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Read more country updates in the upcoming editions and send your stories to: stentforlife@escardio.org
Dear All,

Welcome to the Spring 2012 edition of the Stent for Life Initiative Newsletter, which presents another range of exhilarating updates from countries involved in this initiative as well as upcoming events at EuroPCR 2012.

Many of us participated in the Stent for Life 2012 Forum Conference in Prague in March 2012. For those who could not attend the conference and workshop, we include some articles to summarise this brilliant event.

In this edition you will also find information about the Stent for Life Initiative at EuroPCR. Many countries will be able to show us their progress and achievements and promote the initiative at our brand new booth especially designed for the occasion. In addition, don’t miss the scientific sessions branded Stent for Life during the meeting! As many of you will be aware, Women in Innovations joined the Stent for Life initiative as an Affiliate. This new comer augurs new projects and support from the initiative towards the inequality of diagnosis and treatment of women with acute coronary syndromes.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you, for your contribution and support to the Stent for Life Initiative, and all the efforts made during these past months. One more time, we can be proud of all the significant progress made as part of the initiative. The public awareness campaign which is already a great success brings an outstanding synergy to reach our goals.

Finally, time is close to EuroPCR 2012 and I am looking forward to seeing you in Paris, with a real enthusiasm and a certain excitement.

Steen Kristensen
Stent for Life Initiative Chair
STENT FOR LIFE INITIATIVE @ EuroPCR 2012

SFL will have a strong presence at EuroPCR and a brand new booth

Invitation to attend SFL Session at EuroPCR 2012

Palais des congrès de Paris
2 Place Porte Maillot
75017 Paris

Don’t miss the Stent for Life plenary session at EuroPCR.

Thursday 17 May
10:30 - 11:50 Room 351

We will have the honour to discuss ways to optimise the delivery and quality of primary PCI.

The chairpersons are Steen Dalby Kristensen and William Wijns. The panelists are Dan Deleanu, Omer Goktekin, Julia Jorgova, John Kanakakis.

The objectives of this plenary session are:

• To present how to understand the causes of treatment delay and how to reduce it.
• To identify the conditions for a successful STEMI network.
• To appreciate the current European STEMI registration projects and how to improve it.

After an introduction made by Steen Dalby Kristensen, the session will include:

• A talk from Martine Gilard on how to shorten patient and system delay.
• A presentation from Zuzana Kaifoszova on the setting up of STEMI centres in the USA and what can be learnt from each other.
• A remarkable case story presented by Peter Michael Clemmensen.
• A talk from Petr Widimsky on the registration of STEMI therapy in Europe.
• A presentation of Stent for Life 2012 objectives and the next year(s) by Steen Dalby Kristensen.
• Take-home message by William Wijns.
STENT FOR LIFE INITIATIVE @ EuroPCR 2012

ALL STENT FOR LIFE INITIATIVE SESSIONS @ EuroPCR 2012

Tuesday 15 May

Solutions for tough cases in STEMI
17:00-18:30 Room 243
With an unrestricted educational grant from STENTYS
Chairpersons: C. Spaulding, W. Wijns

Objectives:

• To learn about possible solutions to manage thrombus burden when thrombus aspiration in STEMI is not enough

• To learn about using a self-apposing stent in STEMI to solve the issues of difficulty in stent sizing in vasoconstricted or ectatic vessels and large thrombus load

Changing management of acute myocardial infarction: perspectives from Asia
17:00-18:20 Room 351
Chairpersons: M. Heigert, H.M. Mardikar

Objectives:

• To understand the treatment pattern of acute myocardial infarction in the emerging Asian economies

• To understand the difficulties in offering PCI to suitable candidates and to review the various adjunctive therapies and their financial implications, especially mechanical thrombus aspiration

• To understand how PCI in acute myocardial infarction can be made available to an increasing number of patients in the emerging Asian economies by developing proper networks and care systems

Tips:
All SFL Sessions are marked on the EuroPCR programme with the SFL logo
How to manage high thrombus burden in acute myocardial infarction
09:00-10:20 Room 243
Under the auspices of the Working Group on Interventional Cardiology (GTCl) of the Tunisian Society of Cardiology and CardioVascular Surgery and the Working Group on Interventional Cardiology of the Netherlands Society of Cardiology
Chairpersons: H. Gamra, P. de Jaegere
Objectives:
- To learn how to identify and manage varying degrees of thrombus burden during PCI for STEMI and NSTEMI
- To understand the optimal use of devices, antithrombotic regimen and treatment strategies in patients with thrombus during ACS
- To learn about the potential risks and predictors of clinical outcome

