

Curriculum Vitae

Prof.dr. Stephane Heymans, MD, PhD, FESC, FHFA,

Application for the position of ESC Councillor, Board Member of the ESC, 2026-28

Personal Information:

Place and Date of Birth: Brussels, 14 November 1970

Nationality: Belgian

Current Position and Professional Address

Cardiologist & Professor in Cardiomyopathies (Maastricht University) & Matrix Biology (Univ
Work Address: Department of Cardiology: Academic Hospital of Maastricht, University of Ma
HX Maastricht, Netherlands; Mobile: +32484506333

Photo



Education and Postgraduate Training

Ph.D., Doctor in Medical Sciences

Fellow of Belgian Research Foundation, Title: "Role of Proteinases after Acute Myocardial Infarction" Promoters: Carmeliet P., Collen D. LEUVEN UNIVERSITY, Belgium, May 2000

Doctor in Medicine (M.D.) (*Cum Laude, 84 %*); LEUVEN UNIVERSITY, Belgium, 1995

CLINICAL TRAINING AND APPOINTMENTS:

- Cardiology & Research. Heart Failure. University Hospital of Maastricht, The Netherlands. Managing the Multidisciplinary Cardiomyopathy Program, with Immunology, Microbiology and Pathology departments. Extensive cohort of non-ischemic cardiomyopathies (> 2800 patients); Cardiogenetics; Clinical trials initiated (Sanquin; Novel; Inflammacor) (2006)
- Dr Dekker Fellowship for Basic Cardiovascular Research as Staff Member, The Netherlands Heart Foundation (2003-2006)
- Academic Medical Specialist, Cardiology, University Hospital of Maastricht, The Netherlands (2003)
- Trainee in Cardiology, Dep. Cardiology, University Hospital of Leuven (1996-2003)
- Responsible of a Clinical Trial: Use of recombinant Staphylokinase and its mutants in patients with peripheral arterial disease: inclusion of 210 patients (1996-2000)

European Society of Cardiology Activities

- Nucleus Member of the Committee of Heart Failure and Inherited Dilated Cardiomyopathies, HFA of the ESC (2024-)
- Nucleus Member of the Committee of Heart Failure and Inflammatory Cardiomyopathies, HFA of the ESC (2024-)
- Chair of the Study Group of Inherited Cardiomyopathies and Heart Failure, HFA of the ESC (2022-2024)
- Vice Chair and Nucleus member of the Study Group of Cardiomyopathies of the HFA of the ESC (2020-)
- Vice Chair and Nucleus member of the Study Group of Myocarditis of the HFA of the ESC (2020-)
- (Past-)Chair of the Basic Science Section and part the Executive committee of the Heart Failure Association of the European Society of Cardiology (2018-2020)
- (Past-)Chair and Ex-Officio nucleus member of the Working Group of Myocardial Function of the European Society of Cardiology (2018-2022)
- (Past-)Chair of the Committee on Translational Research of the Heart Failure Association of the ESC (2014-2018)
- Board member of the European Heart Failure Association, ESC (2012-2020)

Participation in Other International Scientific Committees

- Member, External Scientific Advisory Board of CIBERCV, Spanish government-funded network (2024-)
- Member, External Sounding Board, BIH Center for Regenerative Therapies (BCRT), Charité, Berlin, Germany (2020-)
- Member, Scientific advisory Board, CNIC Spanish National Cardiovascular Research Centre Madrid, Spain (2020-)
- Member, Scientific advisory board, INSERM, Paris, PARCC U970, France (2020-)
- Nucleus member of the Committee of Diastolic Heart Failure, European Heart Failure Association (2010-2014)

- Member of the American Heart Association, European Society of Cardiology, European Society of Heart Failure, European Council on Cardiovascular Research
- Professor at the Koninklijke Nationale Academie Nederland, (KNAW), Netherlands Heart Institute (2010-2020) editor of Circulation Heart Failure, EHJ.

Leadership and Management Experience

- Head of Centre of Heart Failure Research (2013: 18 lab members) (2009-); www.hfresearch.eu
- Chair of the Strategic Board of the Cardiovascular Research Institute Maastricht (CARIM), Maastricht University (230 persons)
- Chair of the research department of Cardiology, MUMC, Maastricht. (49 persons) (2011-)

Fellowships and Honours

Scholarship Principal Investigator	Amount	Year of award
NWO, Vidi grant to S. Heymans	€ 600,000	2009
Dr Dekker Fellowship, Dutch Heart Foundation, Junior Staff Member to S. Heymans	€ 320,000	2003
Leuven University personal research grant to S. Heymans .	€ 350,000	2003
<i>Subtotal</i>	€ 1,270,000	
Scholarship Co-Applicant		
NWO, Veni Grant to B. Schroen (post-doc-UD in my group)	€ 210,000	2008

