

## **Promotor**

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### **Prof. Pedro Brugada**

Heart Rhythm Management Center  
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## **Copromotor**

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### **Prof. Guy Van Camp**

Cardiology Department, UZ Brussel  
Vrije Universiteit Brussel

## **Leden van de examencommissie**

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### **Prof. Luc Jordaens**

Cardiology Department  
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### **Prof. Roland Stroobandt**

Cardiology Department, UGent  
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### **Prof. Mattias Duytschaever**

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### **Prof. Jacques De Keyser**

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### **Prof. Inge Liebaers**

Genetic Department, UZ Brussel  
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### **Prof. Brigitte Velkeniers, voorzitter**

Internal Medicine Department, UZ Brussel  
Vrije Universiteit Brussel



Vrije Universiteit Brussel

FACULTEIT GENEESKUNDE EN FARMACIE

## **Doctoraat Medische Wetenschappen**

Academiejaar 2010-2011

## **UITNODIGING**

Voor de openbare verdediging van het  
doctoraatsproefschrift van

**Andrea SARKOZY**

dinsdag 14 december 2010

U wordt vriendelijk uitgenodigd op de openbare verdediging van het proefschrift van

**Andrea SARKOZY**

**'The Brugada syndrome : advances and controversies'**

Op **dinsdag 14 december 2010** om **17 uur**  
in auditorium **P. Brouwer** van de  
Faculteit Geneeskunde & Farmacie  
Laarbeeklaan 103, 1090 Brussel

### **Situering van het proefschrift**

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The Brugada syndrome is a familiar form of ST elevation in the right precordial leads leading to an increased risk of sudden death. In order to avoid the overdiagnosis of healthy individuals with the syndrome but in the meantime to identify young patients at risk of dying suddenly, two consensus reports proposed diagnostic criteria. However, inconsistencies remained. We report that the presence of coved type ST elevation in one right precordial lead is sufficient for the diagnosis. We describe that the diagnostic ECG abnormalities may appear exclusively in the inferior-lateral leads. We report a close association between the early repolarization syndrome and Brugada syndrome. We document in a study of our ICD population that the variability of the ECG pattern is much higher than previously thought. We show that the consensus clinical diagnostic criteria are neither useful nor necessary for the diagnosis. These studies show that the consensus diagnostic criteria, which are currently the gold standard in the diagnosis of Brugada syndrome, are outdated. In the last years the area of interest became risk stratification. We report important gender differences in the clinical manifestation and prognosis of the syndrome. We show convincingly that family history of sudden death is not a predictor of risk unless multiple sudden deaths at a young age in close relatives occur. The only proven treatment for the prevention of sudden death is the implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD). We report that patients without previous cardiac arrest can effectively be saved from sudden death with ICD therapy, however, at the cost of a high complication rate.

### **Curriculum Vitae**

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Dr Andrea Sarkozy was born on 30 May 1971 in Budapest, Hungary. She graduated from the Semmelweis Medical University in Budapest, Hungary in 1995. She completed her internal medicine and cardiology training in 2002 at the Bajcsy Zsilinszky Hospital in Budapest, Hungary. Between 2002 and 2004 she completed the clinical electrophysiology fellowship program of the University of Toronto at the St Michael's Hospital, Canada. In 2004 she moved to Belgium and she further specialized in the field of clinical electrophysiology at the OLV hospital in Aalst, under the guidance of Professor Pedro Brugada. Since 2007 she is staff member of the Heart Rhythm Management Center of the Cardiology Department of the Universitair Ziekenhuis Brussel. Since 2008 she is director of the Clinical Electrophysiology Program. Her main field of interest is clinical electrophysiology. She is author or co-author of more than 50 publications in international cardiology journals in this field. She is married to Serge Speeleveld and she is the mother of two beautiful children; Sofie and Tim.