Difficult situations in primary PCI for STEMI
16:30-17:50 Room 242A
Under the auspices of the Working Group on Interventional Cardiology of the Turkish Society of Cardiology and the Working Group on Interventional Cardiology (EWGIC) of the Egyptian Society of Cardiology.
Chairpersons: M. Degertekin, A. El Etriby
Objectives:
- To appreciate that primary PCI is not always simple
- To better understand the role of manual thrombus aspiration in large thrombus burden
- To understand that the management of complications needs a teamwork approach
STENT FOR LIFE INITIATIVE @ EuroPCR 2012

Wednesday 16 May

How should I treat STEMI patients with primary PCI: the value of optical imaging-guidance
16:30-18:00 Room 351
With an unrestricted educational grant from TERUMO
Chairpersons: H.M. Garcia-Garcia, E. Regar

Objectives:
- To further explore possible avenues for optimisation of primary PCI
- To assess current primary PCI practice by looking into artery from inside
- To determine how use of high-resolution optical frequency domain imaging (OFDI) could improve outcomes of primary PCI procedure

Latest generation self-expanding stents in STEMI and in bifurcations
16:50-18:50 Theatre Havane
With an unrestricted educational grant from STENTYS
Chairpersons: E. Grube, P.W. Serruys
Panellists: G. Amoroso, E. Christiansen, R.J. van Geuns, J. Wyrzykowska

Objectives:
- To use self-apposing technology to overcome the limitations of current therapy when treating patients with STEMI
- To understand how a self-apposing stent can solve the technical challenges when treating patients with complex anatomies such as bifurcations, tapered vessels, aneurysms
- To solve the sizing dilemma in STEMI or bifurcations with a self-apposing stent

Tips:
All SFL Sessions are marked on the EuroPCR programme with the SFL logo
STENT FOR LIFE INITIATIVE @ EuroPCR 2012

Thursday 17 May

Management by PCI of a patient presenting with STEMI
08:00-12:00 Theatre Bordeaux
Pathway coordinator: A. Baumbach
Facilitators: H. Amin, S. Garg, H. Nef, K. Niemela, M. Noc, M. Oberhoff

Objectives:
- To understand the current knowledge and the best management for each patient presenting with STEMI
- To learn about the optimal treatment strategy considering the individual clinical situation, differences in infrastructure and the best available evidence

Young Practitioners - How to successfully manage a patient by PCI?
08:00-10:50 Room 342A
A patient with STEMI
Senior advisor: M.C. Morice
Facilitators: D. Capodanno, G. Ducrocq, P. Kahlert, J. Pregowski, E. Sorbets

Remember, don’t miss the SFL Plenary Session
10:30-11:50 Room 351

Stent for Life - How do we optimise the delivery and quality of primary PCI?
Chairpersons: S.D. Kristensen, W. Wijns
Panellists: D. Deleanu, O. Goktekin, J. Jorgova, J. Kanakakis

Read more in our previous article
Thursday 17 May

Primary PCI for the management of high-risk STEMI patients
13:40-16:20 Theatre Bleu
Chairpersons: S. Jolly, K. Niemela

Objectives:
- To understand the value of system network of care – both pre-hospital and in-hospital
- To apply personalised risk evaluation and treatment in high-risk STEMI
- To evaluate adjunctive techniques during emergency and primary PCI

Fast, effective, safe: making the right choices in STEMI
16:30-18:00 Room 252AB
With an unrestricted educational grant from TERUMO and THE MEDICINES COMPANY
Chairpersons: P.W. Serruys, M. Valgimigli

Objectives:
- To understand the unique complexities and opportunities in the care of STEMI patients
- To appreciate the value of new therapies and technologies in improving patient outcomes
STENT FOR LIFE INITIATIVE @ EuroPCR 2012

Find the SFL sessions with the interactive programme!

There’s not ONE EuroPCR Programme, but a programme for every participant. The ideal approach is YOURS.

Experience the Course from the driver’s seat

Don’t be intimidated by the number: 460 sessions await you in Paris. Start making your choices; the Interactive programme is updated regularly right up until the Course.