Prize as (young) investigator (< 40), I'm currently 55	Amount	Year of award
Outstanding Achievement Award of the European Society of Cardiology, for Basic Cardiovascular research	€ 3500	2015
Young investigator Award of the Heart Failure Association of the ESC (drs. M. Hazebroek, Clinical science	€ 1500	2015
Leon Dumont Investigator Award of the Belgian Society of Cardiology, European Cardiovascular Research Award	€ 40.000	2013
Young investigator Award of the Heart Failure Association of the ESC	€ 1500	2010
Young Investigator Award of the European Society of Cardiology	€ 1000	2010
Young Investigator Award of the European Association of Heart Failure (PhD student D. Vanhoutte)	€ 1500	2008
Young Investigator Award of the European Council of Cardiovascular Research	€ 500	2005
Young Investigator Award of the European Association of Heart Failure	€ 1500	2004
Young Investigator Award of the Belgian Society of Cardiology	€ 6000	2003
Young Investigator Award of the European Society of Hypertension	€ 1500	2003
Young Investigator Award of the International Society of Hypertension	€ 1000	2002
Young Investigator Award of the International Society of Thrombosis and Haemostatis	€ 800	2001

Top 10 Most Relevant Publications

1. State of the art and perspectives of gene therapy in heart failure. A scientific statement of the Heart Failure Association of the ESC, the ESC Council on Cardiovascular Genomics and the ESC Working Group on Myocardial & Pericardial Diseases. Van Linthout S, ..., Rosano GMC, **Heymans S. Eur J Heart Fail. 2025** Jan;27(1):5-25. [doi: 10.1002/ejhf.3516](https://doi.org/10.1002/ejhf.3516). Epub 2024 Nov 22.
2. Sikking MA, Harding D, Henkens MTHM, Stroeks SLVM, Venner MFGHM, ..., Marelli-Berg FM, **Heymans SRB**. Cytotoxic T-Cells Drive Outcome in Inflammatory Dilated Cardiomyopathy. **Circ Res. 2024 Oct 21**. [doi: 10.1161/CIRCRESAHA.124.325183](https://doi.org/10.1161/CIRCRESAHA.124.325183).
3. Sikking MA, Stroeks SLVM, Henkens MTHM, Raafs AG, Cossins B, van Deuren RC, Steehouwer M, Riksen NP, van den Wijngaard A, Brunner HG, Hoischen A, Verdonschot JAJ, **Heymans SRB**. Clonal Hematopoiesis Has Prognostic Value

- in Dilated Cardiomyopathy Independent of Age and Clone Size. **JACC Heart Fail.** 2024 May;12(5):905-914. doi: 10.1016/j.jchf.2023.06.037
4. **Heymans S**, Lakdawala NK, Tschöpe C, Klingel K. Dilated cardiomyopathy: causes, mechanisms, and current and future treatment approaches. **Lancet.** 2023 Sep 16;402(10406):998-1011. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(23)01241-2. PMID: 37716772.
 5. Raafs AG, Vos JL, ... Nijveldt R, **Heymans SRB**. Left Atrial Strain Is an Independent Predictor of New-Onset Atrial Fibrillation in Dilated Cardiomyopathy. **JACC Cardiovasc Imaging.** 2023 Jul;16(7):991-992. doi: 10.1016/j.jcmg.2023.01.008. Epub 2023 Mar 8. PMID: 37038873.
 6. Clustering of Cardiac Transcriptome Profiles Reveals Unique Subgroups of Dilated Cardiomyopathy Patients. Verdonschot JAJ, ..., Brunner HG, **Heymans SRB**. **JACC Basic Transl Sci.** 2023 Feb 1;8(4):406-418.
 7. **2021 ESC Guidelines** for the diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic heart failure. McDonagh TA, Metra M, Adamo M, ..., **Heymans S**, ..., Kathrine Skibelund A; ESC Scientific Document Group. **Eur Heart J.** 2021 Sep 21;42(36):3599-3726.
 8. Phenotypic clustering of dilated cardiomyopathy patients highlights important pathophysiological differences. Verdonschot JAJ, ...Garcia-Pavia P, **Heymans SRB**. **Eur Heart J.** 2021 Jan 7;42(2):162-174.
 9. Intravenous immunoglobulin therapy in adult patients with idiopathic chronic cardiomyopathy and cardiac parvovirus B19 persistence: a prospective, double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled clinical trial. Hazebroek MR, Henkens ..., van Empel VPM, **Heymans SRB**. **Eur J Heart Fail.** 2020 Dec 21.
 10. Distinct Transcriptomic Clustering in Titin and Lamin Genetic Dilated Cardiomyopathy Patients. Verdonschot J, Derks K, Hazebroek M, Wang P, Robinson E, Adriaens M, Krapels I, Wijngaard A, Brunner H, **Heymans S**. **Circulation.** 2020 Sep 22;142(12):1230-1232.

Major Research Interest

- As a Cardiologist, Researcher, I have dedicated over two decades to the study of non-ischemic cardiomyopathies, with a particular emphasis on understanding the immune, metabolic, and genetic mechanisms underlying these conditions. Since 2003, my work has contributed significantly to advancing our comprehension of cardiomyopathies. My expertise spans basic to clinical research within a broad international network, with a recent expansion into industry advisory and collaborations into early clinical development for therapeutic targets, covering the entire spectrum from discovery phase and preclinical studies to human validation and Phase II trials in patients.
- Pioneered a novel area of clinical work and research, exploring the previously unknown roles of inflammation and (immuno-)genetics in non-ischemic cardiomyopathies, diastolic dysfunction, myocarditis, and pericarditis. Recognized for developing a groundbreaking clinical program, cohort, and biobank on dilated cardiomyopathies and myocarditis, comprising over 1800 patients with more than 17 years of follow-up. This initiative is now a cornerstone in top-profiling international clinical and academia-industry collaborations within the center of excellence initiatives at the University, in partnership with the Maastricht University hospital.