



DANIEL DE BACKER

The European Society of Intensive Care Medicine proudly awards the Society Medal to Prof Daniel De Backer for his outstanding contribution to both the Society and the specialty over a number of years.

Daniel was born on 28 December 1961 in Brussels. He obtained his MD diploma with *magna cum laude* in June 1986 from the *Université Libre de Bruxelles*. He became fully specialised in internal medicine in 1991 and in intensive care medicine in 1992 (both at the *Université Libre de Bruxelles*).

In 1996, he obtained the title of *Agrégé de l'Enseignement Supérieur* (PhD) from the *Université Libre de Bruxelles*.

Daniel is currently Head of the Intensive Care department of the CHIREC Hospitals (Brussels and Braine l'Alleud-Waterloo) and Professor of Intensive Care at the *Université Libre de Bruxelles* (Brussels).

His main fields of investigation are sepsis, organ dysfunction and support, circulatory failure, hemodynamic monitoring (including echocardiography), hepato-splanchnic circulation and microcirculatory disorders.

Daniel has always been a very active researcher and hands-on clinician. This was reflected even during his presidency. He was President of European Society of Intensive Care Medicine from 2014-2016. Before becoming President of ESICM, he was particularly instrumental in his role as Research Committee Chair in setting up a European research network. He was the co-Principal Investigator for the first large observational study of the ESICM Trials Group (the FENICE Study, ICM 2015).

Daniel De Backer has signed more than 300 articles. His name is linked to some of the most important research in the field of shock, sepsis and microcirculation. One of his most important studies regarding the role of Norepinephrine in patients with Shock changed practice worldwide.

He is considered to be one of the best echocardiographers in the field, and when ESICM President, Daniel was instrumental in developing a European Diploma in Echocardiography.

Daniel's role as ESICM ambassador has been obvious in the many links he has established outside Europe, from Latin America to Asia, to name but a few.

His staff, and everyone else that knows him, describe him as a very supportive leader, who works alongside his team and always goes the extra mile.

Daniel has a strong and open personality. His free time is spent with his family and he enjoys retreating to his house in the French countryside.

We have known Daniel for many years and are proud to be his colleagues and friends. We are sure that everyone working in Intensive Care is very pleased that Daniel will receive this award and join us in congratulating him for what is yet another achievement.

MAURIZIO CECCONI

ESICM President-Elect

JACQUES DURANTEAU

ESICM Chair of the Editorial & Publishing Committee