

Natale Gaspare De Santo, MD

Biography. Born at Cosenza on October 23, 1937 from Rosina and Salvatore in an agricultural family. Married with Amalia Virzo (professor of Ecology at the University Federico II in Naples), father of Luca Salvatore (heart surgeon at the university of Foggia) and of Rosamaria (a psychologist), two grandchildren.

Medical activity: Medical studies in Naples. MD in 1963. At the Federico II University he has been fellow (1963-1966), assistant professor of nephrology (1975-1980), full professor of pediatric nephrology (1980-1992). There he also became specialist in nephrology, cardiology, internal medicine and pediatrics. At the Second University of Naples he is professor and physician in chief of nephrology (1992 to present), chairman of the Interdepartmental Centre for Clinical Research (2003-2011), Director of the Ph. D. in Nephrological Sciences (1996-2004) and of the Postgraduate School in Nephrology (2000-2008), member of the Ph. D. for Space Medicine (2007). He received long lasting trainings at the University of West Berlin (1966-1969), at the St. Erik's Sjukhus in Stockholm (1970-71) and in Berlin (1972 and 1973).

Positions: consultant for the Italian Drug Agency (2005-), consultant of EMEA (2005-), Chairman of the Working Group Medicine and Biotechnology of the Italian Space Agency (2007-2009).

Editorial Boards: American Journal of Kidney Diseases, Nephron, Kidney International, Peritoneal Dialysis Bulletin, International Journal of Pediatric Nephrology, International Journal of Artificial Organs, Giornale Italiano di Nefrologia, Aktuality y nephrologii (Czech Republic), Mineral and Electrolyte Metabolism, Giornale Italiano di Nefrologia.

Guest editor of Seminars in Nephrology, Journal of Nephrology, Kidney International, American Journal of Kidney Disease, Mineral and Electrolyte Metabolism, American Journal of Kidney Disease, Peritoneal Dialysis International.

Honors: Dr. honoris causa at the universities of Kosice (Slovak Republic) and Varna (Bulgaria). He received the Distinguished Medal of the NKF of USA, the Medal of the Medical University of Gdansk, the Karola Marchinkoswska Medal at the University of Poznan, the Malpighi Medal of the University of Messina, the Distinguished Medal of IAHN.

Societies: founder of: the Italian society of Pediatric Nephrology and first President, founder of the International Society of Pediatric Nephrology, founder of the International Society for Peritoneal Dialysis, Founder of the Italian Kidney Foundation and Council member, Member of the Scientific Council of the Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Filosofici (2005-). Organizer of more than 100 international events including the 1st European Master in Nephrological Sciences (2000-2001), the Appeal for Clinical Research (1996) and the International Conference on Survival is not enough – quality of life in CKD (2007 and 2008).

Editor of 20 international and 10 national renal monographs, and of various textbooks in Nephrology and Pediatric Nephrology, body fluids and electrolytes. More than 300 paper in peer review journals.

IAHN: founder with Drs. G. Eknayan and S. Massry (and first president) of the International Association for the History of Nephrology for which he has organized the grounding conference (1993) and the 4th International Meeting and co-edited volumes nos 1-5 of History of Nephrology (Karger, Basel) and volumes 1 and 2 of the New Series of History of Nephrology (Wichtig, Milan).

Space research: member of the ad hoc committee for kidney and electrolytes of the European Space Agency (1998-2002), founder at the Second University of Naples of the Ph.D for Space Medicine (2003) and of the Postgraduate School for Space Medicine (2007).

Fellows: he has trained 1 full professor of nephrology, 2 associate professors of nephrology, various investigators in nephrology/medicine and numerous renal physicians in chief.