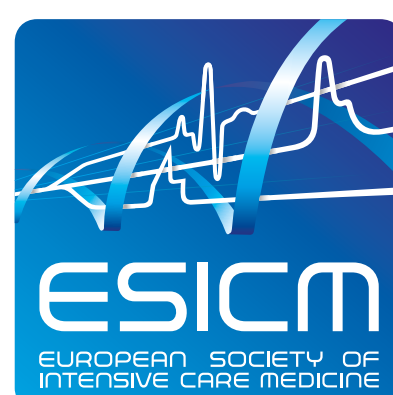
I am profoundly honoured and proud to present him this prestigious award on behalf of the European Society of intensive Care Medicine, for all his achievements in the field of Intensive Care Medicine and the critically ill patient.



*The Intensive Connection*

**MARCO MAGGIORINI**

ESICM Chair Examinations Committee



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