



**PROFESSOR**

**LUIGI BOLONDI**

**ITALY**



Luigi Bolondi has pioneered the development of clinical ultrasonography in Europe and worldwide. He became involved in this new technique in his late medical school years in 1972/3. He rapidly developed and led the new emerging imaging technology and wrote text books in abdominal ultrasound based on his personal experience and discoveries in the late 70s', which have been the reference to learn ultrasound for very many Italian and European physicians. He has been a visiting fellow at Prof. Holm's laboratory in Copenhagen and following this was among the first ones to report on the possibility to perform ultrasound guided liver and pancreas interventions and particularly US guided biopsy and percutaneous ethanol injection for small HCC. He published several works in the field of applications of ultrasound in liver disease, including the diagnosis of Budd Chiari syndrome, the abnormalities occurring in the instance of portal hypertension and the diagnostic patterns and treatment modalities of hepatocellular carcinoma. He has been mentor to many Italian and international physicians, some of which have later grown to the maturity to lead national and international scientific societies.

His contribution to Ultrasound has been particularly remarkable in the field of focal liver lesions and hepatocellular carcinoma. He was part of the board of the organizers of the first European Consensus Meeting leading to the release of the first guidelines for the management of Hepatocellular Carcinoma by the European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL) in 2001 (Bruix J et al. J Hep 2001), which for the first time endorsed the use of ultrasound for the diagnosis of HCC when able to demonstrate arterial hypervascularization and recommended surveillance of cirrhotic patients by ultrasonography, thus establishing the official standard use of ultrasound for cirrhotic patients. He has also been co-author of the first EFSUMB guidelines on the use of Contrast Enhanced Ultrasound.

He has achieved an ISI H-index of 54, published 340 full papers and received more than 14000 citations. He served as President for the European Federation of Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology in the term 1996-1999 and was President of the Italian Society (SIUMB) from 1992 to 1994. He organized the successful WFUMB congress in Florence in 2000 (over 2400 attendees from more than 40 Countries) and the EUROSON congresses in Bologna in 1978 and in 2006.

As EFSUMB President he paid great attention to the promotion of countries from the former Soviet Union, facilitating the training and participation of their members to European initiatives. Those Countries had in many instances become independent only from a relative short time while now are very active and relevant contributors to EFSUMB. He also promoted the change in the EUROSON congress organization from a self standing event to an event to be run in conjunction with one National Society at a time during its national congress, revitalizing the congresses, in a modality which is still successfully adopted today.

*Written by Stefania Specca  
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