

Günter Breithardt, MD, EFESC, FACC, FHRS

World Heart Federation, Previous Head of the Cardiology and Angiology Department at the University Hospital of Münster, Germany

Professor Breithardt was head of the Department of Cardiology and Angiology at the Hospital of the University of Münster, Germany, until early 2009 where he managed both patient care and research. Atrial fibrillation was the focus of his clinical responsibilities. He had the challenge of caring for patients with the disease and offering them the best opportunity of diagnosis and treatment options, ranging from pharmacological drugs to catheter ablation.

Since 2003, he has also been the chairman of a nationwide research network on atrial fibrillation, the Atrial Fibrillation Competence Network (AFNET), which has been funded by grants through the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung, BMBF), Berlin, Germany. AFNET is a multidisciplinary group which has encouraged and supported research on atrial fibrillation ranging from basic research and genetics, to large registries and randomised clinical trials. In addition, Professor Breithardt is a spokesman for the World Heart Federation (WHF) on topics related to atrial fibrillation.

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