INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF CARDIAC SURGERY

2nd Course: LEFT AND RIGHT VENTRICULAR FAILURE: CONCEPTS AND MANAGEMENT

ERICE-SICILY: 17 - 22 MAY 2007

Sponsored by the: • Italian Ministry of Education, University and Scientific Research • Italian Society for Cardiac Surgery • Policlinico di Monza Foundation

PURPOSE OF THE COURSE

This interdisciplinary and interactive Course has been designed to provide a comprehensive survey of the current knowledge of the complex issues pertaining to the various aspects of heart failure. The Course will address the most recent diagnostic and therapeutic advances in the field, with special emphasis on the role of surgery. Upon completion of the Course, the participants will have a thorough knowledge of the pathophysiologic processes leading to the development of heart failure and will be able to apply current concepts for diagnosis, patient selection and optimization of therapeutic strategies, with special reference to the surgical options. A special session will be devoted to the presentation of scientific papers by the participants to the Course.

APPLICATIONS

Persons wishing to attend the Course should apply in writing to:
• Dr. Ugo Filippo TESLER
Direzione Scientifica del Policlinico di Monza
Via Amati, 111
20052 MONZA, Italy
e-mail: hugo8@iol.it
specifying:
  i) date and place of birth together with present nationality;
  ii) degree and other academic qualifications;
  iii) list of publications;
  iv) present position and place of work.

Persons also wishing to present a paper during the meeting should send an abstract to the same e-mail address not later than 28 February, 2007. Notice of acceptance of the papers selected for presentation will be sent via e-mail, by 31 March, 2007.

POETIC TOUCH

According to legend, Erice, son of Venus and Neptune, founded a small town on top of a mountain (750 metres above sea level) more than three thousand years ago. The founder of modern history — i.e. the recording of events in a methodic and chronological sequence as they really happened without reference to mythical causes — the great Thucydides (~460-400 B.C.), writing about events connected with the conquest of Troy (~1200 B.C.) said: “After the fall of Troy some Trojans on their escape from the Achaean arrived in Sicily by boat and as they settled near the border with the Sicanians all together they were named Elymi: their towns were Segesta and Erice.” This inspired Virgil to describe the arrival of the Trojan royal family in Erice and the burial of Anchise, by his son Enea, on the coast below Erice. Homer (~1200 B.C.), Theocritus (~300 B.C.), Polybius (~210 B.C.), Virgil (~15 B.C.), Horace (~20 B.C.), and others have celebrated this magnificent spot in Sicily in their poems. During seven centuries (XIII-XIX) the town of Erice was under the leadership of a local oligarchy, whose wisdom assured a long period of cultural development and economic prosperity which in turn gave rise to the many churches, monasteries and private palaces which you see today.

In Erice you can admire the Castle of Venus, the Cyclopean Walls (~800 B.C.) and the Gothic Cathedral (~1300 A.D.). Erice is at present a mixture of ancient and medieval architecture. Other masterpieces of ancient civilization are to be found in the neighbourhood: at Motya (Phoenician), Segesta (Elymian), and Selinunte (Greek). On the Aegadian Islands — theatre of the decisive naval battle of the first Punic War (264-241 B.C.) — suggestive neolithic and paleolithic vestiges are still visible: the grottoes of Favignana, the carvings and murals of Levanzo. Splendid beaches are to be found at San Vito Lo Capo, Scopello, and Cornino, and a wild and rocky coast around Monte Colano: all at less than one hour’s drive from Erice.

More information about the «Ettore Majorana» Foundation and Centre for Scientific Culture can be found on the WWW at the following address: http://www.ccsem.infn.it

• PLEASE NOTE
Participants must arrive in Erice on 17 May, not later than 5 pm.

P. SLEIGHT - U.F. TESLER
DIRECTORS OF THE COURSE

U.F. TESLER
DIRECTOR OF THE SCHOOL

A. ZICHICH
EMFSC PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRE