



GIUSEPPE CITERIO

It is a genuine privilege to present this laudatio for Professor Giuseppe Carlo Citerio: clinician, scientist, teacher, editor, writer, and one of the defining figures of the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine over the past three decades. In recognition of his unwavering dedication, the ESICM is delighted to award Giuseppe the ESICM Medal.

Giuseppe's story began in 1989 at the IRCCS Ospedale San Raffaele in Milan. Ever since, it has unfolded around a single commitment: the critically ill patient with acute brain injury. As Full Professor of Anaesthesiology at the Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca, and now Director of its Specialty School in Anaesthesia, Intensive Care and Pain Medicine, Giuseppe has shaped generations of physicians in the lecture hall, in specialty training, and through the international Summer School of Neurocritical Care, which he founded in 2017 and continues to direct. Under his leadership, Monza became, and remains, one of Europe's reference centres for the treatment of traumatic brain injury, subarachnoid haemorrhage and disorders of consciousness.

Giuseppe's commitment to the ESICM has been lifelong. For more than two decades he has given the Society sustained leadership. He was a founding member of the Neuro-Intensive Care (NIC) Section and later became its Chair. In his roles as Chair of the Scientific Affairs Division from 2010 to 2013 and as Chair of the Congress Committee from 2011 to 2013, he helped shaping the Society's scientific strategy and its annual congress and its educational programmes. Central to his contribution has been his 18-year editorial commitment to Intensive Care Medicine, in which he rose from Associate Editor to Deputy Editor and ultimately Editor-in-Chief. Under his leadership, the journal became one of the highest-ranking journals in the field. The ESICM is immensely grateful to Giuseppe for all he has given.

A recognised leader in his field, Giuseppe is a regular faculty member at international meetings and has contributed to numerous high-impact studies and guidelines addressing key questions and controversies in neurocritical care. He is a committed advocate of high-quality research and evidence-based practice and strong supporter of multiprofessional collaboration.

Those who have worked alongside him also know another side of Giuseppe: a genuinely excellent cook, who brings the same passion, generosity and attention to detail to the Italian kitchen as he does to the ICU. He is a reminder that the best in our field excel not only in medicine, but in the art of bringing people together and making friends.

This is how his friends and colleagues have described him:

'Giuseppe is one of those people you feel lucky to have in your life — a friend who always makes time for you, listens carefully, and helps you believe in yourself. His generosity comes through in everything he does, from sharing his wisdom to cooking a wonderful meal and making everyone around his table feel at home.'

'As Editor-in-Chief, Giuseppe was always present and very helpful. He was always online and available to discuss or advise. This was a fantastic way for junior editors to learn and develop their skills.'

'When I think of Giuseppe, I think of generosity with time, knowledge and support. He has a remarkable commitment to research, education and mentorship, and has helped develop and inspire generations of clinicians throughout Europe.'

'What sets Giuseppe apart is his generosity of spirit: he gives of his intellect, rigour, attention to detail, warmth and friendship.'

'Giuseppe works incredibly hard and is always one step ahead. He has a lot to teach and does this with passion, especially when it comes to younger people. He is great fun to be with: always smiling and positive.'

'When I think of Giuseppe, I see someone who brings knowledge and people together — at the yearly Summer School in Monza, over good food and wine, and as a great organiser of international trials. Today he is discovering the Chinese world as a new perspective.'

For more than thirty-five years, Giuseppe has shown that clinical excellence, scientific rigour and generosity are not competing demands on a career but facets of the same vocation. He has treated patients, trained physicians, led trials, edited the field's leading journal, and given the ESICM decades of scientific leadership.

In recognition of his outstanding contributions, Professor Giuseppe Citerio joins the rank of distinguished colleagues who hold the Society Medal. This honour celebrates his exceptional achievements, his unconditional commitment and his remarkable human qualities.

Congratulations, Giuseppe

MARLIES OSTERMANN
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