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1. Academic and research career**Training**

1982 Doctor in Medicine, University of Antwerp (summa cum laude)
1984 Certificate of FMGEMS (M.D. qualification for U.S.A.)
1988 Board certification of Internal Medicine /Cardiology, University of Antwerp
1992 PhD in Physiology, KU Leuven

Clinical and Academic Appointments

1982 – 1988 Clinical Fellow / Research Assistant in Internal Medicine and Cardiology, University of Antwerp, BE
1988 – 1989 Research Associate, University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD, USA.
1990 Research Fellow, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, USA.
1991 – 1992 Research Fellow, Laboratory of Physiology, University of Leuven, BE
1992 – 1998 Postdoctoral Researcher N.F.W.O. (Belgian National Fund for Scientific Research)
1994 – 1998 Consultant, Div. Cardiology, University Hospitals, Leuven, BE.
1995 – 1998 Assistant Professor, Dept. of Medicine, University of Leuven, BE.
1996 – 1998 Consultant, Division of Cardiology, University of Maastricht, NL
1998 – 1999 Research Associate N.F.W.O. (Belgian National Fund for Scientific Research).
1998 – 2001 Associate Professor, Fac. of Medicine, Cardiology, University of Leuven, BE.
2002 – 2023 Professor, Fac. of Medicine, Dept. of Cardiovascular Sciences, KU Leuven, BE.
2004 – 2006 Visiting Professor, Medical Physiology, University of Utrecht, NL
2023 – Emeritus Professor, Faculty Medicine, Dept. of Cardiovascular Sciences, KU Leuven, BE
2024 – Open Science Ambassador KU Leuven @ LERU

Research & education

My main field of interest is cellular and molecular mechanisms underlying arrhythmias and heart failure, and translation of these findings into clinical innovation. My research is in close collaboration with imaging specialists and with clinicians, and in a large international network. Through teaching and training I have contributed to the career of many international scholars.

Awards and Honours

2025 Wallace Fenn Lecture Award, IUPS
2024 Gold Medal, European Society of Cardiology
2023 Fellow of the International Union of Physiological Sciences, IUPS
2019 Silver Medal, European Society of Cardiology
2018 Gago Award in European Science Policy, Min. of Science, Portugal
2018 Carmeliet-Coraboeuf- Weidmann Award lecture, EWGCCE, ESC
2016 Honorary member Hungarian Society of Cardiology
2015 Hodgkin-Huxley-Katz prize lecture, the Physiological Society, UK
2014 ICIN, Interuniversity Cardiology Institute Netherlands, Visiting Professor
2013 Keith Reimer Lecture & Award, International Society for Heart Research
2012 Elected member of the Academia Europaea
2010 Fellow of the International Society for Heart Research
2009 William Harvey Lecture, European Society of Cardiology
2008 Fellow of the American Heart Association

2001 Fellow of the European Society of Cardiology
 1996 Prize Dr. Karel Verleysen, Royal Academy of Medicine, Belgium
 1988-1990 Fullbright Scholar, U.S.A.
 1982 Special Prize, Medical Faculty, University of Antwerp

Publications. A full list of my scholarly publications can be found at
https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=Ou6PdMcAAAAJ&view_op=list_works

