



American  
Heart  
Association.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SUMMARY

The AHA at 100: A Century of Scientific Progress and the Future of Cardiovascular Science - A Presidential Advisory from the American Heart Association

Mitchell S.V. Elkind, MD, MS, FAHA (Chair); Donna K. Arnett, MSPH, PhD, FAHA; Ivor Benjamin, MD, FAHA; Robert Eckel, MD, FAHA; Augustus Grant, MBBCh, PhD, FAHA; Steven R. Houser, PhD, FAHA; Alice K. Jacobs, MD, FAHA; Daniel W. Jones, MD, FAHA; Rose Marie Robertson, MD, FAHA; Ralph L. Sacco\*, MD MS, FAHA; Sidney C. Smith, Jr., MD, FAHA; Myron L. Weisfeldt, MD, FAHA; Joseph Wu, MD, PhD, FAHA; Mariell Jessup, MD, FAHA (Co-Chair).

- What is this advocacy or science position statement and why is it important to AHA, the scientific community or the general public?  
This Presidential Advisory provides a broad overview of the past century of cardiovascular and stroke science, with a focus on the contributions of the AHA, as well as informed speculation about the future of cardiovascular and stroke science into the next century of the organization's history. The authors, all of whom have served as presidents of the AHA, describe the evolution of scientific methods and major advances in cardiovascular and stroke science and medicine, in many of which the AHA played a significant role. They also review the resultant shaping of organizational structure and strategies. The document highlights AHA's leadership role in research funding, advocacy, development of clinical practice guidelines, building global coalitions and quality improvement initiatives, among other accomplishments of importance to the scientific community and public at large.
- How does this position align with AHA's mission and strategic goals?  
The Advisory showcases AHA's historic mission and strategic goals. These include instituting professional membership; establishing extraordinary research funding programs; translating evidence to practice via clinical practice guidelines; impacting systems of care through quality programs, certification, and implementation; leading important advocacy efforts at federal, state, and local levels; and building global coalitions around cardiovascular and stroke science and public health.

Is this position consistent with other AHA positions? If not, what are the implications for AHA, the scientific community or the general public?

The Advisory is consistent with all current AHA positions and describes to the scientific community and the general public the evolution and history of cardiovascular science and medicine and how that has shaped the AHA's mission and activities.

- What are the risks and benefits to the AHA?  
The Presidential Advisory presents the historic journey of the AHA over the past century. The impact of advancing cardiovascular science and medicine via research grants, scientific journals and professional membership opportunities are not limited to the scientific community. Of great benefit to patients and the general public have been the significant efforts of state and federal advocacy, professional and consumer education, global coalitions and partnerships, and continued investment in health equity. The

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\*Dr. Sacco passed away shortly after his contribution to this Advisory



Advisory brings to light these significant contributions with a brief overview of potential challenges and opportunities in the coming years.

- What is the timing and manner of publication?  
The Presidential Advisory is targeted for publication on February 12, 2024 in *Circulation*.
- Who is the audience?  
Audience for this paper includes the scientific community, relevant stakeholders of the AHA, historians, science media persons and the general public.
- How will impact be evaluated or measured?  
Impact will be measured by tracking citations and media mentions as well as number of downloads. Short-term impact will be tracked by news release pick-ups, science news webpage clicks and social media shares.

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