

# From the IAS President's Desk: January 2019

## Raul Santos



It is with great honor that I start serving as President of the International Atherosclerosis Society (IAS) for the three-year term beginning in January 2019. Thinking of all that my predecessors accomplished, I realize the importance of the role I am assuming, and find it quite a challenging one.

The IAS aims to prevent cardiovascular disease, one of major causes of death worldwide, by playing important roles in coordinating the exchange of scientific information among the IAS constituent societies and fostering research on the prevention of atherosclerosis. In particular, the IAS has acted to foster education and communication globally among researchers, educators, and healthcare professionals in the field of atherosclerosis and cardiometabolic disorders.

Through the great efforts of the past presidents and many mentors, the IAS has kept growing and now is composed of 67 national and regional societies and has made many contributions to the successful prevention of cardiovascular disease in many countries. In addition, IAS has fostered collaboration with sister societies and entities that share the common goal of reducing cardiovascular disease.

In spite of the many successful discoveries in the field of atherosclerosis and its risk factors including there are still many barriers to overcome to reach the best approach and treatment of this disease. Cardiovascular disease is still a main cause of death around the globe and unfortunately is growing specially in developing regions. For this reason, the research and clinical territory of the IAS should be spread into other areas besides dyslipidemia, such as diabetes, hypertension, obesity and related diseases, inflammation and thrombosis.

I believe that through its member societies, a truly unique global network, the IAS can make a difference. I count on each one of you to reach our common goal to defeat atherosclerosis through our best weapons: knowledge, education, collaboration, friendship, collegiality, and passion for the benefit of our patients. I believe that the global reach and heterogeneity of the member societies makes IAS strong and inclusive.

Best wishes for a joyful, peaceful, and healthy 2019 !

**[Biography](#) - Raul Santos, MD, PhD, MSC**