Selected research publications

1. Amoni M, Vermoortele D, Ekhteraei-Tousi S, Doñate Puertas R, Gilbert G, Youness M, Thienpont B, Willems R, Roderick HL, Claus P, Sipido KR. Heterogeneity of repolarization and cell-cell variability of cardiomyocyte remodeling within the myocardial infarction border zone contribute to arrhythmia susceptibility. *Circ Arrhythm Electrophysiol*. 2023 May;16(5):e011677 [doi: 10.1161/CIRCEP.122.011677](https://doi.org/10.1161/CIRCEP.122.011677)
2. De Smet MA, Lissoni A, Nezlobinsky T, Wang N, Dries E, Pérez-Hernández M, Lin X, Amoni M, Vervliet T, Witschas K, Rothenberg E, Bultynck G, Schulz R, Panfilov AV, Delmar M, Sipido KR, Leybaert L (shared last author). Cx43 hemichannel microdomain signaling at the intercalated disc enhances cardiac excitability. *J Clin Invest*. 2021 Apr 1;131(7):e137752. PMID: 33621213 PMCID: PMC8011902 [doi: 10.1172/JCI137752](https://doi.org/10.1172/JCI137752).
3. Nagaraju CK, Robinson EL, Abdesslem M, Trenson S, Dries E, Gilbert G, Janssens S, Van Cleemput J, Rega F, Meyns B, Roderick HL, Driesen RB, Sipido KR. Myofibroblast Phenotype and Reversibility of Fibrosis in Patients With End-Stage Heart Failure. *J Am Coll Cardiol*. 2019 May 14;73(18):2267-2282. [doi: 10.1016/j.jacc.2019.02.049](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jacc.2019.02.049). PMID: 31072570. – with editorial in JACC, highlighted in Nature Reviews in Cardiology
4. Macquaide N, Tuan HT, Hotta J, Sempels W, Lenaerts I, Holemans P, Hofkens J, Jafri MS, Willems R, Sipido KR. Ryanodine receptor cluster fragmentation and redistribution in persistent atrial fibrillation enhance calcium release. *Cardiovasc Res*. 2015 Dec 1;108(3):387-98. [doi: 10.1093/cvr/cvv231](https://doi.org/10.1093/cvr/cvv231). Epub 2015 Oct 21. PMID: 26490742; PMCID: PMC4648199.
5. Kararigas G, Bito V, Tinel H, Becher E, Bacsko I, Knosalla C, Albrecht- Küpper B, Sipido KR, Regitz-Zagrosek V. Transcriptome characterization of estrogen-treated human myocardium identifies myosin regulatory light chain interacting protein as a sex-specific element influencing contractile function. *J Am Coll Cardiol*. 2012 Jan 24;59(4):410-7. [doi: 10.1016/j.jacc.2011.09.054](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jacc.2011.09.054). PMID: 22261164.

Selected publications resulting from policy engagement and research on policies.

1. Fajardo-Ortiz D, Thijs B, Glanzel W, Sipido KR. Evolution of priorities in strategic funding for collaborative health research. A comparison of the European Union Framework Programmes to the program funding by the United States National Institutes of Health. 2023. [arXiv:2308.07162](https://arxiv.org/abs/2308.07162)
2. Sipido K, Fajardo-Ortiz D, Vercruysse T, Glanzel W and Veugelers R. Fostering coherence in EU health research. Report commissioned by the STOA (Panel for the Future of Science and Technology of the European Parliament) 2022. [EPRS STU\(2022\)737114](https://eprs.stu(2022)737114)
3. van der Velden J et al. Animal models and animal-free innovations for cardiovascular research: current status and routes to be explored. Consensus document of the ESC Working Group on Myocardial Function and the ESC Working Group on Cellular Biology of the Heart. *Cardiovasc Res*. 2022 Dec 9;118(15):3016-3051. doi: 10.1093/cvr/cvab370.
4. Sipido KR, Antoñanzas F, Celis J, Degos L, Frackowiak R, Fuster V, Ganten D, Gay S, Hofstraat H, Holgate ST, Krestin G, Manns M, Meunier F, Oertel W, Palkonen S, Pavalkis D, Rübsamen-Schaeff H, Smith U, Stallknecht BM, Zima T. Overcoming fragmentation of health research in Europe: lessons from COVID-19. *Lancet*. 2020 Jun 27;395(10242):1970-1971. [doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736\(20\)31411-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(20)31411-2).

5. Sipido KR, Nagyova I. Health research and knowledge translation for achieving the sustainable development goals: tackling the hurdles. Eur J Public Health. 2020 Mar 1;30(Supplement_1):i36-i40. [doi: 10.1093/eurpub/ckaa032](https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckaa032). PMID: 2391902; PMCID: PMC7213555.

Participation in international scientific journals

Editor: Reviewing Editor for the Journal of Physiology (2001-2007); Associate Editor for the European Heart Journal (2003-2008); Editor-in-chief Cardiovascular Research (2013-2017); Associate Editor JACC Basic and Translational Research (2020-2025)

Member of the Editorial Board: Circulation Research (2001-2015; 2019-); European Heart Journal (2009-); Circulation (2016-); Cardiovascular Research (1998-2012; 2018-); Europace (1998-2002); Basic Research in Cardiology (2001-2011; 2018-2022); Journal of Molecular and Cellular Cardiology (2000-2020); Journal of General Physiology (2020-).

