

## **Appendix**

*Expert Scientific Committee:* G. De Backer (Ghent, Belgium, Chairman). Members: G. B. Ambrosio (Venice, Italy), P. Amouyel (Lille, France), D. Cokkinos (Athens, Greece), J. Deckers (Rotterdam, the Netherlands), L. Erhardt (Malmö, Sweden), I. Graham (Dublin, Ireland), I. Keber (Ljubljana, Slovenia), U. Keil (Münster, Germany), S. Lehto, K. Pyörälä (Kuopio, Finland), E. Östor (Budapest, Hungary), A. Pajak (Cracow, Poland), S. Sans (Barcelona, Spain), J. Simon (Pilsen, Czech Republic), D. Wood (London, UK, Co-ordinator).

*Co-ordinating and Data Management Centre:* Cardiac Medicine, Clinical Epidemiology Group, National Heart and Lung Institute, Imperial College School of Medicine, London, United Kingdom: D. Wood, Co-ordinator; B. Schofield, Research Co-ordinator; K. Kotseva, Senior Research Fellow; M. Gollapalli, Data Manager; R. Valay European Assistant.

*Computing and Statistical Centre:* Department of Public Health, Ghent University, Belgium, G. De Backer and D. De Bacquer.

*Central Laboratory:* University Department of Medicine, Manchester Royal Infirmary, M. Mackness.

*Study centres, organisations, investigators and other research personnel (Principal*

*Investigators in each country are indicated by asterixes):*

*Belgium* (BEL/GHE) Universitair Ziekenhuis, Ghent: G. De Backer\*, J. De Sutter, D. De Bacquer, H. Middendorp, J. Roggeman, C. Ghysbrecht, D.L. Clement. A.Z. Volkskliniek, Ghent: H. Verloove. A.Z. Sint Lucas, Ghent: J.P. Van Durme, P. Cambier, J. Nimmegeers, L. Versee, R. Claeys, G. Hollanders. A.Z. Maria Middelaes, Ghent- Sint Jozef: G. De Cock, Y. Kluyskens, B. François, X. De Wagter, E. Germonprez, F. Provenier. Jan Palfijn, Algemeen Ziekenhuis: S. De Biscop, X. Van Meerhaeghe, J. Trauerbach.

*Czech Republic (CZE/PP)* Charles University, Medical Faculty, Pilsen: J. Simon\*, O. Mayer Jr. , H. Rosolova, K. Linhartová, P. Bocek. Department of Preventive Cardiology, Institute of Clinical Experimental Medicine, Prague: M. Plaskova, Z. Skodova, R. Cifkova.

*Finland (FIN/KUO)* Kuopio University Hospital: S. Lehto\*, J. Luukkonen, M. Puhakka, K. Pyörälä, K. Kärkkäinen, R. Lehto, K. Savolainen.

*France (FRA/LLRT)* Service d'épidémiologie et de santé publique /INSERM U 508, Institut Pasteur de Lille, Lille: Ph. Amouyel\*, M. Montaye, B. Lemaire, S. Beauchant, A. Dusart, F. Bonte, N. Fiévet, L. Poissonnier, P. Ledoux, N. Marécaux, C. Stéclebout. Hôpital Cardiologique Universitaire, Lille. Hôpital Victor Provo, Roubaix. Hôpital Saint- Philibert, Lomme. Hôpital Gustave Dron, Tourcoing.

*Germany (GER/MÜNS)* Institut für Epidemiologie und Sozialmedizin, Universität Münster: U. Keil\*, A. Liese, J. Heidrich, M. Kalic. Medizinische Klinik und Poliklinik für Kardiologie und Angiologie, Universität Münster: G. Breithardt, S. Kerber, A. Enbergs. Klinik und Poliklinik für Thorax-, Herz- und Gefäßchirurgie, Universität Münster: H. Scheld, N. Roeder. St. Franziskus Hospital, Münster: P. Kleine- Katthöfer. Institut für Arterioskleroseforschung, Universität Münster: G. Assmann.

