

YEAR END PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – 2020

We are close to the end of 2020, certainly a year filled with novel events! All of us have adjusted to new ways of working and managing all aspects of our lives. I would like to send a heartfelt thank you to all the people around the world who have helped the IAS in reaching its goals. As a global organization there are both challenges and pleasures to be able to work with people from different parts of the world, different cultures, different social and health environments, different languages, enormous distances, and time differences. This year has been especially difficult with the COVID-19 pandemic and the cancellation of many meetings and others moved to a web-platform.

Despite the challenges the pandemic gave to all of us, IAS participated in and supported many programs thanks to the cooperation and hard work of our Member Societies and Federations, most recently the ATVB council of the American Heart Association Scientific Sessions 2020 on November 14-17 and the National Lipid Association (NLA) Scientific Sessions 2020 on December 10-12 . These sessions can be found respectively at: <https://professional.heart.org/es/meetings/scientific-sessions> and <https://www.lipid.org/sessions>.

We have also had other activities such as the Publication on Gaps in belief and practice in dyslipidemia management in Japan, Germany, Colombia, and the Philippines: Insights from a web-based physician survey. This was published on *Lipids in Health and Disease* (2020) 19:31 (<https://lipidworld.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12944-020-01265-z>); the IAS and NLA collaboration in offering two courses for IAS members and a quarterly article in the JCL; the Essentials of Residual Risk project; IAS MENA and Africa COVID-19 AND FH Survey. While too numerous to mention here, you can find the full list of the IAS activities in 2020 at <https://www.athero.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/2020-List-Activities-as-26-11-2020-v2-003.pdf> and more information on these programs can be found on the IAS website: www.athero.org.

In December we also launched the new IAS Education Center (IASEC). Two programs are already available, *Preventing ASCVD in Patients with Diabetes* and the *2020 Residual Cardiovascular Risk Summit*. Please visit IASEC at: <https://ias-education.athero.org/>.

In 2021, IAS will continue to use our platform to educate and inspire change by offering new education programs and virtual programming, please stay tuned. We also hope that we will be able to be together in person at meetings planned for 2021 especially the International Symposium on Atherosclerosis (ISA) in Kyoto, Japan and its pre-satellite symposium in Muscat, Oman both set for October.

Please stay safe and healthy and thank you again for all you are doing in the fight to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and save lives. With all the members of the IAS Board, I send you our most sincere wishes for a 2021 full of happiness, peace, and health.

With respect and gratitude,

Raul Santos