

Martin B. Leon, MD, FACC, is Professor of Medicine at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and Director of the Center for Interventional Vascular Therapy (CIVT) at New York - Presbyterian Hospital / Columbia University Medical Center. Dr. Leon was previously Director of the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratories at New York - Presbyterian Hospital / Columbia University Medical Center. He currently serves on the Executive Board of the New York - Presbyterian / Columbia Heart Valve Center. Dr. Leon is Founder and Chairman Emeritus of the Cardiovascular Research Foundation (CRF) in New York City. He is Co-director of the CRF Medical Research and Education Division. CRF is the largest independent, nonprofit cardiovascular research center in the United States.

A distinguished pioneer in interventional cardiovascular medicine, Dr. Leon has been the national principal investigator for more than 50 clinical trials that have helped shape cardiovascular medicine, including STRESS, STARS, Gamma-one, SIRIUS, and ENDEAVOR. Most recently, he is Principal Investigator for PARTNER, a trial to evaluate transcatheter valve therapy in patients with aortic stenosis. Dr. Leon is the co-author of almost 2000 peer-reviewed scientific publications and abstracts, which have appeared in the most prestigious medical journals. As a practicing interventional cardiologist, he has performed more than 10,000 procedures during his career. He is Founder and Director of Transcatheter Cardiovascular Therapeutics (TCT), the world's premier scientific symposium dedicated to interventional cardiovascular medicine. TCT celebrated its 27th anniversary last year. Dr. Leon also has been Director or Co-director of more than 100 international educational programs in cardiovascular medicine. He has earned 20 international career achievement awards and an honorary degree from the University of Athens, Greece.

Dr. Leon was previously Director of Cardiovascular Research and Education at Lenox Hill Heart and Vascular Institute in New York City. He has been Director of Clinical Research at Washington Cardiology Center at Washington Hospital Center and Clinical Professor of Medicine at Georgetown University Medical Center in Washington, DC. He also has been Clinical Associate, Senior Investigator, and Director of the Catheterization Laboratories for the National Institutes of Health - National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute Cardiology Branch in Bethesda, Maryland. Dr. Leon was a founder of the Washington Cardiology Center and Cardiology Research Foundation in Washington, DC. After earning his MD at Yale School of Medicine, Dr. Leon completed his internship and residency in internal medicine and his residency and fellowship in cardiology at Yale - New Haven Hospital.