

# **Paul Whelton, MD**

**Show Chwan Endowed Professor at Tulane University**

New Orleans, LA, US

Expert in high blood pressure, cardiovascular and renal diseases

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## **Biography**

Dr. Whelton has played a leadership role in many large NIH funded observational studies and has been national chair of many high blood pressure prevention and treatment clinical trials, including TOHP, Phases I and II, TONE, ALLHAT and SPRINT. Significantly, Whelton led the team behind the blockbuster announcement that redefined high blood pressure for the first time in 14 years. The new guidelines lower the threshold for high blood pressure diagnosis, resulting in almost half of U.S. adults being considered hypertensive. Born in Cork, Ireland and a graduate of medical school at the University College Cork ? National University of Ireland, Dr. Whelton also earned a master of science degree in epidemiology from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and an advanced research degree in medicine from the University College Cork ? National University of Ireland. He received post-graduate training in internal medicine and nephrology at the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, and in epidemiology at the Medical Research Council Epidemiology and Medical Care Unit at Northwick Park Hospital (London). Dr. Whelton spent 26 years in Baltimore, where he was professor of epidemiology at the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health, professor of medicine at the School of Medicine, director of the Outpatient General Clinical Research Center, and founding director of the Welch Center for Prevention, Epidemiology, and Clinical Research. In 1997 he moved to New Orleans as dean of the Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine and in 1999 was appointed Senior Vice President for Health Sciences. He also served as dean of the School of Medicine at Tulane, president and chair of the Louisiana Gene Therapy Research Consortium, chair of the Louisiana Cancer Research Consortium, chair of the Louisiana Biomedical Research and Development Park Commission, and vice-chair of the New Orleans BioInnovation Center. In 2007 he moved to Chicago as president and CEO of the Loyola University Health System and Medical Center and concurrently served as senior vice president for Health Sciences at Loyola University Chicago where he was professor of preventive medicine and epidemiology at the Stritch School of Medicine. In 2011 he returned to New Orleans where he serves as the Show Chwan Health System Endowed Chair in Global Public Health at the Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.

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## **Areas of Expertise**

Global Cardiovascular Health, Hypertension Clinical Trials, Policy, Hypertension guidelines, Prevention of Cardiovascular and Renal Disease

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## **Education**

**National University of Ireland, University College Cork**

M.D.

**University of London**  
M.Sc.

**National University of Ireland, University College Cork**  
M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

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## **Accomplishments**

**Honorary Doctorate**  
Federal University of Rio Grande do Sol, Brazil

**Hypertension Excellence Award for Hypertension Research**  
American Heart Association Council

**National Population Research Prize**  
American Heart Association

**World Hypertension League Achievement in Prevention**  
Treatment and Control of Hypertension

**Society of Scholars and dedicated Whelton Conference Room/Portrait**  
Johns Hopkins University

**Distinguished Alumnus Award, Faculty of Medicine**  
University College Cork, National University of Ireland

**COSEHC Excellence in Leadership Award**  
The Consortium for Southeastern Hypertension Control (COSEHC)

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