

Varia

Francesco Maisano is new Head of Cardiovascular Surgery at the Zurich University Hospital and a full professor of cardiac surgery at the University of Zurich



On 1 October 2014, Francesco Maisano took over from Volkmar Falk (who moved to the German Heart Center in Berlin) the position as professor and chairman of Cardiovascular Surgery at University Hospital Zurich. As an expert for mini-

mally invasive valve surgery, Francesco Maisano represents a new generation of cardiovascular surgeons.

A medical graduate from Rome, Francesco Maisano also trained in cardiac surgery in Rome before leaving Italy for a one year fellowship at the University of Birmingham, Alabama, USA.

In 1995 he returned to Italy to work in Turin and in 2009 he became Senior Cardiac Surgeon at San Raffaele Hospital in Milan until 2013 when he moved to the University Hospital Zurich as a leader of the surgical TAVI team.

Francesco Maisano is a hybrid surgeon with a large hands-on experience in transcatheter valve treatments such as MitraClip and TAVI. He has introduced several new techniques and technologies into clinical practice, mainly in the field of valvular heart disease. He strongly supports the *Heart Team* concept and a multidisciplinary team approach. He believes the strength of his interna-

tional network relationships has been important in supporting his work and that of his team.

He plans to bring an innovative approach into modern cardiac surgery in close collaboration with Cardiology (Prof. Thomas F. Lüscher and his team) by fostering a strong collaboration with cardiovascular medicine. To that end, the interdisciplinary working groups of the University Heart Center in Zurich will be further developed. A future task will be to innovate, while maintaining the tradition and preserving the humanitarian nature of the medical profession.

Francesco Maisano feels that Zurich is an ideal working place for him to pursue this ideas and vision, because of its great tradition as a hub for innovation and to the unique opportunity offered by an active, stimulating and international environment.