

# Les Conférences de la Faculté

## Cycle débats d'actualité



*Grefe d'une jambe par Côme et Damien – Fra Angelico – Musée San Marco à Florence*

## Ignazio R. Marino

MD Professor of Surgery, Liver Transplantation and Surgery  
Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, USA

Senator of the Italian Republic  
President of the Investigative Committee on the National Healthcare System

Organ transplantation and end of life issues :  
history and debate within a national health system

**Jeudi 17 juin 2010 à 12h30**

**Centre médical universitaire (CMU) - Auditoire A250**

*Conférence publique en anglais organisée conjointement par l'Institut d'histoire de la médecine et de la santé, l'Institut d'éthique biomédicale, la Faculté de médecine de l'UNIGE et le Service des transplantations des HUG.*

*La conférence sera suivie d'un apéritif.*

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**UNIVERSITÉ  
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**FACULTÉ DE MÉDECINE**

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# Organ transplantation and end of life issues : history and debate within a national health system



After a brief overview of the history of organ transplantation, including data analysis with regards to organ availability, waiting lists, surgeries performed and survival rates both for living-related and cadaveric organ transplantation, D<sup>r</sup> Ignazio R. Marino will comment on the successes as well as the limitations of organ transplantation.

D<sup>r</sup> Marino will link the issue of organ transplantation to the ongoing worldwide debate on **brain death** - a concept that emerged within the public arena in 1967, soon after the pioneering heart transplant

performed by D<sup>r</sup> Christiaan Barnard - on the current method of death ascertainment and on the controversial issue of end-of-life decisions and advance directives.

D<sup>r</sup> Marino will run through some of the most famous cases in the United States of America (i.e. Quinlan, Cruzan, Schiavo) down to the more recent cases (i.e. Welby, Englaro), which occurred in Italy, a state that still lacks a national law and has no popular consensus on the subject. D<sup>r</sup> Marino will conclude his presentation with an overview of international bioethical stances.

## Ignazio R. Marino



Ignazio R. Marino studied medicine and surgery at the Catholic University of Rome. He completed his training first at the A. Gemelli University Hospital in Rome, then abroad at the Transplant Center of the University of Cambridge and the Pittsburgh Transplantation Institute.

In 1989, D<sup>r</sup> Marino was appointed professor of surgery at the University of Pittsburgh. After having founded and directed the Mediterranean Institute for Transplantation and Advanced Specialized Therapies, a partnership between the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and the Italian government, D<sup>r</sup> Marino was appointed professor of surgery in Philadelphia, at Thomas Jefferson University, where he also

D<sup>r</sup> Marino, who is a member of more than thirty scientific societies, has been awarded more than eighty prizes and public recognitions. He is also a member of the Editorial Board of Transplantation, Liver Transplantation and of eleven other international scientific journals and has authored 663 scientific publications and three scientific books.

D<sup>r</sup> Marino has also been a consultant for the Secretary of the Department of Health for the National Transplant Committee of the Italian Republic between 1999 and 2002 and one of the five members of the National Center for Transplantation of the Italian Republic between 2000 and 2004.

became head, first of the Division of Liver Transplantation and Hepatobiliary Surgery, then of the Division of Transplantation of Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. Since the beginning of his career, D<sup>r</sup> Marino has achieved over 650 transplants. In 1992 and 1993, he took part in the only two baboon-to-human liver xenotransplants in medical history. Between 1999 and 2002, he also performed the first series of liver transplantation, from cadaveric and live donors, as well as the first transplant ever carried out in Italy on an HIV-positive patient.

Member of the Senate of the Republic of Italy since 2006, D<sup>r</sup> Marino has chaired its Standing Health Committee under the XV legislature and the Investigative Committee on the National Healthcare System under the XVI legislature.

D<sup>r</sup> Marino is also the founder and President of the international not-for-profit organization *Imagine* (Improving Medicine and Growing International Networks of Equality).