



American Heart Association International **EUROPE**

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is the leading cause of death worldwide. In 2020, approximately

19.1 million people died from CVD – accounting for

32% of global deaths.^{1,2}

For nearly 100 years, the American Heart Association has been leading the fight against heart disease and stroke. **In the last 10 years, we've expanded our reach to over 100 countries**, working with organizations around the world to help change policies, implement programs, and strengthen healthcare systems to help improve and save lives.

We believe that where you live should not limit your health or the quality of your life.

The Difference Between Life and Death



The American Heart Association has a **longstanding relationship with our sister heart foundations in Europe.** In fact, we've worked with the **Irish Heart Foundation** since its founding more than **50 years** ago.⁶

CVD remains the leading cause of death throughout Europe, causing **4 million deaths annually – 46% of all deaths.**³

Stroke is the second leading cause of death throughout the European Union and **a leading cause of disability.**⁵



The number of **people living with stroke in the EU is expected to increase 27%** from 2017-2047 due to an aging population and an increase in survival from stroke.⁵



Women in the region experience a higher rate of CVD deaths than men – 2.2 million vs 1.8 million.⁴

Our Work



Resuscitation Quality Improvement®, an AHA and Laerdal program, provides a high-reliability platform for simulation-based mastery learning, implemented through low-dose, high-frequency quality improvement sessions that measure and verify competence, to help healthcare providers retain life-saving skills.

We established the first Neonatal Resuscitation Program® (NRP) International Training Center in Ireland. The National Women Infants Health Programme will teach NRP in 19 maternity hospitals throughout Ireland.



Our International Go Red for Women® program educates women on the risk factors for and symptoms of heart attack and stroke and encourages healthy behaviors to prevent CVD. There are organizations in 12 countries in Europe hosting community events, awareness activities and health checks.

Together with Associazione Nazionale Medici Cardiologi Ospedalieri (ANMCO) in Italy, we are working on **AIMAR-GORED (Artificial Intelligence Marche Region Go Red for Women Observational Prospective Registry)**, a 3-year precision medicine pilot in Marche Region, Italy, at the Lancisi Heart Center. This pilot is using artificial intelligence devices to monitor CVD risk factors and events in women.

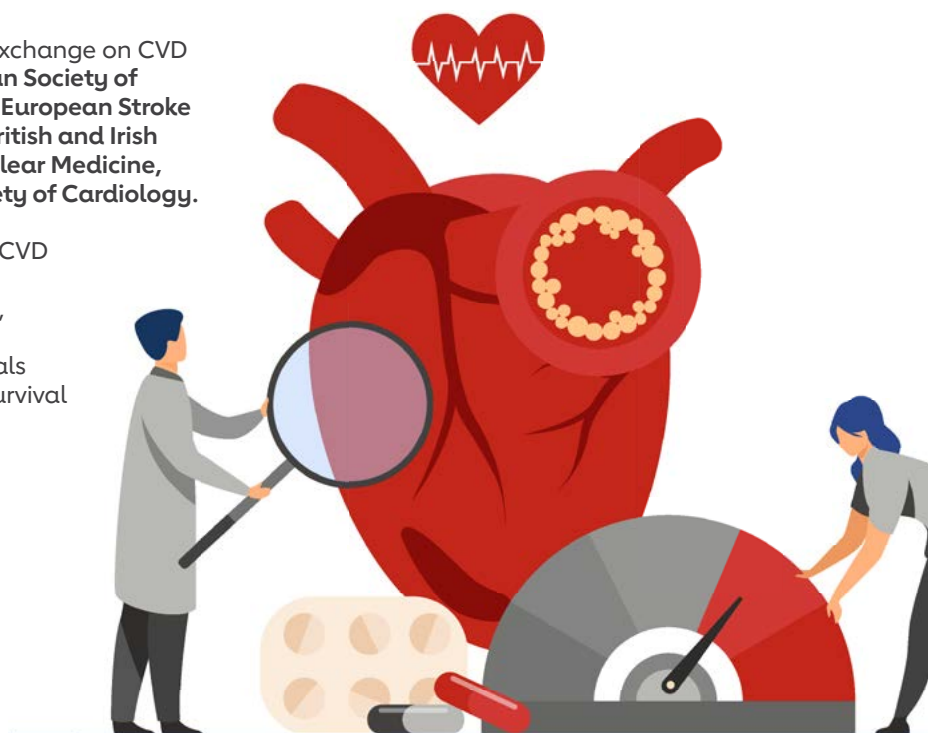
Research Collaboration

We collaborate on joint sessions to foster scientific exchange on CVD awareness, prevention and control with the **European Society of Cardiology, Italian Society of Cardiology, ANMCO, European Stroke Organization, European Society of Hypertension, British and Irish Hypertension Society, European Association of Nuclear Medicine, Lithuanian Heart Association and the Spanish Society of Cardiology.**

The American Heart Association is one of 11 leading CVD research funders collaborating through the **Global Cardiovascular Research Funders Forum**. The group, which includes six European foundations, is working together share data on research funding, clinical trials and strategic initiatives to improve treatment and survival from CVD worldwide.

