



Klaus Peter Rentrop

Cardiologist, Medical Director

The year 2023 is an important milestone marking two significant developments in the history of cardiology. 2023 is the 45th anniversary of percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI), our present-day treatment of choice for heart attacks, performed for the first time by Dr. K. Peter Rentrop in 1978. PCI has substantially reduced the mortality of heart attacks and saved millions of lives worldwide. The second milestone is

the 30th anniversary of establishing the American Society for Nuclear Cardiology in 1993, in which Dr. Rentrop became a founding member.

Originally from Cologne, Germany, Klaus P. Rentrop now calls New York home, a testament to his remarkable journey in Cardiology. Educated at renowned institutions in Germany and the United States, Dr. Rentrop's academic pursuits culminated in the completion of his Cardiology Fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic in 1973, laying the foundation for a lifetime of impactful contributions to the field of cardiology worldwide.

Pioneering Advancements in Cardiology

Throughout his illustrious career, Klaus Peter Rentrop, MD, has been at the forefront of groundbreaking advancements that have revolutionized the treatment of acute and chronic heart conditions. He is widely recognized as a trailblazer who reshaped the landscape of cardiac care.

Transformation of Treatment in Acute Cardiac Care

In 1978, he achieved global recognition as the pioneer of Percutaneous Interventions (PCIs) in acute myocardial infarction, heralding a new era in heart attack treatments. In the following year, he demonstrated the effectiveness of thrombolytic therapy in managing acute myocardial infarction.

Dr. Rentrop's legacy includes the "Rentrop Collateral Classification," first published in 1985. This globally adopted system was born from his research on the heart's collateral circulation, solidifying his impact on cardiac research.

Transformation of Treatment in Chronic Cardiovascular Care

His relentless pursuit of innovation also resulted in patents for the 0.8mm Spectronetics Laser catheter, which is widely used to remove atherosclerotic tissue in coronary and peripheral arteries.

Dr. Klaus P. Rentrop introduced Positron Emission Tomography (PET) at the forefront of cardiac care. The most sophisticated nuclear cardiology test in the greater New York area. Cardiac PET, which uses radioisotopes to image blood flow to the heart muscle, has become the gold standard for diagnosing and guiding the management of chronic coronary artery disease. This allows physicians to non-invasively identify potentially

lethal blockages that require revascularization to reduce the risk of death while simultaneously avoiding unnecessary surgeries and other cardiac interventions among patients with less dangerous blockages that are best treated medically, thus cutting healthcare costs by tens of millions of dollars annually.

A Compassionate Leader

Klaus Peter Rentrop, MD's commitment to community service sets him apart as a compassionate leader. He dedicated significant time and personal resources, including \$8.5 million from his patent royalties and his total annual salary for seven years, to making cardiac PET accessible to underserved urban populations, showcasing unwavering dedication.

Values Beyond the Profession

Beyond his professional endeavors, Dr. Rentrop's dedication transcends into his personal life. His hobbies, including meditative walking, swimming, chess, and reading, epitomize his commitment to personal growth, well-being, and intellectual stimulation, embodying a relentless pursuit of excellence.

Klaus Peter Rentrop's indelible impact on Cardiology and his humanitarian contributions reflect his unwavering dedication and boundless compassion. He continues to shine as a source of inspiration and commitment, not only in Cardiology but also in the broader community.