



## **Inter American Society Of Hypertension**

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**Brief description of activities over the past year:**

The XVII<sup>th</sup> Biennial Scientific Sessions of the Inter-American Society of Hypertension combined with the XIV<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Consortium for Southeastern Hypertension Control (COSEHC) were jointly held in May 2007 at the Loews Miami Beach Hotel in South Beach, Miami, Florida. The meeting, chaired by Carlos M. Ferrario, M.D. and Leopoldo Raij, M.D., attracted more than 500 participants from 22 different countries throughout the Americas, Europe, and Asia. The 5-day meeting was filled with clinical and basic science presented as invited lectures and symposia from 147 faculty representing 14 countries. Additionally, numerous posters and oral presentations selected from 316 abstracts presented by young investigators studying hypertension-related diseases of the heart and the blood vessels rounded out the meeting. The program featured special clinical symposia that focused on updated clinical guidelines for management of global risk factors, epidemiology of hypertension in Latin-American

countries, new insights into the role of hypertension in diabetes, dyslipidemia, the metabolic syndrome, and obesity. In addition, complementary sessions addressed new aspects of clinical hypertension research on genetics, role of prostanoids in the inflammatory processes associated with hypertensive vascular disease and atherosclerosis, as well as newer insights into the role of the renin angiotensin system in the pathogenesis of hypertension and vascular disease. Additional featured research symposia addressed the emerging role of renin inhibitors in the management of hypertension, renal disease, and heart failure. Sessions in the epidemiology and prevention of hypertension related target organ damage provided an update on aspects of the problem throughout the Americas. The 2007 meeting was endorsed by the following organizations:

American Heart Association's Council for High Blood Pressure Research  
American Society of Hypertension  
Brazilian Society of Hypertension  
Cardiology Online  
Center for Disease Control and Prevention ~ High Blood Pressure  
Japanese Society of Hypertension  
Latin American Society of Nephrology and Hypertension  
Mexican Society of Arterial Hypertension  
Venezuelan Heart Failure Foundation  
World Hypertension League

### **Annual Scientific meeting information:**

This past August, the XVII<sup>th</sup> Scientific Sessions of the Inter-American Society of Hypertension were held in conjunction with the XVII<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Brazilian Society of Hypertension in Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais, Brazil. As chair of the 2009 IASH meeting, Robson Santos, M.D., Ph.D., designed a meeting of which the central topic of was hypertension and global risk management. During the 4-day meeting, specialists discussed different aspects of hypertension, its systemic impacts and association with diabetes, obesity and cardiovascular diseases. The satellite symposium covered the recent advances of the renin-angiotensin system. The meeting attracted over 2600 attendees. Many students, young scientists, clinicians and allied health care providers filled the meeting rooms over the 4-day conference. IASH sponsored many young scientists and students through travel and research awards to attend the meeting with support from the American Heart Association's Council for High Blood Pressure Research. A highlight of the meeting was the recognition of Dr John Hall as the awardee of the IASH Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr Hall, a past president, has been an active member of IASH for many years. More than 700 abstracts were presented along with lectures from 50 invited speakers from countries abroad and 150 faculty from Brazil. The program encompassed the latest, up-to-date science on prorenin/renin receptor/renin inhibition, the ACE2/Angiotensin-(1-7)/Mas Axis, Aminopeptidase A-Angiotensin III-AT<sub>2</sub> receptor-Bradykinin B2 receptor-EDHF Axis, and endothelial dysfunction.