

# Guest Editors

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*Klaus F. Rabe*

Klaus F. Rabe is Professor of Pulmonary Medicine at the University of Kiel (Kiel, Germany) and Director of the Department of Pneumology at Lung Clinic Grosshansdorf (Grosshansdorf, Germany). He has been active in various fields of respiratory medicine worldwide, predominantly asthma, COPD and lung cancer.

Professor Rabe took his final exams in medicine at the University of Hamburg (Hamburg, Germany) in 1983 and his clinical education began at Marienkrankenhaus Hamburg (1983–1987) where he then spent time working at Universitätskrankenhaus Eppendorf (University of Hamburg) within the intensive care and endoscopic units. In 1988, Professor Rabe worked in the pulmonary division of Krankenhaus Grosshansdorf, the Centre for Pneumology and Thoracic Surgery (Grosshansdorf), and then in 1989, he worked in clinical research in the Department of Thoracic Medicine of the National Heart and Lung Institute (London, UK). In 1998, Professor Rabe was nominated Professor of Medicine at the University of Leiden (Leiden, the Netherlands) where he was also appointed as the Chairman of Pulmonology, and later, in 2007, as the Chairman of Medicine. In 2010, he moved back to Germany into his current position.

Professor Rabe has served on various editorial boards, was the first European Associate Editor of the *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine* and was co-Chief Editor of the *European Respiratory Journal*. His current scientific interests are related to large clinical trials in COPD and asthma, the mechanisms of airway inflammation, and the endoscopic staging of lung cancer. Professor Rabe has served on the boards of the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) and the Global Initiative of Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD), and is a member of the German and Dutch Chest Societies, the British Pharmacological Society, and the American Thoracic Society (ATS). He is the immediate Past-President of the European Respiratory Society (ERS).



*Jadwiga A. Wedzicha*

Jadwiga A. Wedzicha is Professor of Respiratory Medicine at the UCL Medical School and the Royal Free Hospital (both London, UK). She qualified from Somerville College (Oxford University, Oxford, UK) and St Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College (University of London, London).

Professor Wedzicha has a major interest in the causes, mechanisms, impact and prevention of COPD exacerbations and in the role of bacterial and viral infection in COPD exacerbation. She directs an active research group into COPD exacerbations and has published extensively on this topic.

Professor Wedzicha chairs the English Department of Health Home Oxygen Clinical User Group, and was a member of the Guideline Development Group for the revision of the NICE COPD Guidelines. She is also a member of the Programme Board for the English COPD National Clinical Strategy.

Professor Wedzicha was Editor-in-Chief of *Thorax* from 2002 to 2010, and is a member of the BioMed Central and the *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine* advisory boards. She is also a member of the editorial boards of a number of international journals. Until 2012, she was Guidelines Director for the European Respiratory Society (ERS) and is currently the Publications Committee Chair of ERS Publications.



*Emiel F.M. Wouters*

Professor Emiel F.M. Wouters studied medicine at the Catholic University of Leuven (Leuven, Belgium), where he graduated in 1978. He was trained in internal medicine at the Annadal Hospital Maastricht (Maastricht, the Netherlands) and the University Hospital Leuven (Leuven). In 1981, he started his residency at the Department of Pulmonology of the University Hospital Maastricht (Maastricht) and was registered as a pulmonologist in July 1984. He received his PhD for his thesis, entitled “Bronchial response in COPD measured by forced oscillation technique”, at the same university in 1987. After his appointment to Associate Professor of Pulmonology in 1988, he became Full Professor and Chairman of the Department of Respiratory Medicine of the University Hospital Maastricht in 1992 and Chairman of the Medical Board of the Asthma Centre Hornerheide (Horn, the Netherlands). He is currently involved in research into inflammation and multi-component pathology of COPD.

Professor Wouters has acted as Chair of the Scientific Board of the Dutch Asthma Foundation, as well as Chair of the Rehabilitation and Chronic Care Group of the European Respiratory Society (ERS). He was Chief Editor of the *European Respiratory Monograph (ERM)* until 2005. Professor Wouters is the Director of the Centre for Chronic Diseases of the Maastricht University Medical Centre (Maastricht, the Netherlands), the Chief Executive Officer of the Centre for Integrated Rehabilitation of Chronic Organ Failure (CIRO Horn) and the research leader of the COPD Centre of Excellence of the NUTRIM (Nutrition, Toxicology and Metabolism) Research School (Maastricht University Medical Centre). He is also visiting professor at the University of Vermont (Burlington, VT, USA).

Professor Wouters fulfils different memberships of the scientific boards and task forces of respiratory medicine, and has published as (co)author of more than 500 papers in scientific journals, largely related to COPD.