



EAPCI focus on the Young Committee: an interview with the Chair, Mario Iannaccone

What is the role of the Committee?

Nearly half of all EAPCI members are under the age of 40, and nearly 5% of them are trainees. Together with my co-chair, Aleksandra Gąsecka, our mission is to empower this dynamic group by offering tailored resources for education, research, networking, and career growth. Our team consists of 14 dedicated members, carefully selected through a merit-based process following an open call involving CV evaluations and interviews. Each member brings unique experiences from the young communities of their National Society and shares a deep passion for advancing our community and connecting young interventional professionals across ESC National Societies and affiliated countries.

How does the Committee benefit the community?

Our group is committed to creating impactful projects that enhance education and networking within the young community. A key priority of this term is to identify the challenges faced by young professionals in gaining access to cath lab activities and educational resources across the ESC and affiliated countries. We are particularly focused on addressing the unique needs of cardiology trainees and early-career professionals. To support them, we organise initiatives such as journal clubs, webinars, and collaborative joint sessions at national congresses.

How does the Committee work with the other EAPCI Committees?

We work outside of the EAPCI to foster opportunities for the Young Community. Aleksandra Gąsecka serves on the ESC Young Committee, and we have established a dedicated subgroup focused on fostering collaboration with the ESC family's young communities, including those of ACVC and EACVI as well as of EACTS. This helps to strengthen connections and create synergies across the Heart Team.

We also work closely with other EAPCI Committees to drive impactful initiatives:

1. EAPCI Educational Content, Courses, Webinars Committee: In partnership with this Committee, we are developing resources like webinars, journal clubs, and an online digital library tailored to early-career professionals.

2. EAPCI Gender and Disparities Committee: Collaborating with the Gender and Disparities Committee, we are supporting a coaching programme, focusing on mentorship and professional growth.

3. EAPCI National Cardiac Societies Committee: By engaging with the National Cardiac Societies Committee, we connect Young Committee members from National Societies to the EAPCI, organising joint sessions to foster a sense of community and shared learning.

These partnerships are at the heart of our work, ensuring the Young Committee contributes to the broader mission of the EAPCI.

What are the key projects for your term?

The EAPCI Young Committee is driven by a bold vision: to empower the next generation of cardiologists to embrace the possibilities of interventional cardiology. The creation of a vibrant and connected community is at the heart of our efforts. Through joint sessions at global interventional cardiology meetings, we are fostering collaboration and inspiring fresh ideas.

One of our most exciting initiatives is the development of an online platform, a digital space where young professionals can connect, share clinical cases, and exchange innovative scientific ideas. But we are not stopping there: our mentorship programs are evolving. Beyond traditional coaching, we aim to spark dynamic peer-to-peer collaborations, especially for those working in challenging environments where support can be a game changer.

How can EAPCI members become involved in the work of the Committee?

EAPCI members play a vital role in shaping the future of young interventional cardiologists by contributing to the Young Committee's initiatives. Through sharing knowledge, delivering lectures, and publishing resources, they help equip the next generation with the skills and confidence needed to excel. By becoming an active member, you can help us #riseandlift each other, fostering growth and passion in the field.

Join us and get involved – together we will shape the future of interventional cardiology!