New features:

Multi-function search engine:
Search by keywords, participant, speciality, topic, session type, sponsor, location or time

Create your personal itinerary
Simply add sessions to your basket, export to your calendar, email in PDF or print your list!
Link to the scientific programme, CLICK HERE
STENT FOR LIFE INITIATIVE @ EuroPCR 2012

Invitation to visit SFL booth @ EuroPCR

There are plenty of good reasons to visit the SFL booth!

- Come and learn more about the Stent for Life Initiative, be part of the effort to increase patients’ access to primary PCI, the life saving reperfusion therapy.
- Discover how you can contribute to the initiative and shape a healthcare system in your country.
- Find out about ACT NOW. SAVE A LIFE public campaign launched in 2011, its achievements in the pilot countries and their action plans for 2012.

Booth location: M54, Level 2

A brand new booth

This year, the Stent for Life Initiative will benefit from an excellent visibility through a dedicated booth (M54, Level 2).

Happy hours on the booth

SFL countries will have the opportunity to organise “happy hour” times to present their achievements, share their experience with the community and celebrate. It will be a good opportunity to share the cultural adaptation of the SFL Initiative and to honour country sponsors.

Come and meet the countries’ teams and find out more about the local implementation of the initiative!

The key purpose of the stand will be:

- To strengthen the awareness of the Stent for Life Initiative
- To target the visiting doctors, potential future industry partners and national societies
- To increase the global visibility of the SFL project.

Its aim is to promote the impact of the SFL Initiative on optimal treatment of patients with acute coronary syndrome, increasing patients’ access to the p-PCI. Visitors will be able to acknowledge the advances and outcomes of SFL activities in participating countries.

The stand will be divided into three sections based on SFL activities and campaigns:

- ACT NOW.SAVE A LIFE public campaign providing visitors with information about the public campaign and its results.
- General information on the Stent for Life Initiative.
- Invitation to join the SFL Initiative providing information on how to become affiliated (geographic expansion) and how to become a partner (for industry partners joining in supporting the initiative).
SFL FORUM 2012 Conference Summary

SFL FORUM 2012 Conference was organised on 1-2 March in Prague:

- More than 70 participants attended the event.
- 23 countries were represented.
- Countries enrolled in the initiative since 2009 (Bulgaria, France, Greece, Serbia, Spain and Turkey) presented their 3 years results.
- Ministry of Health representatives from Serbia, Spain, Portugal, Romania and Turkey actively participated at the conference.

The meeting was a great success. It provided the networking opportunity to all key SFL stakeholders to meet, share their experience and learn from each other.

On day one, preliminary results of the 2011 survey on the use of reperfusion therapy in Europe including data in time delay in ESC member countries were presented by SFL 6 countries (Bulgaria, France, Greece, Serbia, Spain and Turkey) under the chairmanship of S. Kristensen & W. Wijns. This plenary session was followed by a sharing of experience within SFL countries.

One workshop on the topic “How we can improve ACS treatment outcome at women population” was organised. The session objectives were:

- To find solutions to increase the awareness of ACS and STEMI treatment in women.
- To understand cause of delay in revascularisation times in women with Acute Coronary Syndromes and how to reduce the time from FMC to Balloon Time.
- To understand reasons of underrepresentation of women in randomised clinical trials and the necessity to modify inclusion criteria in order to be representative for the women population.
On day two, after the SFL Affiliates Declaration Ceremony for the WIN Initiative and the Ukrainian Association of the Interventional Cardiologists, representatives of Ministry of Health from Serbia, Spain, Portugal, Romania and Turkey provided presentation on the Governments and NGO’s role in Shaping Healthcare Policy:

- The Effective PPCI Network - The Role of EMS by R. Arafat.
- Synergies between Government project and SFL Initiative by R.C. Ferreira.
- Stent for Life Initiative implementation in Catalunya and steps to follow to complete SFL Implementation by R. Tresseras.
- The role of NGO/Foundations in supporting access to innovation: barriers and solutions to European life science by J. Martin.

“I’m glad to have the opportunity to tell you that I was really delighted to gather so many members of the Stent for Life Initiative. First I would like to thank all participants for the positive spirit, the exchanges and the relaxed atmosphere. We were all really pleased to see the efforts made by the countries, all the achievements, progress and concrete impacts of the initiative.

