

PRESS RELEASE



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iCARDIO Alliance Releases First Global Implementation Guidelines on Ischemic Heart Disease

iCARDIO Ischemic Heart Disease Guidelines Prioritize Equity, Access, and Implementation

BASEL, 26 August 2026 – The International CARDIO Alliance to Improve Disease Outcomes (iCARDIO Alliance) today announced the publication of its Global Implementation Guidelines on Ischemic Heart Disease (IHD), providing practical, resource-adaptive recommendations for the diagnosis, treatment, secondary prevention, and long-term follow-up of patients with chronic ischemic heart disease worldwide.

Ischemic heart disease remains the leading cause of death and disability globally, responsible for approximately 9 million deaths annually and affecting an estimated 126 million people worldwide. The burden continues to rise, particularly in low- and middle-income countries, where access to cardiovascular care remains uneven.

The iCARDIO Global Implementation Guidelines represent a unique international collaboration designed to ensure that cardiovascular guidance is relevant and applicable across diverse healthcare settings. In keeping with the Alliance's commitment to global representation, more than half of the writing and review experts were drawn from regions outside Europe and North America.

Unlike traditional guidelines developed primarily for well-resourced healthcare systems, the iCARDIO recommendations include specific guidance for settings with severely limited resources while maintaining alignment with contemporary evidence and best practice.

The guidelines address:

- Assessment and diagnosis of chronic ischemic heart disease
- Risk stratification and secondary prevention
- Lipid, diabetes, blood pressure, and lifestyle management
- Antithrombotic and antianginal therapies
- Revascularization strategies
- Management of ischemic heart disease in women, older adults and patients with multiple comorbidities
- Long-term follow-up and implementation strategies

The guideline development process also incorporated a public review and patient perspectives, helping ensure that the recommendations reflect both clinical evidence and real-world needs.

The iCARDIO Alliance creates practical, globally relevant implementation guidance that can help reduce disparities in cardiovascular care and improve outcomes for people living with ischemic heart disease and other cardiac-related illness worldwide.

The iCARDIO Guidelines are accessible by open access through the website of the journal [Global Cardiology](#) and re-published in several other journals.

The iCARDIO Alliance published Global Implementation Guidelines on Heart Failure and Obesity Therapy in Patients with Cardiovascular Disease in 2025 and will soon also publish Guidelines on Atrial Fibrillation. Further Guidelines on Cardiomyopathy and Cardio Kidney Metabolic Conditions are in the pipeline, with Guidelines on Prevention, Hypertension and Dyslipidemia in the planning stages.

The iCARDIO Alliance Global Implementation Guidelines on Ischemic Heart Disease can be downloaded via the [iCARDIO Alliance website](#).

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For more information or media inquiries, please contact:

Doune Porter

Communications Manager

+33 6 52 69 55 54

dporter@icardio.org

<https://icardioalliance.org/>

Available for interviews:

Shelley Zieroth – Chair of the Guidelines Advisory Board of the iCARDIO Alliance

szieroth@sbgh.mb.ca +1 (204) 298-7807

**Fausto Pinto – Chair of the Guidelines Advisory Board of the iCARDIO Alliance and
Chair of the IHD Task Force**

faustopin@gmail.com +351 966 046 210

About the iCARDIO Alliance

The [iCARDIO Alliance](#) is a global collaborative initiative that brings together leading cardiovascular societies and experts from every region of the world. Guided by an advisory board of internationally recognized [specialists](#), its mission is to improve patient outcomes through international cooperation, equitable practices, and the development of practical clinical guidelines that are applicable and implementable across diverse healthcare and economic settings.

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