Member of the Scientific Publications Committee: European Society of Cardiology (2013-2017); American College of Cardiology (2021 -).

2. Research management and policy

I find the contribution from scientists as experts and stakeholders to policy development for research and innovation very important. Therefore, I take an active interest and have assumed several functions at national and international level.

Academic and national positions in research management and policy

- Open Science Ambassador, KU Leuven representation at LERU (2024 -)
- KU Leuven: Chair of the Research Council (2007-2009); Research Coordinator and member of the board of the group Biomedical Sciences (2009-2012); Chair of the Council for Research Policy (2018-2019); Member, Research Policy management group (2021-)
- Member, delegated by KU Leuven, Board of Trustees FWO, Fund Scientific Research Flanders www.fwo.be, 2020 – 2024
- Delegate to Flemish govt. organizations: Interuniversity working group of the VLIR on research (2012-2013); Board of Directors of the Center for Medical Innovation in Flanders (2011-2013).

Leadership roles in international societies

- European Society of Cardiology: Member of the Board (2004-2006); co-founder and chair ESC Council Basic Cardiovascular Sciences (2006-2008); ex-officio member of the Basic Sciences Council of the American Heart Association (2010-2012); member of the ESC EU affairs committee (2009-2012); advisor to the ESC Advocacy Committee (2020-2023) .
- Alliance Biomedical Research Europe / Biomed Alliance: co-founder and member of the Board of Directors (2010-2013; 2015-2017); President 2013-2015 (www.biomedeurope.org)

Grant review panels

- Member Medical Ethics Committee Research, UZ Leuven, 2019 –
- Member (2015, 2017) and Chair (2018, 2020), panel LS4 Advanced Grants of the European Research Council
- Member, 5-yearly review panel clinical research funding, Swedish Research Council (2022).
- Member of the International Scientific Advisory Committee of CVON (Cardiovascular Research Fund NL, 2011-2018)
- Chair and member, research evaluation panels for the FCT, Foundation for Science and Technology, Portugal (2019, 2024, 2025)
- Member of the FWO Research Fund Flanders grant review committee Med6 (2010-2015).
- Member, panel Health, Evaluation of Norwegian Research, Research Council of Norway (2012)

Ad hoc consultant and participant in site visits for Deutsche Forschungs Gemeinschaft (DE), British Heart Foundation and Wellcome Trust (UK), Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique and INSERM - ANR (FR), Telethon and Ministry of Health (IT), Canada Foundation for Innovation, Irish Research Council, La Caixa Research Foundation (ES), FCT: Foundation for Science and Technology (PT), Framework programs of the European Commission.

International advisory functions

- Chair, Scientific Advisory Board to [IHU-ICAN](#), FR, 2023 –
- Member, Scientific Advisory Board [DZHK](#), DE, 2022 -
- Chair, International Scientific Advisory Board of CNIC, Madrid, ES (www.cnice.es), 2020 –
- Open Research Europe, Scientific Advisory Board, <https://open-research-europe.ec.europa.eu/advisors>, 2020 – 2026
- Member, Task Force European University Association preparing EUA position towards the next Framework Programme, 2023 – 2024
- Member, Research Strategy Advisory Group, British Heart Foundation, UK, 2022 – 2023
- Chair, Horizon 2020 Scientific Panel for Health, European Commission DG RTD, 2014-2020 <https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=groupDetail.groupDetail&groupId=3279&NewSearch=1> .
- INSERM, FR, member of the Scientific Council, 2019 – 2020
- Member of the External Advisory Board to the ERA-CVD, EU-cofund partnership, Horizon 2020 (2017-2020)

Panel discussant in research and science policy

Participation in several discussion panels at the [World Health Summit](#) (2018-2024), the [Gago Conferences](#) (2018) and at meetings of the [EU Health Coalition](#). Presentations at events organized by the European Parliament, and chaired a [workshop](#) around the proposal for a European medicines infrastructure (2022).

Organization of several conferences and workshops with the Horizon 2020 [Scientific Panel for Health](#).

Participant in the workshops and report by the think tank [Bruegel](#) together with Wellcome in preparing post-Brexit agreement between UK and EU for science (2020).