

# **David C. Hess, MD**

**Interim Executive Vice President for Research and Innovation and Dean of the Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University**

Augusta, GA, US

Dr. David C. Hess, a stroke specialist, educator, and entrepreneur, is dean of the Medical College of Georgia.

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## **Biography**

David C. Hess MD, a stroke specialist, federally funded investigator, honored educator and biotech entrepreneur, is the 27th Dean of the Medical College of Georgia and Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs and Integration at Augusta University. Hess also continues to serve as Presidential Distinguished Chair and as a Professor in the MCG Department of Neurology. He is a graduate of the Johns Hopkins University and the University of Maryland School of Medicine. He is triple board certified in Internal Medicine, Neurology, and Vascular Neurology. He completed his Neurology residency and Vascular Neurology/Stroke fellowship at MCG and AU Health System. A prolific physician-scientist whose focus is improving stroke treatment and recovery, Hess has nearly 220 peer-reviewed publications and has been involved in basic, pre-clinical and clinical stroke research. He currently is the Principal Investigator on three National Institutes of Health grants and an NIH COVID-19 supplement award. He served as the clinical principal investigator for the MASTERS clinical trial, a study of bone-marrow derived stem cells known as "Multistem" in acute stroke, the largest stem cell trial for stroke to date. Hess helped develop the REACH telestroke network in rural Georgia that now numbers more than 20 hospitals. REACH enables timely stroke diagnosis and treatment by using the internet to eliminate distance between patients and stroke specialists. He also co-founded and chaired the Board of Directors of REACH Health Inc., a telestroke company that spun out of MCG and now also provides similar services for a variety of acute medical problems to patients, physicians and hospitals worldwide. REACH Health Inc., based in Atlanta, was sold to InTouch and later Teladocs in 2019. Hess has a major interest in the area of remote ischemic limb conditioning (RIC) as a treatment for acute ischemic stroke and vascular cognitive impairment. He has an NIH-funded study to determine if red blood cell markers are involved in how RIC works and if they can predict stroke outcomes. He serves as the Associate Editor of the journals Conditioning Medicine and Translational Stroke Research. In 2001, he received the Humanism in Medicine Award from The Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey and was inducted into the Gold Humanism Honor Society. Hess has been named to America's Top Doctors and Best Doctors in America every year since 2000.

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## **Areas of Expertise**

Academic Medicine, Stroke, Neuroscience, Telemedicine, Neurology, Molecular Medicine, Stem Cell Research

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## **Affiliations**

REACH Health Inc.: Chairman of Board of Directors, American Board of Internal Medicine - Certified - 1986, American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology - Certified - 1990

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## **Education**

**University of Maryland, Baltimore**  
MD Medicine

**Johns Hopkins University**  
Bachelor of Arts Humanities

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## **Accomplishments**

### **America's Top Doctors**

Hess has been named to the list of America's Top Doctors in neurology for more than 15 consecutive years. Compiled by Castle Connolly Ltd., this prestigious list represents the top 1 percent of physicians in the nation.

### **Exemplary Medical Student Teaching Award**

Medical College of Georgia - 2014

### **Distinguished Research Award**

Augusta University Research Institute - 2012

### **Outstanding Faculty Member Award**

MCG - 2012

### **Exemplary Teaching Award**

MCG - 2012

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