

# Korean Society of Interventional Cardiology (KSIC)



Hweung-Kon Hwang,  
President



Hyo-Soo Kim,  
Chairman

## The history of the national society

The Korean Society of Interventional Cardiology (KSIC) is an academic association representing Korean interventional cardiologists. As of December 2017, it has 585 active members and nine working groups including CTO, TRI, Bifurcation, Imaging and Physiology, Stent Failure, Platelet Research, Complication and Structural Heart Disease.

KSIC was founded as a working group under the Korean Society of Cardiology on 19 June 1997, and has served as the largest group in the field of cardiology. Currently, KSIC has become a representative academic association of interventional cardiological practice in Korea, both in name and reality, since its independence from the Korean Society of Cardiology in 2012. The current leadership of the KSIC comprises Professor Hyo-Soo Kim (Seoul National University Hospital) who is working as the Chairman of the Board of Directors since 2016, and Professor Hweung-Kon Hwang (Konkuk University Medical Center) who has been the President since 2017.

The mission of the KSIC is to promote research and development in the field of interventional treatment for cardiovascular disease, to facilitate mutual understanding among members, and to protect patients with cardiovascular disease in Korea. These objectives prompt us to hold an international academic conference twice a year, to have joint academic research, and to enforce a KPCI Certification System with the Korean PCI (Percutaneous Coronary Intervention) Registry and the Korean TAVI (Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation) Registry.

In particular, KSIC makes every effort to provide international scholars and domestic researchers with opportunities to interact with each other through the international academic conferences held in January and June/July every year, to report on the advances and excellence of domestic cardiovascular intervention, and to introduce the latest overseas research results.

## What does APSIC membership mean for the national society?

Since the academic and research fields of KSIC have grown rapidly over the last ten years, Korea has emerged as the most influential country in interventional cardiology in the Asia Pacific region. Thus, KSIC and APSIC are partners of growth and development in this field, maintaining a mutual friendship.

KSIC hopes to continue communication with Asian interventional cardiology societies through APSIC in the future. In particular, KSIC is conducting a joint session with several Asian academic associations at international academic conferences, and would like to invite APSIC, if possible.

## What are the current issues related to the national society?

In recent decades, thanks to the development of therapeutic materials and drugs as well as the efforts of domestic cardiovascular intervention doctors, the management quality of cardiovascular diseases in Korea has greatly improved. The Korean national health insurance system allows Korean patients to receive PCI at a low cost because the government has cut the medical costs. Thus, the economic status of hospitals and the income of doctors in Korea is getting worse. Another issue in interventional practice here is



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#### Office-bearers

##### President:

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##### Chairman:

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##### Next meetings

KSIC 2018, the 14<sup>th</sup> International Winter Conference, will be held 11-13 January 2018 in Seoul.

The KSIC Summer Conference 2018 will be held 22-23 June 2018 in Busan.

the government's restriction on the number of guidewires and balloon catheters being used, leading to substantial stress being imposed on interventionists during procedures. KSIC is trying to negotiate with the government to solve these issues in order to achieve the independence of interventional doctors in the care of their patients.

The domestic field of cardiovascular disease therapy has grown rapidly with the help of the academic and industrial communities. It is now time for the academic association to play a more active public role. Reflecting this domestic situation, KSIC implemented the KPCI Certification System some 8 years ago, and implemented the Korean PCI Registry in 2014 and the Korean TAVI Registry in 2017. Regarding scientific activities, KSIC holds two conferences annually in order to provide high-quality educational opportunities to its members. About 1,500 Koreans participate in each academic

conference, which means that most practitioners in the national field of cardiovascular disease attend. In addition to the private international live courses in Korea such as ENCORE-SEOUL and ASAN-LIVE, KSIC organises two nationwide conferences and is doing its best to improve the ability of Korean doctors in the field of cardiovascular disease.

### **What are the future vision/expectations/hopes related to the national society?**

As a representative academic association of cardiovascular intervention in Korea, KSIC aims to provide its members with the high-quality educational opportunities described above, as well as to promote the stable development of domestic cardiovascular disease treatment methods, and ultimately to protect the interests of its members and patients.