I would like to point out Dr. Arafat’s presentation, from Romania, which shows us that with a lot of efforts and co-working with the Health Governments, it is possible to achieve great success.

In addition, the workshop prepared in collaboration with the Women In Innovation (WIN) team demonstrated that we have to pay particular attention to women. They are often diagnosed later and do not have access to reperfusion therapy in some countries. The Stent for Life Initiative is pleased to welcome WIN as a partnering organisation.”

Steen Kristensen  
Stent for Life Initiative Chair
Women in Innovations

Women in Innovations: a SFL Affiliate

Women in Innovations signed the SFL Declaration and become an affiliated organisation of the Stent for Life Initiative

In March 2012 during the Stent for Life Forum 2012 in Prague, the Women in Innovations (WIN) initiative signed the Stent for Life (SFL) Declaration. By signing, WIN, a global group of female Interventional Cardiologists which aims to address gender disparities in cardiovascular care, is now formally affiliated with SFL.

“This is a wonderful opportunity for WIN” said WIN Co-Chair Dr. Alaide Chieffo of San Raffaele Hospital in Milano, Italy. “We are excited to partner with SFL and to begin working on collaborative projects which help to address gender-based issues in cardiovascular care in Europe.”

As a first step in the newly formed partnership, a workshop entitled “How Can We Improve ACS Treatment Outcomes in Women” was a part of the SFL Forum 2012 Conference programme

The workshop was chaired by Dr. Alaide Chieffo and Prof. Carlo Di Mario, Past President of the EAPCI, and consisted of didactic lectures from four WIN members. Those lectures included:

- “Women with ACS: Eliminating the Gender Gap” from Dr. Yolande Appelman of VU University Medical Center, Amsterdam.
- “Does Patients’ Gender Influence our Decision to Perform PCI in Acute Coronary Syndrome?” from Professor Julinda Mehilli of Deutsches Herzzentrum, Universität München.
- “Are Women Different? Critical Review of Female Patients Representation in Current Main RCTs” from Dr. Vijay Kunadian of Newcastle University, United Kingdom.
- “Barriers to Women’s Access to Early Diagnosis and Treatment of Acute Coronary Syndrome” from Dr. Beatriz Vaquerizo of Hospital Sant Pau, Barcelona.
The presentations were well-received and encouraged stimulating discussions during the two-day forum.

“"We wanted to develop a programme that first presented the current data to show the differences between men and women in terms of ACS outcomes" said Dr. Mehilli. “There is still a certain amount of skepticism within the physician community about whether or not men and women should be treated differently when it comes to ACS. The data proves that there is reason to consider women separately”.

The data presented during the SFL Forum showed that women are more likely than men to die within a year of myocardial infarction (MI). Of those who survive, nearly half will be disabled by heart failure within six years. Additionally, the younger the MI patients, the higher the risk of death among women.

“"Once we set the data out, there was no denying of the facts" said Dr. Mehilli. “We then had the opportunity to discuss barriers to treatment and access to care, and the potential for future efforts. It was a very positive, forward-thinking discussion”.

Future efforts are already underway. WIN and SFL are collaborating to develop a partnership project that will increase awareness of women and heart disease amongst both physician and patient communities in Europe. Countries with the most need of educational efforts will be targeted.

“"Now is the time to improve cardiovascular care for women" emphasized Dr. Chieffo. “We are thankful that Stent for Life shares in this sentiment, and we know this is just the beginning of a campaign which will save many women’s lives”
Women in Innovations

SFL Spain: Third prize, Women at Heart, European Society of Cardiology

During the Spring Summit in 2011, Women in Innovations and Stent for Life Spain won the third prize award of the contest Women at Heart.

The project includes several actions with the objective of increasing the awareness of patients and physicians in the gender differences of acute coronary syndromes.

**Informative webpage**
The project was created around a webpage. A home page introduces the project background. A physician's page provides information on the gender differences in the setting of acute coronary syndromes. A patient's page with background information about the project, information on gender differences in cardiovascular disease, and brochures for patients were developed with the help of Sister to Sister of The Women’s Heart Health Foundation. We created also two surveys: one for physicians to challenge their knowledge of women and heart disease and the other for patients.

**Events on video**
Another important part of the project consisted in organising a Symposium at the Spanish Society of Cardiology Congress devoted to women and cardiovascular disease. These sessions were recorded and uploaded at the physician webpage.