Resuscitation Training

Through a collaboration with Bambino Gesù Hospital in the Vatican, **we've provided training on AED use and CPR to more than 300 Vatican Museum security officers.**



Who We Work With

- Associazione Nazionale Medici Cardiologi Ospedalieri
- British and Irish Hypertension Society
- British Heart Foundation
- Danish Heart Foundation
- Dutch Heart Foundation
- European Association of Nuclear Medicine (EANM)
- European Atherosclerosis Society
- European Society for Cardiovascular and Endovascular Surgery (ESCVS)
- European Society of Cardiology
- European Stroke Organisation
- European Stroke Society
- German Center for Cardiovascular Research
- International Society Of Hypertension
- Israel Heart Society
- Italian Society of Cardiology
- LeDucq Foundation
- Lithuanian Heart Association
- National Congress of the Italian Association of Hospital Cardiologists (ANMCO)
- Spanish Heart Foundation
- Spanish Society of Cardiology
- Swedish Heart & Lung Foundation
- Swiss Heart Foundation
- World Economic Forum
- World Health Organization
- World Heart Federation
- World Stroke Organization

Our Commitment

As champions for health equity, by 2024, **we will advance cardiovascular health for all**, including identifying and removing barriers to health care access and quality. Since 1996, we've had a presence in the Asia Pacific region, and continue to prioritize the health of the region by creating a network of more than **3,000 instructors** helping save lives through resuscitation and First Aid training for nearly **133,000 people** at more than **400 sites region wide**.



¹Tsao CW, Aday AW, Almarzooq ZI, Alonso A, Beaton AZ, Bittencourt MS, Boehme AK, Buxton AE, Carson AP, Commodore-Mensah Y, Elkind MSV, Evenson KR, Eze-Nliam C, Ferguson JF, Generoso G, Ho JE, Kalani R, Khan SS, Kissela BM, Knutson KL, Levine DA, Lewis TT, Liu J, Loop MS, Ma J, Mussolino ME, Navaneethan SD, Perak AM, Poudel R, Rezk-Hanna M, Roth GA, Schroeder EB, Shah SH, Thacker EL, VanWagner LB, Virani SS, Voecks JH, Wang N-Y, Yaffe K, Martin SS; on behalf of the American Heart Association Council on Epidemiology and Prevention Statistics Committee and Stroke Statistics Subcommittee. Heart disease and stroke statistics—2022 update: a report from the American Heart Association [published online ahead of print Wednesday, January 26, 2022]. *Circulation*. doi: 10.1161/CIR.0000000000001052

²Fact Sheet on Cardiovascular Disease² World Health Organization, [https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/cardiovascular-diseases-\(cvds\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/cardiovascular-diseases-(cvds)). Accessed 28 Feb. 2022.

³Tadayon et al. Examining trends in cardiovascular disease mortality across Europe: how does the introduction of a new European Standard Population affect the description of the relative burden of cardiovascular disease? *Population Health Metrics* (2019) 17:6 <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12963-019-0187-7>

⁴Townsend N, Nichols M, Scarborough P, Rayner M. Cardiovascular disease in Europe 2016: epidemiological update. *Eur Heart J*. 2016;0:1–14.

⁵Hatem A, Wafa MPH, Charles D.A. Wolfe, MD; Eva Emmett, MPH; Gregory A. Roth, MD; Catherine O. Johnson, PhD; Yanzhong Wang, PhD. Burden of Stroke in Europe: Thirty-Year Projections of Incidence, Prevalence, Deaths, and Disability-Adjusted Life Years. *Stroke*. 2020;51:2418–2427. DOI: 10.1161/STROKEAHA.120.029606 August 2020 2425

⁶Wilkins E, Wilson L, Wickramasinghe K, Bhatnagar P, Leal J, Luengo-Fernandez R, Burns R, Rayner M, Townsend N. *European Cardiovascular Disease Statistics 2017*. Brussels: European Heart Network; 2017.