



ANTONIO ARTIGAS



The European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (ESICM) is proud to award the ESICM Medal 2023 to Professor Antonio Artigas for his major contributions to Intensive Care Medicine. With a passion for intensive care from the early stages of his career, Prof. Artigas emerged as one of the pioneers of the intensive care speciality. His dedication and expertise over more than 40 years have allowed him to witness the evolution of critical care medicine and remain an active participant in its advancement. I am privileged to write these words, as he became my mentor, role model, and friend.

Antonio Artigas is a Professor of Applied Physiology and Chair of Sepsis and Acute Respiratory Failure Research at the Autonomous University of Barcelona. He was the Director of the Intensive Care Medicine Department at Corporacion Sanitaria Universitaria Parc Tauli from 1988 to 2016 and now is Emeritus Director and Director of the Pathophysiological Translational and Cell Therapy Laboratory. Prof. Artigas is an active member of several societies including ESCIM (Honorary Membership in 2012), ERS, ESA, ATS, and SRLF and is an International Corresponding Member of the French Académie Nationale de Médecine since 2016.

Antonio is a founding member of ESICM and has devoted a huge amount of effort to this society. He was a member of the Executive Committee from 1982 to 1990. He has never missed one meeting of the society, is still interested in all sessions and visits all poster areas. He has been a very active member of the Acute Respiratory Failure section and playing in 1998 a crucial role in the American European Consensus Conference on ARDS. As a leader in this conference, he contributed to the establishment of consensus guidelines that have influenced the management of ARDS worldwide. Additionally, his contributions to the Sepsis and Systemic Inflammation section including his active involvement in the Surviving Sepsis Campaign (SSC), provided significant improvements in sepsis care and outcomes. Furthermore, Prof. Artigas has demonstrated a keen interest in the Health

Services Research & Outcome section, especially contributing to the development and validation of prognostic scores. Artigas has also worked towards bridging collaborations with other scientific societies such as ATS or ERS, with a special involvement in the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS). His efforts in establishing connections and facilitating knowledge exchange have fostered advancements in critical care medicine on a global scale.

Antonio Artigas is not only a highly respected leader but also an inspiring figure within the intensive care community. His exceptional qualities and unwavering commitment have earned him the trust and admiration of his colleagues and peers. His guidance and mentorship have been instrumental in shaping the careers of numerous intensivists and researchers who have had the privilege of working with him. In fact, a long list of his previous young collaborators are now Heads of different departments.

One notable characteristic of Artigas is that he always conducts himself with utmost professionalism. He is considered a true gentleman in both his personal and professional interactions. Artigas's commitment, exemplarity, and passion are evident in everything he does. His passion for his work is infectious, inspiring those around him to share in his enthusiasm and strive for excellence.

In a nutshell, Antonio Artigas's exceptional qualities as a respected leader, inspiring mentor, and gentleman have made him an icon within the intensive care community. His commitment, exemplarity, and passion serve as guiding principles in his work. Through his collaborations and mentorship, he nurtures the talents of young intensivists and researchers, creating a lasting impact on the future of intensive care medicine.

RICARD FERRER ROCA

ESICM Treasurer