**Launch of the webpage**
To get the site information out to Spanish physicians we announced the webpage at the Spanish Society of Cardiology newsletter that is emailed to all members.

Women in Innovations - Stent for Life webpage together with symposium videos at the Spanish Society of Cardiology Congress can be found at:

[CLICK HERE]

Ander Regueiro
SFL Greece

Greece became a member of the SFL Initiative in August 2009. Since then, more than twenty national meetings dedicated to SFL have been held in almost every region of the country including isolated areas and islands and two major p-PCI networks have been established. The first one in Athens, the capital of Greece with almost 4 million inhabitants (≈40% of the total Greek population) and the second one in Patras, a p-PCI network covering a region of almost 750,000 inhabitants in South Western Greece.

Very heartening results

To better implement and identify possible barriers for the SFL strategy in Greece, a national ACS registry started enrolling patients in September 2011. The first results of the registry are the following:

- A reperfusion strategy (p-PCI or thrombolysis) is used in the majority of the patients with STEMI (72.1%). Thrombolysis (TL) is still the dominant reperfusion therapy in STEMI patients (40.3%). The use of p-PCI as a first reperfusion choice has significantly increased as compared to pre-SFL era (31.8% vs 9%). Of note, ‘no reperfusion’ rates were decreased by 44% (from 50% in the past years to 27.9%). Especially in Athens, p-PCI and TL were implemented in 59.5% and 25% of the patients with STEMI respectively. Preliminary data from Patras suggest that p-PCI is the dominant reperfusion therapy for STEMI patients.

- Patients with STEMI submitted to p-PCI had the lowest in-hospital mortality rates as compared to TL, rescue PCI and no reperfusion.

- The mean time from symptom onset to the first-medical-contact (FMC) is 140 min. Although only 37.9% of the STEMI patients were transferred to the p-PCI hospital via EMS, a twofold increase of the EMS STEMI transfers was observed as compared to the pre-SFL period (17%). The time from FMC to arrival at the PCI centre for all STEMI patients is 129 min and the door-to-balloon time is 53 min.

John Kanakakis
3 years data on the use of reperfusion therapies presentation

SFL Turkey

Turkey presented its 3 years data on the use of reperfusion therapy in Europe including data in time delay in Prague during the SFL Conference Forum 2012.

What was the key barrier?

The lack of organised STEMI networks was the main reason for low rate of p-PCI in the past in Turkey. The population of Turkey is around 74 million inhabitants in the huge country with 780 580 square kilometres area. So in remote areas it seems difficult to build a p-PCI network. However, the good point is that approximately 85% of population lives unfairly close to a p-PCI center.

Achievements and progress

Turkey was enrolled in the SFL Initiative in 2009. To date, p-PCI is under implementation in 18 pilot cities. Good progress have been achieved since the start of the initiative. The number of p-PCI increased significantly year after year. A specific collaboration protocol was put in place between p-PCI centres, ambulances and emergency system in the STEMI networks resulting in:

- The rate of primary PCI reaching over 90% during the last three years in the pilot cities, after the SFL project started. Successful collaboration with the Ministry of Health was the key to success.
- The increase, from 20% to 77,4%, of the percentage of STEMI patients arriving to the first hospital via ambulance services. The great majority of the cases were reached via emergency medical system after collaboration with emergency medical system.
- The achievement of an effective mean door-to-balloon time for the pilot cities of 54 ± 43 minutes.

To date, the local public campaign ACT NOW. SAVE A LIFE developed through the Stent for Life Initiative was launched in two cities and its impact on public awareness will be measured in due course.

Another achievement is the organisation for the last 3 years of simulation courses for the revascularisation techniques in acute STEMI with the ultimate goal of improving the skills of young cardiologists.

The future

Unfortunately, we still have a key barrier to overcome in Turkey: the lack of staff (nurses and technicians) is the main obstacle to providing a 24/7 PCI service. To date, only 57 % of p-PCI centers can offer a 24 hour service.

To conclude, primary PCI has emerged as the preferred reperfusion strategy for patients with STEMI in pilot cities after three years of SFL project – this is a great achievement!

Gökhan Ertas
ACT NOW. SAVE A LIFE

Volunteers day in Portugal

ACT NOW. SAVE A LIFE campaign is steadily moving forward in Portugal.

