“Echoes from the Conference”

First of all, it is important to highlight the huge support from health professionals that resulted in 609 subscriptions in the 1st Portuguese Stroke Conference. However, we should also reflect on the reasons that may have originated that enthusiasm, which was translated by an attentive and numerous presence during the whole Conference.

We have witnessed the correct individualisation of Stroke — part of the Cerebrovascular Disease, inside the great group of diseases of the vascular system, its transversal approach (including different medical specialities related to Stroke), and its leadership by an authority based on solid scientific knowledge and proper clinical practice led by the greatest experts in Neurology and Internal Medicine particularly dedicated to Stroke. These changes have been certainly instilling confidence and hope, and allow us to transmit a message of hope, based in two words: prevention is due, and treatment is possible.

In practical terms, this continuum of Stroke implies first the Family Medicine Doctor for primary and secondary prevention, and then the Specialists that work as a Multidisciplinary Team at a hospital level in the acute stage, along with the Nursing and Rehabilitation professionals, who are incredibly important in every aspect.

With these prerequisites, by selecting (which is exactly the right word considering the breadth of the Subject) the treatment approaches and giving its leadership to Nacional and Foreign Specialists of the highest scientific standing, the necessary conditions were met for many Health-Care Professionals of various categories to believe in the technical-scientific quality of the Conference and to believe that they would learn at the Conference the “state of the art” (based as much as possible on scientific evidence) of what is currently known about Stroke.