

**Anders G. Olsson, MD PhD**



Anders G. Olsson, MD, is a professor emeritus of internal medicine at the Faculty of Health Sciences of the University of Linköping in Sweden. Presently he is Research Director and physician at the Stockholm Heart Center, Stockholm, Sweden. Professor Olsson was born in 1940, is a citizen of Sweden, and received his medical degree from Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm, Sweden. His PhD thesis investigated to what extent early atherosclerosis is present in asymptomatic patients who present with hyperlipoproteinaemia.

Professor Olsson was a member of the European Atherosclerosis Group (EAG) from 1975 until it transformed in 1987 under his presidency to the European Atherosclerosis Society. He was appointed Secretary of the EAG from 1981 and worked together with its chairman Professor Rodolfo Paoletti. In 1987 he succeeded Professor Paoletti as Chairman of the EAG. During Professor Olsson's tenure of the chair of the EAG the group was reorganized into a true European Society for research in atherosclerosis and was therefore renamed to the European Atherosclerosis Society (EAS). Professor Olsson organized in 1989 the 25 Anniversary of the EAG/EAS with a symposium in Linköping on the theme Regression of Atherosclerosis.

During his tenure of the chair in Linköping he first documented the cholesterol lowering effect, tolerability and safety of simvastatin and then cochaired (together with Professor John Kjekshus, Oslo, Norway) the Scandinavian Simvastatin Survival Study (4S). The 4S was the first study to demonstrate that cholesterol lowering results in diminished mortality in patients at risk of coronary heart disease. Concomitantly Professor Olsson led the ProbucoL Quantitative Regression Swedish Trial (PQRST) on femoral atherosclerosis in patients with hypercholesterolaemia. Cochairing the MIRACL study (together with Professor Gregory Schwartz, Denver, USA) he was also able for the first time to demonstrate that statin treatment in patients suffering from acute coronary syndromes has rapid clinical effects. Subsequently Professor Olsson has participated in the conduction of numerous clinical outcome studies in the field of atherosclerosis and coronary heart disease.

Professor Olsson studied the etiology of atherosclerosis, particularly through the method of geographical comparisons of risk factors in regions with large differences in coronary heart disease mortality. Such studies were the Edinburgh-Stockholm studies, the first published in 1973, the Naples-Stockholm study in 1979 and the Linköping-Vilnius studies (LiVicordia), first published in 1994.

Professor Olsson acted as President of the XII International Symposium on Atherosclerosis, which was held in Stockholm, Sweden, in 2000, and which attracted more than 5 000 delegates. He is currently an honorary member of the European Atherosclerosis Society and a Premium Professional Golden Heart Member of the American Heart Association. He is a member of the Steering Committees of numerous interventional studies on atherosclerosis prevention. He is a member of the Task Force for the Prevention of Coronary Heart Disease from its start. He is Assistant Editor of the journal *Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology* (European Office). Professor Olsson has authored or coauthored more than 300 scientific articles on the topics of atherosclerosis, hyperlipidaemia, and preventive cardiology and has contributed to the development of national and international guidelines for the prevention of coronary heart disease.