One of the main barriers to a better performance of primary angioplasty programme in Portugal, revealed by Moment Zero Survey, is the low number of patients that contacted EMS. Only 29% of the patients used the national emergency number. In 56% of the cases, patients attended a local hospital before reaching the hospital with p-PCI, which results in long periods of time spent in secondary transportation.

Through those indicators from Moment Zero, Stent for Life Task Force assessed the strategy and established the baseline to monitor progress of Public Awareness Campaign ACT NOW. SAVE A LIFE (in Portuguese - Não perca tempo. Salve uma Vida).

A partnership with companies

The SFL Task Force has decided to implement an awareness Campaign based “on events”, i.e., we have established partnerships with companies with important roles in Portuguese daily life and have created an action plan to implement with each company.

- Within GALP Company, volunteer employees are going to gas stations national wide to widespread the messages of ACT NOW. SAVE A LIFE.
- ZON Multimedia Stores have fixed posters with educational messages and flyers to spread the message of MI awareness to the general public.

Each event has been an opportunity to release information to medias. Another example is the National Coronary Patient Day: it was celebrated with a lunch with journalists to communicate about the achievements of the Stent for Life Initiative after one year of activities and to launch the Portuguese version of Stent for Life Website. This website has an area for patients called “Não perca Tempo. Salve uma Vida”.

A very good return on investment

So far this model of Educational Campaign has had some results in terms of Media coverage. Indeed, since December 2011, the launch date, the ACT NOW. SAVE A LIFE campaign has had 26 news/month and 2 hours on TV. The estimated return is 1,6 M€ (i.e. if we buy these communication moments and spaces as advertisement we would have spent 1,6 M€).

In May 2012 we intend to launch a “Moment One” to assess the progress on key performance indicators established in Moment Zero, after 1 year since the beginning of the initiative.

Sofia de Mello
News from countries

Stent for Life Egypt experiencing a radical change

As one of the major events in Cardio Egypt’s 39th conference, the Board of the Egyptian Society of Cardiology held a meeting with the Minister of Health and Population and the ministry representatives. Dr Sobhy introduced the idea of the project and the progress already achieved during the past period. Ideas were exchanged and a fruitful discussion took place.

“*The ministry should support these types of projects and to remove the barriers facing it to achieve its success and to leave its impact on the health of the Egyptian people*” said Dr Fouad El Nawawy - Minister of Health and Population.

Dr. Fouad El Nawawy showed his appreciation through supporting the project with several actions / steps.

- The ministry will cover the expenses of operating primary PCI in a retrospective way for the patients who will be diagnosed with ST elevation after the approval of the Tripartite Committee in the centre or the hospital that fits the criteria for SFL centres.
- Setting a protocol for the patients who can be saved during the first hours using catheters or stents in the selected hospitals.
- Checking all the preparations in the ambulance cars and supporting them with ECG.
- Providing ambulance cars and preparing them for serving the centres selected to participate in the project.
- Training the paramedics for operating echocardiography and diagnosing ST elevation.
- Rapid transmission of the ECG to the doctors.
- Supporting public awareness campaigns and providing media coverage.
News from countries

As a result of this success, a meeting was held in Prague in April 2012 between the project's board, the doctors that participated in data entry and ministry of health representatives in different sectors to increase interaction with the actual project Task Force and enhance discussions and experience sharing.

The meeting had very rich content thanks to speakers and sessions, and was the first spark for introducing Stent for Life to medical societies other than cardiology and for involving referral doctors from different specialties in such a project. As an introduction, Prof Widimský presented to the audience how the project was born.

The presentation had a great impact on the attendees and this marvelous meeting couldn't take place without the contribution of all the speakers we had in that Forum. Special thanks to them all: Prof. Petr Wedemisky, Dr. Zuzana Kaifoszova, Dr. Fina Mauri, Dr. Marc Evan, Prof. Mohammed Sobhy, Prof. Inab Atteya, Prof. Renata, Dr.Ahmed El Ansary, Prof. Hany Ragy, Prof. Reda Diab, Prof. Ayman Abu El Magd.

Stent for Life has already begun its activities through the organisation of the first satellite meeting which was held on Sunday 22 January 2012 at the National Heart Institute. Dr. Adel El Banna, Dr. Hani Ragi, Dr. Maged El Abady, Dr. Ashraf Ahmed, Dr.Mohamed Helmy, Dr.Gada kazamel, sharing the latest updates with the students in NHI.

Dr. Ahmed El Shal