*Greece (GRE/ATCI)* Onassis Cardiac Surgery Centre, Athens: D. Cokkinos\*, D. Kremastinos, A. Manginas, T. Kolettis, E. Iliodromitis, G. Hatzigeorgiou, M. Papadakis, A. Petaloudis, A. Tsiavou. University Cardiology Department, Hippokratio Hospital, Athens: P. Toutouzas\*, D. Markou, C. Chrysochoou. Tzanio Hospital of Pireus, Athens: S. Fousas, C. Olympios, P. Dalampiras, V. Tsoukaki. University Cardiology Department, A.H.E.P.A. Hospital, Thessaloniki: G. Louridas, C. Karvounis, D. Farmakis, D. Adamidis, C. Samara. General Hospital of Kavala: A. Tirologos, P. Doulgeridis, T. Stathopoulou. Cardiology Department, University P.E.P.A.G.N.I. Hospital, Heraklion, Crete: P. Vardas, M. Marketou, D. Tzanakaki. Cardiology Department, University General Hospital of Ioannina: D. Sideris,

L. Mihalis, D. Nikas. Peripheral General Hospital of Ioannina Hatzikosta: K. Sioggas, E. Kountouris, E. Pappa.

*Hungary* (HUN/BUD) Hungarian Institute of Cardiology, Budapest: E. Östör\*, S. Borbás, M. Podmaniczky, T. Ruzsányi. Szt. János Hospital, Budapest: A. Jánosi, Zs. Ádám, Gy. Bárczy, A. Belatiny-Kenéz, K. Birtalan, I Gallai.

*Ireland* (IRE/DUB) Adelaide & Meath Hospital, Dublin: I. Graham\*, P. O'Callaghan, M. McGettigan, L. Smyth, E. Shelly. St James's Hospital, Dublin: J. Freely, M. Hall.

*Italy* (ITA/TV) Department of Internal Medicine, Venice City Hospital: G. B. Ambrosio\*, C. Leprotti. Department of Cardiology, Borgo Trento Hospital, Verona: P. Zardini, L. Rossi, D. Tavella. Department of Cardiology, Ca' Foncello Hospital, Treviso: P. Stritoni, A. Pedrocco.

*The Netherlands* (NET/ROT) Thorax Centre of the Academic Hospital Rotterdam "Dijkzigt": J. Deckers\*, C. Jansen. Sint Franciscus Gasthuis, Rotterdam: M. Veerhoek, A. Boer, E. Stockx. Zuiderziekenhuis, Rotterdam: J. Vos, M. van der Knaap.

*Poland* (POL/CRA) Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Population Studies, Institute of Public Health, Collegium Medicum, Jagiellonian University, Cracow: A. Pajak\*. I Department of Cardiology, Collegium Medicum, Jagiellonian University, Cracow: K. Kawecka-Jaszcz, P. Jankowski. II Department of Cardiology, Collegium Medicum, Jagiellonian University, Cracow: J. Dubiel. Department of Cardiac and Vascular Diseases, Collegium Medicum, Jagiellonian University, Cracow: W. Tracz. Department of Cardiology, Ludwik Rydygier District Hospital, Cracow: W. Piotrowski; Department of Cardiology, Józef Dietl Hospital, Cracow: J. Maciejewicz. Department of Cardiology, Gabriel Narutowicz Memorial General Hospital, Cracow: W. Smielak-Korombel.

*Slovenia* (SLO/LJU) University Medical Centre, Ljubljana: I. Keber\*, E. Skof, M. Span.

*Spain* (SPA/BAR) Institute of Health Studies, Department of Health and Social Security, Barcelona: S. Sans\*, L. Balañá, G. Paluzie. Hospital Clinic i Provincial, Barcelona; G. Sanz,

C. Ferrer. Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, Barcelona: J. M. Caralps, M. Dominguez.

Corporació Sanitària Parc Tauli, Sabadell: M. Rey.

*Sweden* (SWE/MAL) University Hospital, Malmö: L. Erhardt\*, M. Stagmo, C. Alm, I.

Olsson.

*UK* (UK/HL) Charing Cross Hospital, London: D. Wood\*, A. Casey, H. Penston.

Hammersmith Hospital, London: R. Hall. Central Middlesex Hospital, London: T. Bowker.

West Middlesex Hospital, London: T. Greenwood. Castle Hill Hospital, Hull and Hull Royal

Infirmery, Hull: J. Cleland, A. Dunn, P. Jones.