Professor Victor J. Dzau, President, US National Academy of Medicine

“Future of Hypertension: Time for Transformation”

Victor J. Dzau is the President of the US National Academy of Medicine and Vice Chair of the US National Research Council. He is Chancellor Emeritus and James B. Duke Professor of Medicine at Duke University. He is Director of the Mandel Center for Hypertension Research at Duke. Previously, he was the Hersey Professor of Medicine and Chairman of Medicine at Harvard Medical School, as well as Bloomfield Professor and Chairman of Medicine at Stanford University.

An internationally acclaimed leader and scientist, he has made a significant impact through his seminal research in cardiovascular medicine and genetics. His important work on the renin angiotensin paved the way for the contemporary understanding of hypertension and cardiovascular disease. He pioneered gene therapy for vascular disease and was the first to introduce DNA decoy molecules as gene therapy in humans. His pioneering research in cardiovascular regeneration led to the Paracrine Hypothesis of stem cell action and the therapeutic strategy of direct cardiac reprogramming. Currently, he chairs the Steering Committee of NHLBI Progenitor Cell Translational Consortium.

For his contributions to hypertension, he has received the Novartis Award for Hypertension Research of the American Heart Association, AHA Research Achievement Award, AHA Distinguished Scientist Award, and AstraZeneca Award of the International Society of Hypertension, among others. He has delivered the Irving H. Page Lecture, the Jacques Genest Sr Landmark Lecture, the Theodore Cooper Lecture in Hypertension and The Robert Tigerstedt Lecture at 100 Years Memorial Symposium on Discovery of Renin.