

## Zlatá medaile Evropské kardiologické společnosti pro profesora Petra Widimského (2)



Prezident ESC Panos Vardas a předseda programového výboru ESC Keith Fox při slavnostním předávání zlaté medaile prof. Widimskému

Profesor Petr Widimský, v současné době předseda České kardiologické společnosti, prokazuje nesmírným nasazením v této funkci zájem o to, aby se kvalita české kardiologie neustále zlepšovala a bylo ji co nejvíce vidět nejen na evropské úrovni, ale i jinde ve světě. Jeho ocenění je tedy částečně i oceněním práce českých kardiologů, což Petr sám uvedl při přebírání zlaté medaile ESC.

Připojuji zde ještě text, který byl uveden v kongresových novinách ESC, věnovaný právě práci Petra Widimského v kontextu české i evropské kardiologie:

*„Petr Widimský, the Czech Republic cardiologist who was awarded the ESC Gold Medal yesterday, has arguably done more than anyone to promote primary PCI through his series of PRAGUE studies and the ESC ‘Stent for Life’ initiative.*

*‘The ESC Gold Medal represents the height of my professional career,’ he says. ‘But it isn’t just a personal honour – the award acknowledges the achievements of a great many co-workers who took part in the PRAGUE studies.’*

*This recognition from the ESC is also particularly special for Widimský, whose father Jiri Widimský was an ESC Board member and Vice-President.*

*Now, there is an element of nostalgia in his return to Barcelona, for it was here at the ESC Congress in 1999 that Widimský presented his landmark PRAGUE 1 study showing the superiority of immediate PCI over throm-*

*bolysis in acute MI patients. ‘With the great expansion of cardiology services in the Czech Republic, we had the advantage of a young workforce willing to get up in the night to perform angioplasty,’ recalls Widimský, then as now from Charles University Hospital in Prague.*

*When PRAGUE 2 confirmed the results in 850 patients from 51 participating hospitals this fully convinced Czech health providers of the benefits of a primary PCI programme throughout the whole country. A dramatic decline in STEMI mortality followed, which in turn encouraged the Czech Society of Cardiology to publish the first guidelines in 2002 and define primary PCI as the default perfusion strategy.*

*The idea of the ‘Stent for Life’ initiative, which Widimský launched with William Wijns in 2008, was to encourage equal access to PCI interventions throughout Europe and bring everyone up to the high standard set by the Czech Republic. A survey had shown that the use of primary PCI ranged from as high as 92% of MIs in some countries to as low as 5% in others. The project identified barriers to guideline implementation, and provided bespoke plans to meet the specific needs of different countries.*

*A later survey showed a doubling between 2007 and 2011 in use of PCI in six target countries (Bulgaria, France, Greece, Serbia, Spain and Turkey). ‘But there’s no room for complacency,’ said Widimský. ‘We’re now looking to reduce time delays across Europe and beyond.’*

*Following the success of PRAGUE 1 and 2, Widimský realised that the same efficient infrastructure might be used to answer other investigator-led questions in cardiology. To date 19 different PRAGUE studies have been launched, 12 completed and two more (PRAGUE 20 and 21) are currently in planning. Taken together, it means that Widimský should be presenting PRAGUE data in ESC Hot Line sessions for many years to come.”*

Tolik kongresové noviny, dovoluji si za celý výbor ČKS panu profesoru Petrovi Widimskému upřímně pogratulovat a vyslovit dík za vše, co pro českou kardiologii dosud vykonal, vykonává nyní a jistě bude vykonávat i v budoucnu.

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